



FC 814 Board & Coaches' Meeting Minutes Monday, May 13, 2024 Frohsinn Singing Society

ATTENDEES ("B" INDICATES 2023-24 BOARD MEMBER): Jordan Bard (B), Pat Brady, Tim Dieter (B), Troy Fee, Marc Frye (B), Derrick Hoffer, Ryan Kenawell, Jeff Lane, M.J. Marasco (B), Gino Morelli, Mike Metrik (B), Leonard Sapp (B), Damian Schimminger (B), Drew Sylvester (B), Brian Wicker (B),

TEAMS NOT REPRESENTED: Little Mermaids 2016B, Outlaws 2015B, Saltzburg 2015B, Fury 2015G, Gladiators 2013B, McCarter 2012-13B, Morelli 2014B, Vipers 2013B, Force 2012G, Rebels 2011G, Crushers 2010G, Revolution 2008B

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS (METRIK)

- ☒ Mike Metrik to post updated board and contact info list to website and email to coaches. *Completed 07/24/2024.*
- ☐ Mike Lytle to tell MJ Marasco what signs are needed to be made for Urban Air for in-house.
- ☐ Coaches to assign any VEO recordings to their team before the end of the month.
- ☐ Devyn Little to work on deeding of Urban Air Soccer Complex to FC 814. *HSA Board met 3/11 and voted on resolution to dissolve and donate assets to FC814; proposed dissolution plan was sent to the Office of the Attorney General on 5/3/24, approved with a "letter of no objection" 6/25/24. Attorney Dan Stants is preparing to file the petition to dissolve. Assets can then be transferred from HSA to FC814.*

CALL TO ORDER: 6:12 P.M. At the call to order, Tim Dieter noted that people have asked to be more informed and we hold bimonthly meetings, but then coaches don't show up and will then ask the questions to the registrar, secretary, etc. that we cover here. A discussion was held about attendance becoming mandatory. Several teams were only represented because one coach might be on several different staffs (e.g. Leonard Sapp). If you would like your concerns heard, and if you would like to stay in the know, please attend the meetings. We have twice as many teams as attendees for this fall.

SPRING SEASON AND TRYOUT/EVALUATION FEEDBACK (DIETER)

- We had fewer than 10 games not played for the spring season – might be a record. Dieter issued a reminder that forfeits need to be approved by both club's presidents. Tim will only approve as a last resort as a forfeit does not benefit any of the players.
- Volunteers for tryouts/evals ended up okay but only after constant requests.
- For tryouts, the following feedback was offered:
 - Marc Frye and Brian Wicker suggested a scrimmage at the end of sessions. Put up another full-sized goal, go across the field with some groups facing each other? It was noted that this gives a better look at the keepers – distribution, handling balls played back to them, positioning, etc.
 - Several coaches noted that we need to make sure to mix different colored pinnies into the groups. Each group needs to have a mix so that we can put them against each other for the small sided activities within groups. Drew is ordering additional colors and numbered pinnies.

- Mike Metrik asked that evaluators please sign your clipboards. We should never have to guess or ask around to determine who evaluated a player.
- Marc also suggested building in a little more time before first and second session. Half hour in between rather than 15 minutes would permit easier organization.
- It was also suggested that we switch the nights of evaluations and tryouts. That way anybody who looks like they have classic potential at evaluations can be invited to classic tryouts.
- Jordan Bard stated that when someone shows up who didn't register online, this time around we need to make sure we get contact information so that we're not trying to figure out how to contact people.
- Wicker suggested that we have better evaluators for appropriate talent levels; some who have the expertise to determine who belongs at higher levels only showed up when their kids were being evaluated.
- Concerning the season, Damian Schimminger asked if we can push for a more equitable split at 7 v 7 for younger players? That is, U11 has 10 or 11 teams, and some teams are playing against teams where everybody is a head taller than our girls.
- Tim noted that a number of coaches seem to be coaching towards wins and not player development, and that this is not the point. Coach the development, and the wins will become the by-product of it.

BOARD POSITIONS (METRIK)

- Damian Schimminger is taking over as Tournament Director, and Stephanie Patterson is taking the Fundraising Director. Russ Buchmann is going to be Marketing Director but taking a temporary leave of absence due to surgery before engaging fully.
- MJ Marasco (Vice President) and Jordan Bard (Treasurer) have officially started their terms.
- Damian Schimminger asked that Mike Metrik send out the updated board list with contact info to the coaches and post it to the website.

FUNDRAISING REPORT (METRIK FOR STEPHANIE PATTERSON)

- Marianna's sale has been delayed until fall.
- Looking to put together an apparel/window cling fundraiser for fall. More details will be to come.
- Primanti Bros. Night Thu 8/29 – 20% credit, show flyer or use online code. Further reminders will be sent out closer to the date.
- Tim Dieter noted that we had to cancel holding the 50-50 at Glory on the Grass because of a lack of volunteers.

HOW CAN WE GET MORE VOLUNTEERS? (DIETER)

- At the Glory on the Grass tournament, we asked for two shifts of five field marshals and ended up with three field marshal volunteers for the day. Jordan Bard's 13 year old daughter had to run the concession stand all day.
- It was asked: are coaches actually putting word out to their teams?
- Further discussion will be had, but the most popular suggestion was to have a points system. For example, a team gets 3 pts for having a head coach or parent representative show up for a meeting (this would eliminate Leonard Sapp, for example, counting for three different teams – not to pick on Leonard as he actually shows up!), 1 pt per person for fields set up, a number TBD for providing tournament and fundraising volunteers. Deductions would occur for things like forgetting to paint lines.

- Other ideas floated were volunteering to get a discount on your registration, for example, 10 hours of volunteering = \$50 off following season's registration. Put out on calendar.
- Looking at potentially offering free play for board members' children to increase interest, but we need to make sure that this translates to action.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT (FRYE)

- Marc stated that coaches can click on their own picture in Affinity and it will tell them when their particular clearances are expiring. Marc and Leonard know when someone won't pass risk management, but not which individual clearance will cause the issue. We cannot see these for legal reasons, so only the coach can determine what is going to expire.
- Reminder of approval due dates:
 - Classic/academy playing in fall – submitting for approval 7/29
 - Travel – August 1st
 - No roster changes after August 1. Academy is exception since there is no actual locked in official roster. Any other roster changes have to be made through PA West once August 1st has passed and the team is submitted for approval.
 - Marc can put coaches on official rosters himself. But if your risk management isn't approved, he can't add you. As noted above, neither Leonard nor he can track what keeps you from being approved. So keep up on your Safesport and coaching education.
- Marc noted that only one person checks the risk management documents at PA West for the entire organization.
- Frontier League (please refer to it as this instead of "Saturday D-4") appears to be happening. We are working on logistics of player passing. Be patient. We still don't have all of the answers. The people putting this together don't always know what the answer is.

TREASURER REPORT (BARD)

- GOTG netted us \$2,500.
- Mike Metrik, Jordan Bard, and Tim Dieter need to sign the new signature cards for the bank accounts.

FIELD AND SAFETY DIRECTOR REPORT (METRIK FOR ALEX TAYLOR)

- Field setup will be Saturday 8/3 (Greenwood/Keith) and Sunday 8/3 (Urban Air). The rain date will be the following weekend.
- Line painting schedule will start one full week after field setup. PLEASE follow the line painting schedule. Lines get lost quickly when they aren't re-striped.
- Please let Alex know if paint runs low at any location.
- Altoona IM field retaining wall construction will be starting in August and running through October. The field will be unavailable for any fall classic games. Roosevelt unavailable 8/24 or 8/31 if you are scheduling classic home games; can fit 3 in per Saturday (9, 11, and 1:00). Will check into Tiger Stadium availability, tends to be very limited in fall. Wicker reported that if need be, Central Cambria and Philipsburg-Osceola are also in play. However, we will NOT have availability for classic practices on turf in fall.
- Urban Air Soccer Complex now has motion lights on the sheds and additional cameras. Since someone blew up three port-a-johns with firecrackers and Wertz is potentially balking at supplying them for us for the season, keep eyes on social media about whether or not any idiot posted something on the TikTok or Youtube about blowing up the portable toilet.

- It was noted that with the baseball league playing at Greenwood, we may need a higher fence, or potentially look at moving 7 v 7 to Leopold if Great Commission is not using it.

REFEREE REPORT (WICKER)

- We are setting up August referee class with Mack Marin once she determines availability.
- Wicker stated that we need to make sure any candidates get their online coursework done as quickly as possible.
- The classroom session will be either the 2nd/3rd/4th weekend of August. Likely to be Sunday.
- The online modules can be completed
- Brian's ideal idea would be having a full auditorium meeting for all club parents for education and understanding of the rules for those not familiar with them.

IN-HOUSE REPORT (DIETER FOR LYTLE)

- Registration ends 8/4. One week of late registration will be permitted.
- In-house coach training session will be Monday 8/12 at Urban Air. 3 volunteers, 2 coaches so far. The session runs from 6-7:30. Let him know if anybody is willing to help.
- Season will begin 9/7.

EQUIPMENT DISCUSSION (SYLVESTER)

- Update on status of uniforms. Drew has only received 15 rosters out of 39 teams. He will be out of town for a chunk of the next week. Soccer.com is currently saying that it's a 20-day turnaround for uniforms. Drew stressed that the whole kit needs to be ordered. Alternates not yet available for fall.
- New equipment bag available for new teams/coaches. 6 practice balls, 3 game balls, pinnies, and a set of cones. If you're moving up from size 4 to size 5, he can supply these as well. Drew stated that we need to order some new size five game balls. Header training balls will also be available for new 11 v 11 teams. Make sure that we take care of them. JUST HEADING.
- VEO Camera update:
 - One camera is still MIA. We need it back to rotate one out for repairs.
 - Teams that have aged out are going to be removed from our account.
 - Some games appear to have been unassigned. You have until the end of July to assign your recordings back to your team. Remaining unassigned recordings will be deleted.
 - It is suggested that you download games after editing/viewing/sharing rather than leaving them on your team account; this will also keep space free.
 - Drew stated that for VEO, the first right is classic teams, then travel, and league games first, then tournaments. Home takes precedence over away as well. Email or text Drew for them. Figure out where you want to pick them up and drop them off.
 - For spring: camera back by Monday, request by Tuesday.
- We have ordered new flat-based flags for turf fields. Please do not use these flags for grass!
- Drew also asked that people take care to leave the sheds in better condition than they found them. They were a hot mess this spring, especially Greenwood.

GLORY ON THE GRASS REPORT (DIETER)

- Tim requested feedback on the tournament.
- Wicker asked that there be no hounding of young referees. The refs own their calls, good, bad, or other.
- It was noted that with food trucks, no concession stand is needed.

- It was noted that we might get more volunteers with hour-long time slots. Some player parents didn't realize that they can be marshals while their kids are resting, then have someone trade off while their child is playing.
- Tim stated that we will continue to have to have GOTG run this event since we don't get enough volunteers to run one without them.
- We will need to know by January if we are staying on it. Another suggestion was to hold skills contests for fun at the tournament.

ODDS AND ENDS/FLOOR DISCUSSION

- Still working on Summit partnership numbers. Westfall deal is likely dead due to lack of help from the city. Strawberry Hills in holding pattern at the moment.
- Coaching course is set for 7/27: blended courses, 9 v 9 field session at 9:00, 11 v 11 at 1:00, both at Mansion Park. *Post-meeting update: both sessions will now be at 9:00.*
- PA West Annual General Meeting is Saturday 8/3 at Marriott Airport in Coraopolis, PA, roughly 10-3. We need a representative and Dieter is unavailable. Gino went last year, he might now but isn't committing just yet. We will offer a gas/meal stipend to whomever goes.
- Upcoming tournaments:
 - More Beach Blast weekend of 7/20-7/21: get teams together for a group photo?
 - West Branch Color Fun 3 v 3 8/17.
 - Plum Kickoff tournament Labor Day weekend.
- Leonard Sapp suggested a five-minute topic timer moving forward.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:34 PM

NEXT MEETING: Monday, September 9, 2024, Frohsinn Singing Society, 1108 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, 6:00 PM