

**SUNNYVALE ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 9, 2009

The meeting was held at Woodland Vista Swim and Racquet Club in Los Altos, CA at 7:30 pm.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bob Carpenter, Susan Lundberg, Beth Johnson, Sandra Todd, Kat Caturegli, Deanne Phillips, Alison Hlady, John Ruckstuhl, George Tharakan, Tibor Polgar, Julie Banks, Janine Dryden, Chuck Kluz.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Andrew Ransome and Tom Brough.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** none

**CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES**

President Bob Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm.

Mr. Carpenter asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. It was moved by Mrs. Lundberg, seconded by Deanne Phillips, and carried *“to approve the February board meeting minutes.”*

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Referee Director: Mr. Polgar informed the board that the referee database has been flushed of about 100 entries and they are looking to remove about 100 more. There will be about 120 new referees coming on board from the various leagues. The 2008 information has been archived. All referees in the system will be re-evaluated and re-leveled after the final flush, especially the young refs. The ref class, with a roster of 30, has a long waiting list that will be referred to MVLA. The Ref assignment group has been working on a policy, which in this draft is as follows: All new refs are not immediately active once they have their badge. Once they receive their badge, they will have to go through a clinic and be observed at a scrimmage. They have to be observed at games in order to be approved to go on to more challenging levels. The next ref class by SASC will be in July or August. MVLA will have one in April on the 20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Lundberg expressed concern about being able to accommodate the club requirement, especially for new teams, about fielding a referee. We tell them they have to take a class but then SASC doesn't have space to accommodate the need. Mr. Polgar responded by stating there are classes available throughout the south bay. Mr. Carpenter also noted that the SASC website has links to the resources for these clinics.

Competitive Registrar: Mrs. Phillips has registered 34 competitive teams encompassing about 500 kids. This is smaller than last spring but can be attributed in part to the 7 teams that registered for NorCal. There are fewer scholarship players this season than expected and than in the last spring and last fall seasons. In the team registration packets the most common error/issue was player pictures for the CYSA player passes. Mr. Polgar inquired about the availability of the list he needs for scheduling refs. Mrs. Phillips itemized her priorities as being: Packets to Colleen, money in the bank, forms for scholarship reimbursement, volunteer lists and then the list of teams. Mr. Polgar requested them at least two weeks before games begin so he has time to find refs.

Field Coordinator: Mrs. Banks announced that the schedule for practices went out today. The rest of the schedule is intended to be as follows: March 9 – D2 Brackets, March 16 – Draft schedule, March 23 Final Schedule. It will actually be more like the teams will be informed of their first weekend games

and the rest will follow later. D2 also mandated the use of [www.gotsoccer.com](http://www.gotsoccer.com) for which she will be attending training. She will also still use the spreadsheet that everyone is familiar with. The NorCal schedule begins April 12 for U9-U13 and May 10 for U14 and they play through the end of June. The competitive coordinator will be informed of this schedule.

Vice President: Twitter is up and running. Mrs. Todd went to the field to see the first “mass” practice occurring all week while the Sunnyvale fields dry out and are mowed. It went well. She has been working with Ms. Johnson on a structure for the Newsletter so there are topics for the secretary to pull from and also a structure for the Agenda because there are always the same items which come up annually, especially in January.

Recreation Director: Mrs. Hlady declared they are ready to start. The coaches’ meeting is Wednesday and training is Saturday. There were very few problems with registration. There are 92 teams and 930 players. On-line registration for fall is ready to go once the fees have been set. Mr. Polgar asked when the list would be available so he could begin finding referees. Mrs. Hlady asked if game slots were enough information or if he needed more. Mr. Polgar said the format used from last season was good and asked for the same information: Name, color and game slots. It takes him a week to get everything set up. Mrs. Hlady can get him game slots by Wednesday and everything by Saturday.

Volunteer Coordinator: Mr. Ruckstuhl does not feel he can devote the time the club needs for this position and has asked Mr. Carpenter to find a replacement for him. Mrs. Hlady will need volunteers soon and will connect with Mr. Ruckstuhl by phone if she needs his help in the near future.

[Janine Dryden arrived at this point 8:03 pm.]

Fundraising Director: Mrs. Caturegli has been coordinating with Mrs. Hlady for the t-shirt sale on opening day, March 28. She has also offered the team running the t-shirt table the opportunity to operate a bake sale to raise funds. Mrs. Phillips suggested offering these types of opportunities via e-mail to teams who have fewer volunteer hours as recorded in the yahoo database. Often, the same teams answer a general call for volunteers because their managers are quicker to respond.

[George Tharakan arrived at this point 8:06 pm.]

Picture Day will be run by Shooting Stars. Mrs. Caturegli will be working on the contract with Jaya Desale’s help. Mrs. Lundberg would like to review the contract before it is signed. Jamba Juice has a new manager and has offered 20% on all Jamba Juice sold on any Saturday in May. He will provide a banner for SSC, fliers and has also offered to run a booth at Fun Day and tournaments. There was discussion about kids drinking super cold beverages before or during a game. This discussion will be continued off-line. Mrs. Caturegli has also begun a dialog with [soccerpro.com](http://soccerpro.com) that may lead to equipment benefits for the club.

Recreation Registrar: Mrs. Hlady covered Mrs. Dryden’s report earlier in the meeting. Mrs. Dryden requests that the refund policy be reposted on the website.

Tournament Coordinator: Mr. Tharakan made several contacts at the Soccer Expo, which may benefit the fundraising efforts of the club. He will pass this information on the Mrs. Caturegli. Spring D2 Cup

is still a possibility. There is a spring tournament, but only the teams with passes will be allowed to play. Tournaments will be run on [www.gotsoccer.com](http://www.gotsoccer.com). The Raynor field switch has not been worked out yet. Mrs. Caturegli and Mr. Carpenter have contacts at AYSO and will pursue the matter.

Treasurer: Mrs. Lundberg plans to set registration fees and have them voted upon at the April meeting. A request has been sent out via e-mail to the board and other members who are involved in spending money asking for changes to and special wishes for inclusion in their budget. She has had no responses. As a result, Mrs. Lundberg will begin the budget process next week under the assumption the budget amount from last year still applies. Which means no additional purchases. Special approvals and exceptions for big purchases that are not included in the budget and come up after the budget approval are very counterproductive. This is the time to include those items. Mrs. Caturegli asked for a definition of a big purchase. Mrs. Lundberg stated if anyone has questions about last year's budget or what is included ask her specifically. Mr. Carpenter asked if anyone did not have a copy of the budget. It was determined that Mr. Ruckstuhl and Mrs. Caturegli did not have copies and that there may not be a budget for volunteer coordinator. Mr. Carpenter suggested Mr. Ruckstuhl look at the budget and for example if he feels the current freeware being used to track volunteer hours is insufficient and he needs to spend \$500 for a better system, now is the time to ask. Mrs. Lundberg clarified that standardized items such as paint, and nuts and bolts, and uniforms are already included, as well as normal price increases. Unusual items, such as the tubes needing replacing, or all of the goals are trashed or we need to buy all new locks, expenditures needed to accommodate a new policy or adding a new program or new training, are new cost items and need to be included. Ask questions. Also, budget requests will only be accepted in writing.

Mr. Tharakan inquired about a budget for goals that he had heard mentioned by Mr. Kluz. Mrs. Lundberg said this was a good point for her to address as an example. A year or so ago there was an idea to have goals on the city fields; 5 parks, 10 goals. A budget was approved and money allocated. However, the purchase and installation was never executed. The issue is that something cannot be approved in one budget year and then purchased in later years under the previous approval. If it is not used in the year its approved that is fine, but the treasurer needs to know that the need still exists and the funds should be allocated for the next year. One-time approved expenses cannot be carried from year to year. The money is not set aside in some other account waiting to be used sometime in the future. It gets reallocated to the new budget for the next year. So, to answer the goals question, yes the money is sort of out there but as a board we cannot say we've permanently got \$10,000 for goals, or \$2000 for mentoring because we end up spending the same money over and over again. Once again, if money was approved for a project and it was not spent in the budget year but you still plan to spend it in the next year, you need to request that it is included in the next year's budget.

Any vendor who does work for the club, training, printing t-shirts, etc. needs to have an approved and signed contract before they begin work. Vendors who do not have a signed financial agreement will not be paid, because it gets too sloppy and puts the club in a bad position. Any obligation that we set out for the club has to be in writing and approved before it commences. This is an across the board policy.

Mrs. Lundberg has repeatedly received complaints about player's attitudes, who also happen to also be scholarship players. Mrs. Lundberg, Mrs. Banks and Mrs. Phillips will speak together off-line

and solicit input from the team managers to determine how best to handle this combined discipline and scholarship abuse issue.

Secretary: No Report. Mrs. Banks stated the insurance paperwork is complete and CUSD buildings are now available for a onetime annual fee of \$5. The rooms are wonderful, air-conditioned, comfortable chairs, and wireless access. She does the scheduling for CMS and you would call any of the other individual schools to schedule a room respectively.

President: Mr. Carpenter has spent the bulk of his time on SSC and Twitter. We have contracted for additional services with our gardener Gomez Landscaping; the fields are being weeded, mowed, and aerated. They have asked us to take SSC-1 off-line for reseeding. Mrs. Banks and Mrs. Grabau have been very accommodating to this last minute request during the spring season. Right now the grass looks great but in March and April the weeds will grow stronger than the grass and start to look bad. We retained the old gardener and not Chemlawn. The old gardener is using an organic consultant who is very much in line with the Full Circle Farm folks. It will be a safer more sustainable environment for the kids to play on and Mr. Carpenter is okay with that as long as we do not have weeds. We also have a goose problem at the moment. He has given a neighbor and his dog verbal permission and a special lock to use the field to prevent the return of the geese.

Competitive Director: (delivered when Mr. Kluz arrived) The main efforts have been expended getting the comp players and teams registered and assigned. There have been rainout issues with the other programs. Mr. Kluz is unsure how to address the delay. They will continue extending the program for additional weeks as make-up for the time being.

## **NO REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

District II Field Charges: Mr. Kluz has been trying to get a succinct description of what these charges entail, such as a business plan. It is currently chaotic and there is no information available. The issue has been tabled.

Discipline Policy: Mrs. Todd has a few changes to make and it will be available at the next meeting.

Uniform Policy: Mr. Carpenter has given Mrs. Phillips new input on the policy. A simple, brand new written policy stating stripes are primary, and white is the alternate. The board must approve all additions other than the SASC wording, the number, and the player or team name must be approved.

Volunteer Policy: Will be available for vote by April. Mrs. Banks emphasized that this is basically going to start out as a living document because it is important to get something in place and make changes as necessary later.

U12 Recreation AR Proposal: Mr. Polgar distributed a proposal entitled SASC U12 Rec AR Proposal and it is attached and included herewith. Mr. Polgar and Mrs. Lundberg reviewed the proposal together and she supports the proposal and feels it is reasonable and affordable. She asks that the front page of the arbiter be changed and before the budget is complete that she receives a proposal from the Recreation Director or the Referee Director telling her for the fall what referees we want for what

age groups and what we want to pay them by next week. It was moved by Mrs. Todd, seconded by Mr. Polgar and unanimously carried ***“to approve SASC U12 Rec AR Proposal.”***

[Chuck Kluz arrived at this point 8:45 pm.]

## **NEW BUSINESS**

San Jose Earthquakes: A year ago SASC received a proposal from the SJ Earthquakes. The club did not have the volunteer time to run the program and it also posed a financial risk to the club. This year David Natwick has worked with the Earthquakes to create a new program. Basically, the club has to sell 250 tickets over the entire Earthquakes season. There is no benefit to the club only the service of a discounted ticket available to our families. They basically want to get folks in the seats. If we commit there may be benefits of on field appearances and players attending SASC held events. Mrs. Phillips asked for a concise and clear proposal. Mr. Carpenter suggested an on-line vote after the numbers have been reviewed.

US Club Fee Structure: Mr. Ruckstuhl raised a question about the teams who did not sign up for spring because they thought there was a financial advantage to playing US Club and how the board will address this as a possible budget issue. Mrs. Phillips confirmed this was the first year the club has had to deal with the issue and that she and Mrs. Lundberg will be addressing it in the fee structure for next year. Currently the fee has certain things spread across the fall and spring season and it is not easy to parcel out the items for spring. This year they had a hard time trying to separate out items for teams that only needed fields and refs. The goal of the restructure is to make those fees more transparent. It is not a shortfall in cost issue. Mr. Kluz says the big difference in cost between CYSA and US Club is the District 2 field fund.

## **REVIEW ACTION ITEMS**

Open items are the policies that will be addressed at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Johnson,  
Secretary