

Region 18 Board Meeting, December 5, 2017

Grimaldi's, El Segundo 8:00 PM

0. Attendance:

Andrew Lelchuk, Ben Donohoe (non-voting), Albert Chen, Todd Collins, Bill Crader, Byron Eguchi, Bill Fournell, Woody Hauck, Steve Hershkowitz, Michael Hinz, Mark Hodson, Chris Otey, Marco Rico, Rose Rocchio, Megan Schultz, Krista Skinner, Ron Tani, Chris Wong (non-voting), Nedra Yost

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 8:09 PM. A quorum was reached during the meeting (16/31)

2. Review of Prior Minutes

- ✓ MOTION: Approve Minutes of the November 2017 meetings.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

3. Regional Commissioner's Report

Andrew Lelchuk provided an update from the Area 1D meeting held yesterday.

There will be a Roadshow in Arcadia on January 6 and 7, coinciding with Area Playoffs. Classes will be available for Coaching, Refereeing, and Management/Administration. It is a good time for Referees, Coaches, and Board Members to receive Certifications.

The AYSO Expo will be in Las Vegas from March 2 to March 4, in between the All Star Section playoffs and the League Section playoffs.

The Coaches' Meeting for Area play, for both League and All Stars for U10, U12, and U14, will be on December 14 at 7 PM. The location has not yet been confirmed. Only one Coach should attend per team, and rosters are not necessary yet. Rosters should be done through Blue Sombrero, including jersey numbers.

For U10, three teams will be sent to League Play, while U12 and U14 will each send two teams. It has not been determined how many teams will advance out of Area play.

For League Play at the Area level, Player Development Initiatives (PDI's) will not be used. The PDI's will be used for All-Star games. Area 1D will hold a symposium for Referees, with Coaches also invited, in the first week of January. The symposium will go over the PDI's. Andrew suggested that all U10 and U12 Coaches attend so that they will understand the rules. The PDI's do not affect U14, affect U12 slightly (no goal kicks or drop kicks), and affect U10 most significantly. Andrew suggested that Mark Hodson also do a review at a smaller venue for Region 18.

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All Star rosters are due on January 18th, with playoffs starting on January 27. Check-in will be at Campus Field in El Segundo for all Divisions.

The Spring Soccer season will start in March and continue through mid-May. Marco Rico will once again be the Spring Soccer Commissioner. Only U12, U14, and U16/U19 will participate in area play for the Spring. The U5/U6, U7/U8, and U10 Divisions will play games only within the Region.

Andrew will have a Division Commissioner's meeting in January to discuss how we want to handle the PDI's in all Divisions for Spring. The PDI's stipulating small-sided games for the lower Divisions will not be followed due to our Region's lack of Coaches.

Championship Day will be on Saturday and all Referees are set. The first game will be BU10 at 8 AM. Nedra Yost has prepared soccer balls and special Referee jerseys.

4. Finance Report

Andrew Lelchuk noted that he will receive the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Manhattan Village turf project later this week. The MOU must then go through the National AYSO Board and maybe the National Office since it is a multi-year financial commitment.

5. Field Report

Krista Skinner requested that a new net and two replacement flags be purchased for Championship Day at Marine Avenue Park. Nedra Yost offered to pick these up.

6. Uniforms

Nedra Yost reported that All Star uniforms have been ordered, along with two pairs of socks for each player. Sizes were adjusted based on feedback from last year. Nedra asked that any problems be reported to her immediately.

7. Referee Committee Report

Chris Wong reported that although Referee coverage for U14 (100%), U12 (99%), and GU12(100%) was good, coverage was not so good for BU12, and U10.

Charlie Abbott is looking into ways to reward Referees who go out of their way to do lots of games. Krista Skinner noted that a gift card is provided to Referees who work more than 10 games. Chris Otey suggested considering Region 18 jackets for exceptional Referees.

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Michael Hinz reported that there were 35 Referee upgrades in Region 18.

8. Coaches' Committee Report

Steve Hershkowitz reported that there will be an Intermediate-level Coaches' class in Torrance on Saturday and Sunday. A 12U class will be available Sunday in Hawthorne.

Steve observed that Coaches need more help in understanding player positioning during games.

Mark Hodson offered to do a session on PDI's next week in a classroom setting. Charlie Abbott requested that Referees also be invited.

9. Registrar's Report

Byron Eguchi reported that there were a little over 240 players registered for Spring Soccer, but registration will be open until March. Teams will start to be formed in February.

Andrew Lelchuk will send an e-mail blast this week to remind parents to register for Spring Soccer.

10.. Division Commissioner Reports

Ed Danksin reported that for BU14, a Referee Point system that affect playoff placement greatly cut down bad behavior by the end of the year. Letters of discipline were sent to players who received cards during games.

Andrew Lelchuk reported that in BU14 and GU14, issues were handled well by the Division Commissioners.

Todd Collins reported that BU7 had a tremendous season with no major incidents. Charlie Abbott noted that for BU7, since there are no standings or playoffs, Referees should be allowed to do their own kids' games.

Charlie noted that we need to make it easier to both Coach and Referee at the U7 or U8 levels, as the required training is a barrier to entry. Charlie suggested combining training for Referees and Coaches to relieve some of the time burden on Coaches. One alternative would be to have back-to-back training sessions.

Marco Rico reported no complaints in BU8, though there problems getting Referee coverage.

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Albert Chen reported that GU19 placed second and BU19 won Area playoffs.

Krista Skinner reported that in GU14, injuries affected some of the remaining playoff teams. Todd Collins and Krista took a team to the Turkey Tournament and won.

Megan Schultz reported that all was good in BU6 and there was positive feedback.

Woody Hauck reported that in GU12, the top three seeds remained in the playoffs. 22 of the 24 All Star spots have been set. Woody acknowledged Vince O'Hara for his fantastic help in assisting the Division as a volunteer and Kitty Nessbaum for her work as a Center Referee, In GU19, four teams are left in the playoffs. And the two Premier All Star teams are mostly set.

Chris Otey reported that GU8 has completed their season.

11. Other Business

Andrew Lelchuk thanked the Board for stepping up to the plate and providing a great season for the players.

The Board congratulated Board Member Ben Donahoe as he will participate in his last Championship Week before heading off to college.

Ben stated that he is still working on better ways to communicate with Youth Referees since texting and e-mails are less effective with that group.

The Board, at Michael Hinz's recommendation, acknowledged the tremendous work Russ Allen does in keeping the fields ready for AYSO play.

12. Summary of Motions Approved

- ✓ MOTION: Approve Minutes of the November 2017 Board meeting.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

13. Summary of Motions Rejected

None.