

Illinois Fire Juniors/PSCL

August 2019 Meeting Minutes

General Discussion Topics:

Present: Tim, Chris, Jeremy, John, Andie, Miranda, Pam, Amanda, Erika. Matt and Kirt joined via call in later. Myron joined later in the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:10.

IFJ Fall Tourney Shootout – Andie

- Overall Tournament Status- Working on T shirts with vendors. Met with Alicia and have all the contacts. 25 teams outside of our teams registered, ads just went out, fire network was activated a week ago. Will start calling other clubs shortly. Must get to 50 teams by end of the month to go. Will hold off on ordering trophies etc. until we have our go/no go number in a few weeks.

Rec Operations Update - John/Pam

- Operations Status Report (Board Report)- 1200 kids registered and only 9 waiting to be placed. More will be coming in for late registration and there will likely be some kids dropping. Concentration on ensuring everyone is through safe sports, concussion training, and background checks. Around a dozen being finalized. The bags and equipment ordering went smoothly and the coaches picked up their assignments and equipment at the rec coaches meeting. Everything is in place for the schedule to start.
- U5/U6 Status- New coach has been added, additional help still needed. First event is on the 23rd of the month. Myron will oversee as each coach runs the practice/event. Will have to order quite a bit (17) of U5 age appropriate equipment. U6 scrimmage day Aug 24th 9 until 1. Will be first big day for that age group. Looking for a person to help oversee. Still in need of field supervisors and referee coordinators. Referee forms are due on Aug 23rd. The next training cycle is in the spring (because the IYSA is an annual calendar year license)
- PCSL Day at ISU vs SIU-E – Well attended event, was the third highest turnout in ISU women's soccer history. Many players there in uniform. The 08 girls were the ball girls at the event and had a good experience. Had discussion around the ways to better integrate with ISU and other college soccer teams in the area.
- Team Snap Renewal- Most of the coaches were already using Team Snap on PCSL side so the adoption has been positive.

Travel Operations Update – Andie/Myron/Amanda

- Fall Season Updates-Travel count numbers are biggest or closest to biggest. Camp numbers were strong. CIYSL schedules are being sorted out right now. Travel side also needs to ensure background, concussion, and safe sports. Have another 30 still working through the new computer system. Coaches course had about 30 coaches left to get through the system.
- Fall Needs- Spoke about equipment needs for the fields. We didn't take the nets down last year and the weather hit them hard. Discussed other field activities. Matt Ransom has been helping by taking the flags home to fix them and bring them back...so THANK YOU to Matt. Discussed the potential 'adopt a field' method of pickup.

Community Outreach- Chris/Sean

- Top Soccer – Fall – In the midst of Top Soccer push with various groups in the community. 5 athletes have officially registered. Will do two more email pushes as well as Facebook to get up to 15-20 players. Will be on field 5 which is closest to the parking lot and most accessible. Sitting at 12 buddy players currently but that will go up as emails push out.

Marketing/ Fundraising/Sponsorship – Jeremy/Tim/Erika

- Field Updates – Tim/Jeremy continue to meet with landowners. Have identified top 3 sites and have been in talks with landowners on pricing. Will continue discussions in preparation of taking action by year end.
- Capital Campaign Updates-Campaign committee continues to meet monthly while Marv is in town and work in between. Donations continue to come in. Committee is currently focused on potential naming rights donors as well as mid-level management individuals first.

President's Topics - Tim

- Executive Board Motion- Discussion was led by Tim that there has been one fewer Executive Board member since the merging of the Secretary positions from both clubs. In order to even out the Executive Board with 3 members from travel, 3 members from rec, and Tim Koch as the president, discussion surrounded elevating John Lambert –PCSL/rec operations director, to the executive committee spot.
- **Motion was made by Tim Koch, second by Chris Downing to name John Lambert as an Executive Board member. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Merger/Logos-All of the legal paperwork is drawn up to finalize the legal portion of the merger between the two corporations. The surviving corporation will be the PCSL 501c3 with the necessary DBA as Illinois Fire Jrs.
- **Motion is made by Erika, second by John to proceed with the legal merging of the two corporations under the direction of the IFJ Executive Board. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Complex Maintenance Needs- Tim has spoken with a few companies about replacing the golf carts used for transporting individuals with mobility issues during games. Discussed buying vs renting and overall pricing. John has discussed options with some vendors. Estimated costs are around 500 dollars a month. Tim/John will pursue.
- Tim has also worked with FS to get the next set of weeding/fertilizer treatments for the fall/winter. The city is set up for the fall maintenance schedule and has requested we stay to the plan for the Fall.
- Scott Hargus resigned from the board for family reasons effective immediately. He is willing to continue to help as he is able. The board regretfully accepted his resignation and thanked him for his great work over the years. Erika Hunt also announced her intent to step down eventually as volunteer director to instead focus on the capital campaign.
- New Board Members- Erika has coordinated interviews for the multiple board positions. We have over a dozen interested people and interviews have begun. We anticipate having our recommendations for the next board member. The board also discussed whether or not there should be a limit as to the number of board members from one specific team given there are 6 applicants that have a member on one team. The board recommends that this be a factor in the discussions and considerations of the individual members. There also will be a number of assistant positions potentially created to align people with areas of passion/expertise.
- Director of Operations- We have nearly 70 people applying for the DOO position. Andie will be taking the lead on identifying 10 applicants to have an initial interview with a panel, with a final 5 being identified for a board/club wide process. More to come next month.
- Closed Session- 8:30-9
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:59**