

MINUTES
Benicia Arsenal FC Board Meeting
Tuesday - September 28th, 2021 6:30 pm
Remote Meeting

Board Members Present: Yann Jouvenot, Derek Weldon, Mike Distler, Zoraida McNorton, Rodrigo Escalante

Guests: Graham Mayle, Cecilia Wright, Paul Gigliotti

Meeting Called to Order: 6:40pm

Review September Agenda: Approved unanimously

Review and approve August Minutes: Approved unanimously

Public Comment: Cecilia asked if the Soccer Fest (Opening Day) is still set for 10/17- Yann confirmed YES! We're still a GO!

President Report

- **Field lining-** Recap: Yann and volunteers were able to line the fields since the contractor Andrew cancelled last minute. Lucia- our new Field Lining Coordinator, has organized the field lining schedule. BCP 2 is still a challenge since paint doesn't stick on dirt. We may consider using a different contractor for field lining next season. Sean Finn- local surveyor based in town previously a part of the club. *Yann to inquire about cost.
- **Upcoming elections:** There are 3 positions up for election: Vice President (currently Derek Weldon), Treasurer (currently Mike Distler and Paul Gigliotti) and Rec Coordinator (currently Rodrigo Escalante). We will also need to fill the Competitive Coordinator position, however- since this position is not up for election, the Board will appoint someone to this position (mid-term appointments). *Z (with Melissa Ramirez) will organize the voting process and send email announcing candidates by 11/7.
- **Tournament discussion-** Spring Tournaments: We normally do not organize tournaments during the Spring season because it is harder to get teams to register. Summer or Fall Tournaments: We can take this time to plan for next year summer or fall tournaments.
- **Port-a-potties at RSE-** There is one port-a-potty on each field at RSE and Liberty. Bathrooms have combo locks and each coach should have the code to share with parents and players.
- **Liberty:** Problem at Liberty with the lock box: there was no lock, key or box lid! *Rod will check with coaches on who played the field and send an email regarding proper protocols. (RSE was open on Saturday so someone didn't lock up on Friday as well).

Vice President

- Medals and trophies order for end of season. *Rod will email information to Derek.

Referee Coordinator Report None.

Select Coordinator Report None.

DOC Report

- Walk the fields with 3 city/parks officials: expressed they will be working on fields. Slight possibility we'll get artificial turf fields.
- Replaced the goal locks with combo locks! Simplifies process, no need to collect keys. \$10 per pair.
- New goals- desperately need at least 2 sets replaced, and possibly 2 more sets soon thereafter. 11v11 goals on Field 1 and Field 3 have severe cracks and excessive weld repairs done; need to be replaced. 9v9 and 7v7 are ok, just need nets replaced. Cost of goals: \$5K per set 2 sets \$10k. Should repurpose old goals. Mike Distler made a motion to order 2 sets of goals at \$10k total. Z second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- In general, everything is going well for most part.
- Ongoing Academy issues to address: U14G player alluded to fact that Academy environment is not conducive to an inclusive club setting: Academy coaches were manipulative; called Arsenal coaches mean, Arsenal players brats. It is not the players saying this stuff- it is the volunteer Academy coaches! Graham: This is not the only reports of the coaches. Rod- This behavior is DEFINITELY not acceptable. The coaches are definitely not saying this, and might be old player conversations from before. Early on, Rod addressed it with the coaches. The Academy tries to promote the best out of the rec players.
- Discussed Comp versus Academy- need to promote Comp in Academy. There are misconceptions about where to play and what order of play and what each program is about. Academy coaches should not determine who plays for Arsenal. Rod agrees. Academy program isn't taking Arsenal players, but takes the players that have already decided not to play for Arsenal.

Recreation Coordinator Report

- Rec is off and running, everyone is having fun, lots of stuff to fix going forward. Goal to meet timeline for next year. Need to call on volunteers for Opening Day and make it special. We've got a lot of volunteers starting to step up- field lining, goal set up, awards are being ordered and should get by mid-October. Recommend schedule team party towards end of season: Last weekend for rec is 10/30 or 11/6. All Out Shoot Out coming up! Need to talk to Dominguez, need player rankings from coaches. Need to tighten up goal set up, field set up, reach out to make sure all coaches have combos to locks. Field 2 at BCP coordinate first and last team goals set up/take down. Jack London needs a process.
- Cecilia needs a list of teams and players from Rod. *Rod to send out.

Registrar Report None.

Treasurer Report

- Final numbers on picture cost per Yann: \$1/player extra for reschedule. *Yann to remind photo company about schedule for 10/17.
- Waiting on field use invoices, (School district and BCP).
- Background checks done- enough credit for next year.
- Scholarships are done just need to change from fees to scholarships.
- Paul did a breakdown of team budget sheet so teams know how much they can/can't spend.
- Yann- Asked Mel to freeze the spirit wear for now. Can set up/sell for special events, but not having a dedicated volunteer makes it hard to manage. Cecilia volunteered to do inventory and recruit people for Opening Day! Yes please! :)

Other Business/Calendar Items:

Closed session

- **Closed session to be held immediately following the regular meeting.**

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 26th, 2021 6:30pm