

## B.O.D MINUTES, DEC. 14. 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:05. Attending: Catherine Coogan , Matt Malowski , Richard Bennett, Laurie Koster , Angie Francis , Natalie DeHaro, Nell Coogan, Jon Hartzband, Veronika Buckley.

Minutes from the November meeting approved.

Treasurer's Report: Laurie reported that we currently have \$234,000 in our account, but this includes all of the spring travel income and none of the travel expenses. Nonetheless, we are in good shape financially. Purchases of swag for sale next year should be delayed until January, as it's best to incur expenses in the budget year, and all soccer.com and Adidas gift cards should be spent by the end of this month for the same reason. The soccer.com funds could be used to purchase new 9v9 goal nets. Laurie also requested help revising the fee reduction form; Carlos, Catherine and Natalie volunteered. Travel team coach/manager discounts were discussed, with the suggestion that we raise the discount, but limit the number of coaches/managers per team who would be eligible. It was noted that SCSL limits each team to two coaches and one manager, while we have a couple of teams with more. It was subsequently suggested that we allow a set amount of discounts per team, or provide discounts to one coach and two others (ass't coach/ manager) and limit the discount to \$200 per person. Referee fees were also discussed, with the suggestion that we institute a sliding scale of payments based on experience, and a stipend for Chris Decker was also suggested for his time mentoring new refs.

Travel: There was a lengthy discussion of the new SCSL directive concerning exposed metal on athletic braces, their guideline recommending that no family members undertake the center ref position for 5th grade and older games in which their children participate unless absolutely necessary and with prior notification. SCSL is also one of only three leagues that still uses the single grade team designation. Our spring teams have been finalized: five boys teams (5th-6th, one Div. 1 and one Div. 2; 7th-8th one Div. 1 and one Div. 2; 9th-10th, one Div. 1) and five girls teams (same breakdown as the boys teams). We still need coaches for the boys and girls in 7th-8th grade Div. 2. There were questions concerning the quality of some of our coaches, with the suggestion that we require certification from completing coaching courses for all, and more advanced certifications as coaches move into older age groups. The question was raised about indoor training, with the airport facility and the Boys and Girls Club as options - Veronika offered to contact the B&G Club. New uniform purchases will likely be limited to incoming 5th graders, with most others able to retain their uniforms from last season.

Island League: Angie will be stepping down as Director, and Jon and Mary Korba have offered to take her place for the fall 2024 season. We will also need someone to join them to cover the boys teams.

Transportation: Heather Kochin has volunteered to fill the position of Travel Director. She will work with Moiria through the spring to become familiar with the role.

Scholarship: Angie reported that the scholarship revisions have been completed, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the new version, with many thanks to Angie and her committee. We will need to remove the current posting on our website and replace it with the updated version.

Coaching: Matt reported that the 9v9 course will be held on March 20th online, with the field training on March 23rd at a site TBA. The course needs a link on our website so that coaches can more easily sign up. Matt is looking into scheduling the 11v11 course.

Referees: Matt will take the assignors course required by Mass Ref, and Casey, Catherine and Moiria will coordinate the actual assigning of referees. Ollie will work on setting up a referee training course on-island that will be held before the start of the spring season.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Bennett, Sec'y