

Sunnyvale Alliance Soccer Club (SASC)

Board Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2008

The meeting was held at the De Anza Park building in Sunnyvale, CA.

The board members present were Masood Mokhtary, Susan Lundberg, Janine Dryden, Deanne Phillips, Bob Carpenter, John Ruckstuhl, Chuck Kluz, George Tharakan, Susan Grabau, Kat Caturegli, Sandra Todd, and Mark Shustock (12 members, 10 voting). Mark Fellows and Chris Barnes were not in attendance. Andrew Ransome and representatives from proposed new competitive teams also attended a portion of the meeting as invited guests. These included Peter Gremett, Leong Tan, Tennyson Heen, and Raoule Felipa.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45pm by Masood Mokhtary (President). Mr. Mokhtary welcomed everyone. As the first matter of business, the board reviewed the minutes from the May 2nd meeting and unanimously agreed to accept them as presented (10 ayes, 0 nays).

As the second matter of business, Mr. Mokhtary raised the issue of a recent request made by Simon Cook and Tom Brough, two SASC coaches who will be coaching a U12 girls Olympic Development Program (ODP) team this fall. The coaches were seeking permission to use the Sunnyvale Alliance's main competitive field (SSC) for 10 team practices commencing in early June and running through the end of August. It was noted that the ODP team had 12 players on their roster and one of the girls was currently a SASC team member.

Mr. Mokhtary urged caution in approving the request as, in his estimation, the SSC was in need of "rest" and rejuvenation. His concern was that the field had been very heavily used throughout the spring season and the grass surface would benefit from seeing as little use as possible during the summer months. Mr. Mokhtary reminded the board of the significant investment the SASC had made in the SSC and that anything that might compromise the field's condition at the start of the fall season would be problematic for the club.

In response to Mr. Mokhtary, Deanne Phillips voiced her position that the SASC should approve the request as she believed hosting the practices would help build goodwill and enhance the reputation of the club. She reminded the board of the significant commitment the club had made to competitive player development and how hosting the ODP team practices represented an advancement of that goal. Several members of the board expressed their support for Ms. Phillips' position.

The matter was further discussed and a motion was raised by Deanne Phillips to support the ODP team's request in principle, but also appoint a committee consisting of Bob Carpenter (Vice President), Julie Banks (Field Coordinator -

Practices) and Susan Grabau (Field Coordinator – Games) to further investigated how the sessions might impact the field's condition. The committee would be granted the authority to approve (or deny) specific timeslots for ODP workouts. It was noted that they would most likely approve all the June and July practices, but might not approve the August sessions that fell close to the start of the fall competitive season. The motion was seconded by Sandra Todd and passed with a vote of 8 ayes and 2 nay.

The next mater of business brought before the board was the introduction of potential new competitive team coaches. It should be noted that new competitive teams must be approved by the board before they can join the SASC organization and represent the club.

The first coach introduced was Peter Garnett, who was seeking approval for the formation of a new U10 girl's team. The second coach was Leong Tan, representing a U11 boy's team. The third coach was Tennyson Heen, representing a U12 boy's team. The forth (and last) coach was Raoule Felipa, representing a U13 boy's team.

Each of the coaches presented to the board a summary of their coaching credentials, as well as commentary on their motivations for forming their respective competitive teams for the fall season. Chuck Kluz was an active participant in the presentations, offering his insight on the quality of players on each of the proposed teams. Mr. Kluz, in his role as Competitive Director, had observed the CPP sessions as well as the formal tryouts. He had also reviewed the individual player evaluations completed by the coaches.

After the coaches' presentations, the board asked the invited guests to leave the meeting so that the board could discuss and vote on approval of the new teams.

A motion was made by Deanne Phillips to approve the new U10 girl's team coached by Peter Garnett. The motion was seconded by Sandra Todd and unanimously approved (10 ayes, 0 nays).

A motion was made by Deanne Phillips to approve the new U11 boy's team coached by Leong Tang. The motion was seconded by Sandra Todd and approved with a vote of 9 ayes and 1 nay.

A motion was made by Sandra Todd to approve the new U12 boy's team coached by Tennyson Heen. The motion was seconded by Deanne Phillips and unanimously approved (10 ayes, 0 nays).

A motion was made by Sandra Todd to conditionally approve the new U13 boy's team coached by Raoule Felipa pending Chuck Kluz's confirmation that at least 75% of the players on the roster met his standards for competitive team "readiness".

Chuck agreed to communicate his findings to the board (via email) within the next 30 days. As such, the board did not vote on approving the U13B team.

The next matter brought to the board's attention was an update on the spring season's recreational team registration process. Sandra Todd (Recreational Director) and Janine Dryden (Recreational Registrar) informed the board that the walk-in registration was proceeding smoothly and that over 700 players had registered in the first two weekends of eligibility. Ms. Todd informed the board that she expected 1,000 to 1,100 players to register by the close of registration on June 8. Walk-in registrations were scheduled for three consecutive Sundays (May 31, June 1, June 8). It was noted that the volunteer staff that supported the walk-in registrations at Raynor Park in Sunnyvale did an excellent job of managing the work.

Andrew Ransome informed the board that he believed a Spanish language version (or a Spanish language translation) of the registration form would be very helpful for many families. Mr. Ransome, in his role with Griffin Soccer, had attended both of the first two walk-in registration sessions (May 31, June 1) and had noticed that several Spanish speaking families had struggled with the English language registration forms.

Several board members noted that Mr. Ransome's suggestion had obvious merit and should be considered going forward. It was noted that the city of Sunnyvale has a significant Spanish speaking population and assistance should be offered to those families needing help with the registration documentation.

Moving to the next matter, Kat Caterugli (Fundraising Director) brought to the board's attention that the date for the fall season's fun / photo day needed to be decided. The board discussed the matter and decided that the following dates would be considered, in this order of preference: September 21, October 12, and September 14. The final decision for the date would be made in a subsequent board meeting.

Sandra Todd raised the issue that a new photographer needed to be selected for fun / photo day. The current photographer's contract had expired and alternative vendors needed to be considered for the assignment (typically a multi-year contract). It was decided that Sandra Todd, Deanne Phillips, and John Ruckstuhl (Volunteer Coordinator) would make best efforts to find a suitable volunteer to evaluate potential new vendors as soon as possible. Ms. Todd informed the board that she would update the group (via email) within the next 30 days as to whether a suitable volunteer was found.

Lastly, Mr. Mokhtary informed the board that after the spring season ends he will no longer be coaching an SASC team. At the same time, he will no longer have a family member playing on a team. As such, he pointed out for the board's consideration that he may not be eligible to serve as President of the board. Bob

Carpenter pointed out that although the by-laws of the SASC prohibited him from being elected as President in such a condition, he was allowed to serve out the balance of his term since he had been elected President when he was eligible (then serving as a competitive team coach). Several other board members expressed their confidence in Mr. Mokhtary's leadership and confirmed Mr. Carpenter's interpretation of the club's by-laws.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Mokhtary at 10:25pm.

The next board meeting is being considered for Monday, July 14 at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Shustock,
Secretary