



FC Exeter (Exeter Youth Soccer Association)
Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

Feb. 14, 2023 at Parks and Rec, 32 Court Street, Exeter

President's welcome

The meeting came to order at 7:05 p.m. Maria Proulx welcomed directors Luke Martel, Geoff Meadville, Jenn Young, Scott Craig, Patrick Garrity, Ben Bailey, Jason Faria and Christie Farris in attendance, as well as Matteo Taormina and Eric Kelley joining via video conference. There were apologies extended for absence from Porter Hayes.

Jessica Costa, a candidate to join the board of directors, and Chuck Murray, who has registered to volunteer as a coach, were also in attendance.

Minutes

The minutes for the January meeting, having previously been circulated as draft, were brought to a vote. Jenn Young made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted; Patrick Garrity seconded. The motion passed without dissent.

Assignment of board positions and roles

Maria Proulx presented assignments for the directors for the coming year. The assignments are:

Director of Coaching and Player Development: Jason Faria

Fields Coordinator: Patrick Garrity & Porter Hayes

Team Equipment Coordinator: Luke Martel

Academy Director: Ben Bailey

High School Director: Geoff Meadville

Safety Coordinator: Christie Farris

Evaluations Coordinator: Scott Craig

Director of Communications/External Affairs: Patrick Garrity

Maria briefly described the responsibilities of each role, underscoring that those assigned are the leads for their respective assignments but that all directors should be available to assist when available and needed.

In addition to those assigned, Geoff Meadville expressed interest in supporting Jason Faria in the Director of Coaching and Player Development role, and Christie Farris and Porter Hayes will be available to assist Ben Bailey in the Academy Director role.

Maria noted that the Secretary position remains vacant and asked for interested volunteers to notify her with their interest.

Spring 2023 registration

Maria laid out the NNESL deadlines and the process for team formation and placement. That calendar:

March 17 – NNESL Spring 2023 Registration DEADLINE

March 24 – Team Drop/Withdrawal Deadline

March 31– Division Placement Published

April 3 – Division Placement Finalized * Team registrations need to be accurate due to setting up live schedules **

April 5 – Schedule matchups sent to field coordinators/club for home field scheduling

April 10 – Schedule Finalized and Published

The first games of the regular season are scheduled to be played on Saturday, April 22. The board noted that the first two weekends of the season conflict with school vacation and that some matches inevitably will need to be rescheduled. Fields Coordinator Patrick Garrity advised of the challenges for rescheduling matches generally and that all attempts should be made to play on the scheduled date.

Maria informed new directors of the club's spring team formation/selection process, including efforts to keep returning teams as intact as possible. Once the registration deadline passes on March 6, the executive committee will review numbers and present recommendations at the March 14 board of directors meeting. NNESL team registration deadline is March 17 (team rosters DO NOT need to be submitted at this time)

Scott Craig inquired about a previously used system deploying Age Group Directors to help with team formation. Maria noted that, why well-intentioned, the structure was not especially productive for a variety of reasons and has been discontinued for 2023.

Spring registration numbers to date were reviewed. Three weeks before the registration deadline, the club had 185 youth players and 37 high school-age players registered. Jenn Young reported that those numbers were trending well ahead of 2022 numbers for the date. Patrick Garrity said he would distribute the full list of registered players for all directors to review.

Fields

Patrick Garrity reported that he has applied for all open weeknight and weekend dates at the Exeter and Brentwood recreational fields throughout the spring. He expressed his intent to contact Stratham Recreation, Stratham Memorial School, Knowles Field in North Hampton and other partners who have provided space in past seasons. The club has goals in place at Exeter, Brentwood, SMS and Timberland.

NNESL

Maria Proulx provided an update on the league, noting that the league's monthly meeting was to be held the following evening. Maria updated the board on a new protocol the league has adopted regarding registering players outside a club's traditional designated borders. A club looking to register a player from outside its footprint should as a courtesy contact the club with which the player would traditionally play. Maria noted that the league is reluctant to become a rules enforcer on this topic and prefers member clubs sort out these potential conflicts among themselves.

Guest Chuck Murray spoke about his experience with forming teams and expressed support for the new protocol NNESL adopted.

Evaluations

Maria Proulx reported that May 13 is the targeted date for fall 2023 evaluations. Patrick Garrity reported that Brentwood Rec has been notified of the club's interest in once again holding the evaluations on its lower fields. Scott Craig, Evaluations Coordinator, will collaborate with Patrick and club administrators to create a schedule once the spring 2023 game schedules are set. Maria will contact Seacoast United to inquire about using SUSC coaches as evaluators.

Jenn Young proposed that the club no longer includes rising U9 players in the evaluation. Since those teams are formed by using birth year, grade and hometown to balance rosters evenly, evaluating those players is unnecessary. Directors in attendance were in agreement with the proposal, and Scott will not include that level in this May's evaluation. Only players with 2014 birth years and up will be evaluated.

Finances

Jenn Young delivered an update on the club's finances. The club's total assets stood at \$117,475, a 28% increase YOY. Registration income for the spring 2023 season stood at \$23,670, a 92% increase YOY.

The federal 1096 was filed with the IRS and 1099 forms were sent to contract employees earning more than \$600 in 2022 (Sckaal, Sherman and Hibbard) in January.

Other business

Storage shed: Patrick Garrity and Luke Martel proposed taking inventory and cleaning out the club's storage shed at Exeter Storage Depot, 27 Garfield Street. Patrick recommended choosing a day in April ahead of the regular-season kickoff. Jenn Young noted an inventory of equipment available to distribute to teams would be valuable to have prior to preseason practice getting underway. Luke said he would review the shed's contents to get a handle on what is available.

Scholarship: Jenn Young brought up the club's annual college scholarship awarded to a graduating senior at Exeter High School who played for the club. Jenn said the EHS guidance office inquired about the amount of the scholarship and if the club would be interested in

masking the identities of the applicants. The board voted to double the size of the scholarship amount from \$500 to \$1,000 to better conform with similar scholarships awarded and to potentially increase the pool of applicants. The board agreed to ask the EHS guidance office to mask the identities of the applicants.

Adjournment

Jason Faria moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jenn Young. So moved at 8:55 p.m.