

MINUTES
Benicia Arsenal FC Board Meeting
Tuesday – February 26th, 2018 6:45pm
Benicia Community Center

Board Members Present: Matt Phelps, Mike Distler, Yann Jouvenot, Jose Beltran, Scott Swoboda, Reba Halverson, Carlos Martinez, Jacob Guttenberg

Guests: Jim Lindemouth, Jessica Calvario, Virginia Barraza, Rodrigo Escalante

Meeting Called to Order 6:50pm

Review February Agenda- Approved unanimously

Review and approve January Minutes- Approved unanimously

Public Comment

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President Report

- Academy Program (Rodrigo): ask for a dedicated field for Academy. Has a lot of coaches ready to step up. Tournament in April-May. Fees would remain same as last year and would cover tournament entry fee, fields and uniforms (\$95), or could go up by a little. Asked to be added as contact for Academy program (**action item for Graham**). Possibility for a Jamboree with Solano or Concord.
- Top soccer update (Virginia):
 - Great 2018 year. Big difference was made by UK trainers. If they come back, they would love their support again.
 - Some problems with the nets (putting up and taking down). Some sets were missing parts. **Action item for Mario (check net sets)**
 - On older team, hard time getting high schoolers to volunteer. They are some times reluctant to help kids. Some of these volunteers did not know soccer (some of them were just in need of volunteer hours). Different system this year; adoption of one kid by one high schooler (promotes bonding and relationship building). Volunteers should also help take down nets. **Action item for Scott (find high school or middle school volunteers to help with older kids, and help with volunteers for goal take-down)**
 - **Action item (Mario) Need of two or three ball bags, as well as pennies (Large sizes)**
 - Question from Graham: how to advertise the program better. Virginia: direct contact with Special Ed teachers. Flyers currently contain that information, and more info will be included on the website.

- Website update: complete overhaul of website (everybody approves of new look).
- Spirit wear: in contact with Harmony (current coordinator for spirit wear). Giving advice on orders for new items. Spirit wear booth coordinator should set up booths at fields for people to buy. Ideally some would be set up for spring games, as well as Opening Day. "Shopping" tab on website is not active, but could prove difficult to implement.
- Bylaws update: 2016 version are active bylaws.
- Fields and equipment: need for lining carts is not as high as initially anticipated at BCP (2 available at BCP). **Action items: Tim and Mario will coordinate the repair of the goal wheels (2 additional wheels on all goals). Rodrigo will verify number of wheels available.**
- Sponsorship: Need to raise money for club. Marisa Becerra is looking to organize a fundraising tour of Avia Stadium. Need a coordinator for kicknic. Potentially looking for volunteer to get sponsors. Need to get a subcommittee to organize the fundraising effort (Michael Distler, Jacob Guttenberg, Matt Phelps and need for a fourth member). **Action item (for Scott): identify fourth volunteer for fundraising subcommittee.**

Referee Coordinator

- Request from Reba: choose other color than blue for field lining
- Poker tournament: idea to offer alcohol, but will need food too. Potentially organize a raffle. Information will be sent via email.
- Jeff wants to schedule a meeting for referees (March 4th, from 7-9 pm, for 20 people). Scott will book room with BCC
- Started the process to pay refs online.

Vice President Report

- Nothing to report

Select Coordinator Report

- Fee analysis was circulated to the board (benchmarking to other clubs). In comparison to other clubs, fees for BYSC are low. Concerns about player retention. Suggestion to retain fee structure from 2018. Jose also cleaned up the language on the club fees. Suggestion to add language about offering 3 trainings a week (most other clubs only do 2), and explain brand of jerseys. Graham suggests to emphasize the commitment required for prospective players. Outline of cancellation procedure in fees document. *Motion to approve fee structure approved unanimously.*
- Met with Team managers
- Discussion with Adidas to extend contract
- Meeting with St Pat's athletic coordinator to check field availability
- School flyers updated
- Contacts need to be updated on website (**Action item for Scott Swoboda**)
- No spring camps scheduled due to weather (Graham)

DOC Report

- Getting ready for Spring League. Need confirmation from the city on field use.
- Tryout dates confirmed (all dates are on website)
- Rec registration is ongoing (28 processed so far). Flyer is ready to go, we'll send coaches to PE lessons by late April-early May.
- Looking for coaches resumes, several are promising.

Recreation Coordinator Report

- Amy Hirsch has crafted a letter about registration, Top Soccer program and benefits of the sport for development. To be submitted to Benicia Herald
- Storage facilities (3 units) could potentially be consolidated into 2. **Action item: Mario and Tim should assess the possibility to reduce the number of storage units to 2.**
- Plan to do away with banner parent position. Replace with Safety parent position (responsible for taking ice, first aid kit, etc).
- Expectations for coaches: no coach will be allowed nor assigned gear until they complete their training and background check.
- Rodrigo: status on cards for Rec. Still no answer.

Registrar Report

- Question about organizing program for younger player (similar to "Just for kicks"). Graham said that it was discussed, but not implemented so far.
- Concord has a free soccer program for 500 kids (Soccer Pro was donating jerseys for program). Suggestion to ask for similar donations for our rec program.
- Registrations are going well. 5-6 people have had problems out of 28. "Sports Engine" is a website that could allow to transition data from TeamSnap and use that to program teaming (running in parallel), as a way to transition out of our current solution.

Treasurer Report

- Discussion on budget
- *Motion to boost up fundraising goals on League and Competitive budgets (\$10,000 and \$15,000 respectively) to close the budget deficit gap. Approved unanimously.*
- *Motion to approve the budget. Approved unanimously.*
- Suggestion to eliminate (or reduce) first aid kit budget.

Other Business/Calendar Items

Next Meetings: March 26th, 2019, from 6:45-9 pm, at BCC