



FC 814 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 10, 2024

Frohsinn Singing Society

ATTENDANCE (B – Board member): Andy Aveni, Jordan Bard (B), Jeremy Boland, Pat Brady, Jess Burlingame, Ryan Dibert, Tim Dieter (B), Troy Fee, Marc Frye (B), Janel Foster, Derrick Hoffer, Amber Johnston, Erica Kennedy, Shawn Kent, Jeff Lane, Mike Lytle (B), MJ Marasco (B), Mike Metrik (B), Pat Miles, Gino Morelli, Brian Parrish, Stephanie Patterson (B), Samantha Rogers, Damian Schimminger (B), Aidan Taylor (B), Alex Taylor (B), Moe Taylor (B), Josh Wagner, Chris Walter (B), Nick Wanyo, Brian Wicker (B)

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS (METRIK)

- Tournament committee to schedule meeting to reconvene. *Met online 2/10/25, 7:30, and meeting after tonight's meeting, right here.*
- Thomas Andersen/Mike Metrik to establish fc814.org email addresses for board members. *These went live week of February 9th.*
- Mike Pastore to reach out to all appointed board member positions to see who wants to return.
- MJ Marasco to recruit/convene meeting of tryout/eval committee.
- Jordan Bard to provide Steph Patterson with template of “thank you for your donation” letter.
- Devyn Little to work on conveyance of Urban Air Soccer Complex to FC814. *Current status: Attorney Stants has provided the deed of conveyance to the former HSA Board, and after it is recorded, will electronically file the articles of dissolution.*
- Coaches to provide Jordan Bard with remaining player fees.
- Mike Metrik to update the board member email contact list on the website with the fc814.org email addresses. *Completed 4/12/25.*

CALL TO ORDER: 6:13 pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Tim stated that the executive board has discussed a lot of what was said at January's meeting.
- We agree that head coaches will receive a 50% discount on registration, and assistants (up to two per team) will receive 25% off. This discount counts for two assistants because that's what you're allowed to have on the sideline. The discount can be assigned to a team manager, and if the setup is one head coach, one assistant, one manager, the additional discount defaults to the team manager.
- Tim discussed player development vs. wins, i.e., our club philosophy. In our club, player development is paramount. There are no trophies for winning particular divisions. We don't fire coaches for going 1-9. Bear in mind that everybody will be the youngest, least talented team at some point.
 - Moe Taylor spoke up and stated that he's been watching the kids at the Summit and thinks that they need to learn how to mess up in indoor to get better in outdoor. Too many players are looking at coaches or parents right after every mistake. The kids who are composed enjoy the game so much more.

- SFU's new coach (Brian Diaz) willing to help with technical program – he set up for Columbus Crew youth program in past (Tim has a meeting 3/13 with him). Might be good to get him and Moe connected – here are what the end goals are at each developmental age. He would be willing to run sessions and help out.
- We are considering a mandatory volunteer policy like youth baseball. Potential ideas:
 - Parents are required to volunteer at an event in each season that the team plays (young teams fall/spring, older teams spring only). It was noted that we would need to use the website to help drum up volunteer “business” from parents.
 - We list the events early in the season so that parents can select.
 - We can also assign teams to events; if a team is away during the event, they can trade dates with another team, so long as it gets covered.
 - This could potentially replace the points system if that doesn't get us the volunteers we need for big-ticket items like 200 Club (currently 3 volunteers for early shift, 2 for late, 20 per shift needed).
 - Can also include players (i.e., when players are needed for coaching courses)
- Tim explained why we fundraise, and the “one-sheet” explaining it was provided to coaches.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Jordan stated that remaining registration fees are due and asked that they be sent to Marc or Jordan.
- Review updated breakdown of travel and classic fees (hard costs vs. indirect costs).
- Jordan also noted that use of scholarships increased dramatically, so the limit will be increasing for next year.
- He reminded classic coaches to provide him with the number of games per team so that he can get the head coaches the checks for refs.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT/PREPARATION FOR SPRING

- Marc reported that card stock is no longer needed for player passes. He will only print physical passes for the classic teams. Presidents/State Cup teams will need passes for check in. Marc suggested that coaches get them laminated.
- GDRs will have player names and pictures. Make sure jersey numbers are entered in such a place as they can be found on the GDR (ALREADY TYPED) as well as the main roster. The numbers don't migrate, they have to be put in annually. If you don't need them or want player passes, let him know.
- Marc asked that everybody please now use his registrar@fc814.org email so that his soccer-related messages go to the correct place.
- When turning in player fees, again, please include a paper showing who paid what and by what method.
- For fall, Marc will need rosters by July 1st for declaration. Finalization can come after.
- Marc will be putting out his every-season pre-and-postgame instructions.
- Players cannot be club passed between separate leagues (i.e. no classic to travel and vice versa). Club pass as soon as you can download GDRs, so that if there are issues, it can be solved before 4:00 Friday when the league office closes for the weekend; after that there's nobody to help solve your problem. Make sure that CP players have jersey numbers that show up on the GDR.

IN-HOUSE DIRECTOR REPORT

- Mike Lytle stated that we are at 440 players for spring in-house.

- Toddlers now have a “guardian and me” program option.
- There is an “AYSO” true U14 team that will play some home-and-home traveling series against local regions.
- Last session Mike needed 30 coaches, this year he only needs 4 or 5 coaches.
- We are now looking at multiple days for the program, with Valley View and Urban Air both to be in use

REFEREE REPORT (WICKER/WALTER) 10 minutes

- Chris Walter reported that going into spring, there will be nine new referees. There are still more who attended the class that haven’t reached out to Chris yet to get assigned in arbiter. The new referees are likely to be chiefly used for in-house and travel.
- Feel free to reach out to Chris if there are mistakes made by the referees – can’t teach without knowing what needs to be taught.
- If there are hard games/games with stakes coming up, let him know to put a more experienced crew on it.
- Wicker: providing or soliciting information from the referees is good, but not berating and belittling them. It would be nice to receive compliments for those who do well, not just complaints.
- Brian reviewed updated US Soccer Policy 531-9 regarding Prevention of Referee Abuse. Tim noted that we will be adding this to our parental codes of conduct. Personality and demeanor will get you some grace – or will get you smacked down.
- How games are referred elsewhere will affect who gets suspended.
- In next two weeks, Wicker will put out date/time for parental meeting “clinic” and Q/A session.
- For GDRS, no number, no player. A team without any jersey numbers will result in the game not being played. We will file a report, the league decides between forfeit or reschedule. For classic, they MUST be auto-populated and can’t be handwritten.
- Spring ref clinic has been held; 7 new referees for this spring (reminder from Bard – MAKE SURE THEY COMPLETE A W-9!)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR REPORT

- Update on current status of tournament:
 - Yard signs and physical flyers have been printed to hand out to local businesses. Please carpet-bomb!
- Damian Schimminger reported that we have four verified sponsors so far. We are currently planning on seven fields and have capacity for 40-45 team. We can add four more at Valley View if we wanted to. We have vendor trucks for food and will be printing t-shirts on-site
 - Travis DeLeo will be hosting a “Compete corner” with skills games for the players and families. Mike Metrik suggested items like a dunk tank. We may need a generator and pump for that.
 - Banners will be going up at all club fields.
 - Damian provided cards to hand out to opposing coaches during spring games.
 - We will develop an Excel sheet / google doc for parent volunteers.

TRYOUTS/EVALUATIONS (MJ MARASCO)

- US Youth Soccer going to school year (9/1 to 8/31) starting 2026. No current plans to change the team makeup and cutoffs for this year.
- Dates are established for evals and tryouts:
 - Girls evals – 6/9, Urban Air

- Girls tryouts – 6/10, Tiger Stadium
 - Boys evals – 6/11, Urban Air
 - Boys tryouts 6/12, Tiger Stadium
- MJ stated that we need coaches to work on activities and as evaluators. We will send out email with spreadsheets, please do what you can. Pizza will be provided for the volunteers.
 - Tim asked that we please see if you can come to more than just your player's session. Wicker then stated that we need to have level-appropriate evaluators – inexperienced parents shouldn't be evaluating classic players, for instance. We'll need to have discussion with evaluators ahead of time, so that we're on the same page about what you're about to see.
 - Andy Aveni suggested a 3-point scoring scale: 1 no, 2 maybe, 3 yes.
- Damian Schimminger gave a proposal about having in-season evaluation proposal. What about having an evaluator pool. This pool can evaluate 2-3 practices per year, maybe \$20 per evaluator, works out to \$120 per team.
 - Tim replied that the tryout structure is necessary to see new kids.
 - Damian replied that we might need to have longer sessions and possibly rotate evaluators through other groups.
 - Should we have an evaluator stay at the same station? One follows the group and the other sees everybody as they come through. Ultimately MJ to decide.
- Wicker talked about “no poaching.” If parents might not want to stay with one particular coach, coaches should talk to each other before they talk to parents and especially not commit to anything with that parent.
- Andy suggested coaching conversations roundtable/BS sessions on what works and doesn't.

FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR REPORT

- 200 Club update tickets and money to Steph. There are lots of events going on over that weekend.
 - It is time for the last second push. Need to get volunteers, baskets finalized.
- Moving forward, we can incorporate points into the selling of tickets.

FIELD AND SAFETY DIRECTOR REPORT

- Mike Metrik discussed the classic practice schedule. We hope to get onto Roosevelt by the end of the week, next week for certain. For the time being, IM field is off-limits as construction there is not yet completed.
- Alex - Field setup weekend will be 3/22 and 3/23. 3/22 – Greenwood, Keith, Valley View. 3/23 – Urban Air, Leopold
 - Taylors would like to shut down one field per day, if possible, to be able to mow without interference while attending college. This will be worked into the practice schedule.
 - Mike Metrik stated that the practice schedule will probably be completed around the middle of the week after setup.
- Dieter stated that the county may be able to repair Valley View's parking lot with millings from local project. We'll establish when. It will result in a short closure of the fields.
- Tim asked if any teams still want to practice at the Summit beyond this week? We'll see where the weather takes us.

ODDS AND ENDS/FLOOR DISCUSSION

- Mike Pastore will be reaching out to appointed board positions to see who is interested in continuing in their current capacity.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:22 PM

TEAMS NOT REPRESENTED (NOT INCLUDING SCHOOL TEAMS):

McCarter 2012-13 boys

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 12, 2025, Frohsinn Singing Society, 1108 12th Avenue, Altoona, PA 16601, 6:00 PM.