

**SUNNYVALE ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 22, 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, Alison Hlady, George Tharakan, Tibor Polgar, Julie Banks, Chuck Kluz.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Andrew Ransome and James Mayes.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Deanne Philips, Janine Dryden, Kat Caturegli

**CALL TO ORDER AND MINUTES**

President Bob Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:55 pm.

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

Mr. Carpenter introduced Mr. Mayes, who has volunteered to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Ruckstuhl.

**BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Field Coordinator: Field scheduling is going well. There have been no complaints and together with that if a board member does hear complaints about fields or other areas they should first direct them to speak with the appropriate person before escalating the issue. Mr. Polgar has been a tremendous help and resource, not only as a terrific Referee Director but behind the scenes as well and with getting information into The Arbiter. Fall Field permits need to be submitted now. Mr. Carpenter and Mrs. Banks will coordinate to submit the request to the City.

Mr. Polgar arrived at this point.

There will be challenges for scheduling in the months of June and July because there will be games scheduled when we have never before had games scheduled. NorCal goes through June; there will be the D2 Cup and also summer camps. Mrs. Banks needs to connect with Mrs. Phillips and any others with information about possible USClub/NorCal fall teams who may introduce similar scheduling challenges into the fall. GotSoccer is up and functioning and it is her understanding that RidgeStar will be used in the Fall. However, from purely an SASC field scheduler point of view there is no added value. Data in GotSoccer is probably more accurate than what was in RidgeStar last fall, but Mrs. Banks believes that is because the field schedulers, not teams, entered the data. It is actually an added step and not a method of simplifying the schedulers' work. There may be benefits in other areas but not as it relates to the function she performs as field scheduler. SASC gave back some fields this year and while it was a lot of up-front effort it did pay off in the end. Mr. Tharakan asked if there are city fields available for June 6-7 and 13-14, for D2. Mr. Carpenter said there are no fields for the 13-14-weekend because our leases are up before then. Mrs. Todd indicated that Rec. finishes the weekend of June 6-7. Mr. Tharakan confirmed that in consideration of this, no Sunnyvale city fields would be offered for D2 Spring Cup. Mrs. Todd indicated SSC would be the only option available. Mrs. Banks has not scheduled any home games at SSC in anticipation of the tournament.

Recreation Director: Mrs. Hlady announced that On-line registration begins May 1st. The first walk in weekend will be May 17<sup>th</sup> and the second and final will be June 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carpenter asked if there was going to be a test group who are asked to register on-line to try out the system. It has been tested and Mrs. Lundberg confirmed the money made it to the bank account. Mrs. Hlady confirmed the test had run well but that the on-line registration did not go forward for security reasons. These have been addressed. Mr. Carpenter would like to explore the opt-in/opt-out functions of the system to create a database for other club function. Mrs. Todd has been working with Mrs. Hlady to try to find a way keep the fall U14 out of the play-thru group in the fall. It really comes down to the fact that there is no Recreation coordination between leagues.

Tournament Director: The tournament hosting application form is about to be submitted for the Medina Tournament on the October 24-25<sup>th</sup> weekend. This year Medina will host 16 boy's teams (8 U10 & 8 U11) and 16 girl's teams (8 U10 and 8 U11). The entry fee will be \$475 per team and the tournament will be run on GotSoccer. For clarification purposes, SASC runs the tournament, but only Foothill League is allowed to actually apply to CYSA to host the tournament.

Vice President: SASC is required to submit residency data to the City of Sunnyvale. Mrs. Todd has prepared an analysis: for all of the CYSA teams, 68.5% reside in Sunnyvale; for Recreation, 76.8% reside in Sunnyvale; and for Comp., 54.2% reside in the City of Sunnyvale. Residency percentages for other cities include, 7.5% Los Altos, 5% Santa Clara, 4% San Jose, 7% Cupertino, 4% Mountain View. There are several other cities represented in much smaller percentages. Mrs. Banks also mentioned there are Sunnyvale residents who go to Cupertino Schools who should be footnoted in the report. Also, the number and residency of scholarship players should be tracked and notated as well. Mrs. Banks is willing to explain how she tracked this in the past with those currently managing the database. Mrs. Todd recommends putting our best foot forward by creating a professional presentation to the city. Mrs. Todd has been spending considerable time in the past month related to discipline issues. She recommends that SASC create an ad hoc style committee to be on-call for discipline. It is desirable that SASC be more proactively organized to deal with issues as they arise by assigning a group of people to a committee.

Referee Director: Mr. Polgar indicated that games are being loaded and fielded with referees and that coordination with Mrs. Banks has been good. They have been experiencing different kinds of errors at about one error per weekend. This spring they are also experimenting by extending the available schedule out to allow the referees to plan ahead. However they are seeing a sharp increase in dropped assignments. A broadcast e-mail was sent out to curb the problem. They are also considering instituting a kind of demerit system for turned back games. All the new refs have a special ranking until they have refereed a certain number of games or have been observed. Mr. Polgar has restricted some referees from officiating at the easier games because they are needed at higher level games and also to make it easier for the special ranked referees to achieve a higher ranking. Referee class and field clinics are complete. All 28 passed but only about 8 have signed up to referee. The summer classes will be in early August. Mrs. Lundberg raised a concern about the adult referee requirement and not being able to get into the SASC classes and suggested there be information on the website. There is already information on the website so it appears the team managers are not aware of their resources. The referee information is tracked and presented in reports but currently the requirement is not enforced. 50 to 70 referees were cut due to their non-

payment of dues for the 2008-09 season. They have been contacted multiple times without response. Mr. Polgar and Mr. Mayes will communicate off-line to discuss referee dues increases and dropped information on the USSF database.

Treasurer: Mrs. Lundberg has been tracking down our current Articles of Incorporation as filed with the state. It appears the latest version on file with the state is from 1979. She is waiting for a copy from the state, which will need to be brought up to date. Tax returns are submitted. She has encountered some difficulties with the delegation of duties to a staff of volunteers. There have been challenges that have arisen which wouldn't normally if they were all working together in an office environment. Mrs. Lundberg is not sure if the new organization will be successful. There have been two recent violations of the policy on promoting vendors through the comp coaches yahoo group. Mrs. Todd asked if the violation should be considered a violation of the policy or as a sharing of a resource. Mrs. Lundberg felt it was a violation. She recommends a solution that includes sending the policy out to all of our vendors, sending it to the comp coaches yahoo group and posting it on our website. Part of the reason the e-mail made it to through the comp coaches yahoo group is because the group is not moderated unlike the recreation coaches group, which is moderated. There was significant discussion that was summarized by Mrs. Todd stating we have clearly not done a good enough job of explaining the Earthquakes relationship because that appeared to be a vendor to a long-standing coach and we should look for a way to keep the coaches group clean. The discussion was tabled with the additional comment from Mrs. Hlady that we need to have a way to share the camp resources. Mr. Tharakan said that SASC should have an official communication channel to the coaches; if we choose it to be the yahoo group then it should be moderated. Mrs. Todd suggested someone step up to investigate this issue. Mrs. Hlady volunteered to moderate the group until we come up with a solution. Mrs. Todd said there has to be more than one person to moderate.

Secretary: No Report.

Competitive Registrar: *(submitted in absentia, read into the record by Elizabeth Johnson)*

- Mrs. Philips notified the Yahoo Comp Coaches email group that the last date to submit spring roster changes is Wed., April 29th
- She is holding a manager's meeting on CYSA tournament application process and "hot" new team questions this evening at Cupertino Middle School
- She will begin fall comp team registration in late May/early June; will kickoff with a manager's meeting mid- to late-May as she did last year.

President: No Report. Mrs. Todd commented that we have been pressing down concerns today in the interest of expediency but that they are all valid. Mrs. Hlady asked if their concerns were to be raised during the board reports or at another time during the meeting. Mr. Carpenter commended the question and asked what members preferred, the free flow of information similar to last year or the board reports. Mrs. Hlady said she raised the question because Mrs. Johnson had sent out an e-mail requesting items and issues for addition to the agenda. Mrs. Banks concurred indicating that we have addressed several issues brought up during the board reports that were not on the agenda. Mr. Tharakan suggested an egg timer to keep things moving and Mr. Carpenter said members should be prepared with bullet points for a shorter report. Mrs. Hlady asked that if members have issues they be emailed to Mrs. Johnson before the meeting so they can be put on the agenda. Mrs. Banks asked that the issues be spelled out in more than two or three words so they are clear.

## NO REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

## OLD BUSINESS

Discipline Policy: Mrs. Todd summarized the proposed addition as a change addressing to the failure to respond. Mrs. Johnson as well as Mr. Kluz had some recommended modifications to the proposed wording. These changes were discussed and the presented policy modification was revised. It was moved by Mrs. Banks, seconded by Mrs. Todd and carried *to approve the following new wording for the Discipline Policy,*

*“If at any time during the disciplinary process the protested party fails to:  
--respond to the chair of the Disciplinary Committee, in writing, within 7*

*days,*

*OR*

*--does not appear at the scheduled Disciplinary Hearing,  
the disciplinary committee has the right to continue with the Disciplinary  
Procedure including holding a disciplinary hearing and reaching a decision  
without granting additional opportunities for the protested party to present  
their case.”*

Uniform Policy: There was a brief discussion about whether violations should go through the board. They will continue to be addressed by the board for the time being. The pictures referenced in the first paragraph were not included and will be in the future. In the second and fifth paragraph the article “a” will be changed to “an” when used before ‘SASC.’ Black socks will not provided or sold by the club. It was moved by Mrs. Lundberg, seconded by Mr. Polgar and carried, *to approve the Uniform Policy with the minor grammatical correction.*

Volunteer Policy: The vote was tabled to the next meeting. All comments will be submitted in writing. Mrs. Todd recommended a brief discussion while we are together.

[Mr. Kluz arrived at this point.]

Issues brought up included: implementation or elimination of the Buy-out policy, auditing of repetitive tasks to identify the actual number of hours needed by the club in support of eliminating the buy-out option, if we have more volunteers than tasks then we could consider adding the buy-out option, requirement vs. expectation of one hour for recreation teams per season, eligibility of children to fulfill hours including liability and focus, there is no benefit including referees. Mrs. Banks will summarize these issues in an e-mail to the board for comment.

[Sandra Todd left at this point]

## NEW BUSINESS

Recreation Registration Fee: Mrs. Lundberg, in concurrence with Mrs. Dryer, recommends increasing U8 and older recreation fees by \$5.00 per player. This increase includes additional U12 referee costs, increase in uniform costs, and general cost increases. Discussion included the effect of instituting split costs and the small amount by which the proposed costs are separated. *It was moved by Mr.*

***Polgar, seconded by Mr. Tharakan and carried “to increase the recreation fees for all age groups to \$110/ per player.”***

Communication with the City: Issue withdrawn.

Back-up Plan and Problem Solving: Issue withdrawn.

Date for Fun Day: To be resolved off-line. The issue involves a late Labor Day date, and multiple double-header weekends, tournaments, SAT’s among other potential conflicts. Sports Basement has offered to host Fun Day. Having folks at the field is a big benefit but having picture pick-up at the Sports Basement is a definite possibility. The best option may be Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. Other options are Sept 13 or Oct 11. Mrs. Hlady recommended Petersen Field as an option for the pictures and fun day while SSC is being used for games; from a recreation perspective having the day on a four-day recreation weekend is a bad idea. Mrs. Banks asked if we could find another vendor who has better availability? Mrs. Hlady also asked if the date could be earlier rather than later because of the make-up date issues.

Recruiting for Volunteer Coordinator: It was moved by Mrs. Hlady, seconded by Mrs. Johnson and carried ***to approve Mr. Mayes as the Volunteer Coordinator, replacing former board member Mr. Ruckstuhl.***

## **REVIEW ACTION ITEMS**

Tabled.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 pm. The next meeting is May 11, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Johnson,  
Secretary