



## **EYSA – Meeting of the Board of Directors**

### **6.30pm August 20, 2019**

### **Exeter YMCA, 56 Linden Street, Exeter**

#### **Chairman welcome**

The meeting started at 6:30pm. Marc Chabot, President, acted as Chair and noted that a quorum was present, with Maria Proulx, Randall Skaal, Amy Farnham, Chris Sera, Brian Melick, Luke Martel, Mike Drunsic, John Boisvert and Matteo Taormina in attendance.

It was noted that two board members – Dave Slifka and Scott Fitzpatrick - had tendered their resignations and were stepping down from the Board with immediate effect.

#### **Fields**

Mike has negotiated more Brentwood use this fall. This will require us to move one set of 11v11 goals to Brentwood, Brian volunteered to do this.

As previously discussed, Mike offered Brentwood Rec help with fixing a swampy area near the 11 v 11 field, Brian is working on a cost. There is an upcoming meeting of Brentwood Rec which Mike offered to attend.

Turning to Stratham, Mike had submitted an application for field use but Stratham only offered the use of Stratham Hill. John will talk to Stratham.

#### **Fall season**

All teams now have head coaches. Mike is finalizing practice schedules for distribution in the next few days.

The coaches meeting is organized for 22 August. There will be an opportunity for coaches to pick up gear. At the meeting Randall will make a point to go over behavior of parents as well as coaches - on and off the field. He will remind coaches that they need to set expectations in a team meeting with parents. During the season coaches should stay away from gossip and be a constant, positive role model.

#### **NNESL**

John reviewed recent league rule changes and other issues including those detailed below:

- NNESL board was not currently supporting an EYSA request for a player to be played down an age group, for specific reasons. NNESL board was uneasy of making this exception and fears a wider trend of manipulation.
- The new guest player rules, intended for better internal policing to avoid ringer players, mean that teams cannot 'borrow down', e.g. from an A team to a B team. Maria noted this could be manipulated if teams are all registered at championship rather than premiership.
- John noted that many more teams registered this fall at championship level instead of premier

After a discussion, which included the observation that NNESL as a league is not established enough to be so heavy handed with some of the new policies that will be enforced this fall, John asked the Board for recommendations. John noted that compared to NHSL, NNESL actually lets clubs debate and vote on new rules, etc.

Recommendations, which John will take to NNESL, included:



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- Do not tie coaches' hands on roster movement (borrowing players) in the same age group
- Players playing down and age group should be a case by case basis

John will bring a caution from EYSA that NNESL appears to be becoming a top-down run league. This is not what EYSA wanted or expected when it signed up for the new league.

Other feedback related to this concern included:

- NNESL should focus on getting new clubs, and growing, not minutia.
- NNESL should try to encourage other clubs to do what FC Exeter has been successful with, i.e. growing its club and focusing on the young pipeline
- NNESL should bring the club presidents together.

John will ask Steve Lewis at NNESL to send an email to all club presidents to setup a meeting.

### **Seacoast Proposal**

Maria confirmed that the proposal was agreed and being implemented.

### **Age Group Coordinators**

Following the Board discussion in July, there were still not enough volunteers. **It was agreed** that the placement of individuals be discussed at September's meeting.

### **Uniforms**

Matteo will explore some quick, cost effective ways to get some board member shirts made.

### **Fundraising**

This item will be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Other**

John Boisvert shared his intention to retire from both NNESL and EYSA in January 2020.

It was noted that the FC Exeter/Seacoast camp held in the last week of summer had attracted the best turnout in recent years.

Mark will setup a call with Amy and a parent regarding a player switching team, the reasons for doing it and the process to be followed by the club and the members. **It was agreed** to make a note of the parent meeting, for the record.

The Board approved approaching a player who had previously dropped from the age group after team placement, to be added to and strengthen Caparelli's roster (which is now too small, after other drops).

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.