



VYS Board Meeting

August 7, 2014

Board Members Present: Mike Allen, Brian Ebert, Bob Amani, Ryan Phair, Melissa Taylormoore, Aravind "Jag" Jagannathan, Jamie Wilson, Pat McCloskey, Scott Holec, Peter Wacht

Staff: Eddie Lima, Debbie Brenchick, Anjali Thompson, Liz DiFrancisco, Mary Nunley

Guests: John Lee, Nick Makrigiorgos

Jamie Wilson made a motion to open the meeting and was seconded by Ryan Phair. President Mike Allen opened the meeting at 8:09 PM

Good of the Game:

A story was shared of a family within VYS who has assisted in transporting a player to/from practice/games as her family is unable to provide transportation for her.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made to accept the July 2014 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded and was unanimously passed.

Reports of Officers and Directors:

Fields (Melissa Taylormoore):

Melissa reported that fields are set for the fall. Everyone got space and what they want. Westbriar fields are closing next year which will impact field space. Melissa encouraged working with advocates in the community to keep from half the field space being converted to a blacktop, which would further reduce field space.

Melissa and Liz DiFrancisco attended a meeting at Thoreau Middle School recently. Discussions focused on the reconfiguration of the outside space. Liz helped to bring together VYS, VYI, and Babe Ruth Baseball to the meeting. They discussed design and build and looked at options. A layout was proposed to realign a sidewalk that will create 4 rectangular spaces. Currently VYS is not proposing donating funds to the build out but there are funds available in the Tyson's proffer. Fairfax County has the final approval on plans. Melissa also reported that if the fields are turf (which has not been decided) the funds can come out of the Tyson's funds. There was a sense of mutual support at the meeting.

Mike Allen suggested that VYS could learn from the experiences of the field construction at Oakton High School.

Permits have come in later than anticipated.

- Caffi Field and Luther Jackson will have less days for utilization than in the past
- Only the stadium will be able to be utilized at Marshall High School, the practice fields are unavailable in the fall
- Nottoway has more time under the lights available than in the past
- OakMarr has more availability as well.

There was a discussion about the overall process in allocation of fields. In the past it has generally been that older kids get the turf fields and the lights – equally divided between house and travel teams. When allocating fields Liz mentioned that many factors need to be considered such as;

- Potential damage to fields having too many players on them
- Size of parking lots
- Availability of bathrooms

Melissa mentioned that currently everyone is getting what they need but that the issue will become turf versus grass utilization in the near future. The board further discussed these challenges with numerous comments that it must be fair and equitable. A motion was made by Melissa Taylormoore that if field distribution became tight, the following would occur:

The fields will be assigned starting with High School ages then downward by age group, equitable on a 1:1 ratio between House and Travel. If after all has been plotted and scheduled, and if there is extra space it will be open for House and Travel teams to request.

The motion was seconded by Jag and passed on a 9:1 vote (“nay” by Pat McCloskey – VP Travel).

House (Mike Gurdak):

It was reported on behalf of Mike that he met with Commissioners on July 30. Scott Holec was also in attendance at that meeting. Teams are currently being formed and at this time there are a slight lack of coaches in U10.

Travel (Pat McCloskey):

Pat mentioned that he had recently made and distributed a video message to travel families.

A concern was raised that at times Team Managers have fronted money for tournaments and are later reimbursed. Options will be looked at to resolve this situation.

Nick Makrigiorgos provided a quick update on the Elite Player Development Limited (EPDL) that teams and players are being registered. The schedule is currently out as well. Nick and Eddie plan to attend an upcoming EPDL meeting. There will also be a parents meeting the last week of August to explain EPDL. The boys teams are also registered in the National Capital Soccer League (NCSL) and will also be able to participate in EPDL games on Saturdays.

Pat McCloskey mentioned that he had received positive feedback about the finishing camp conducted by the VYS trainers/coaches.

Eddie Lima (Technical Director):

Eddie briefed the Board that travel practice had started. Some players are still trying out for travel teams. He also made a point of highlighting excellent coordination with Liz on the utilization of fields.

Pick-up games will be run by Golden Boots.

Eddie recently received news that Olympic Development Program (ODP) practice will take place in Oakton this fall. Numerous VYS kids tried out for the ODP District program and many made from all team levels (Red, Black, White, and Silver).

Eddie announced a new, free pilot program within VYS. The program will be from 5:30-6:30 for U9-U12 and will focus on foot skills, finishing and conditioning for an hour. These will be followed by pick-up games.

Jag wanted to make sure that VYS members are aware the new program is a free program and is not covered by increased fees. Mike Allen agreed and felt that it should be communicated properly as there is more value in VYS than members may realize.

The sessions will commence on September 12. It was recommended that these may be a good opportunity to roll out prospective new trainers. Mike Allen requested that all details for the sessions be finalized by the end of August so that it can be communicated to the membership.

Eddie also announced that he is looking to have a U11/U12 helper (extra trainer) to assist the three other trainers.

Eddie asked for clarification of his reporting to the Travel Committee (TC). As the Technical Director of the Club, does he have to go through the TC for all actions? The perception amongst some of the families within VYS is that he does and cannot make any decisions on his

own. Mike Allen clarified that for some situations he does, specific to having new coaches vetted through the TC.

A discussion also followed on moving coaches within the Academy versus whether he needs the approval of the Board. The Board recommended that if Eddie is confronted with these issues, he is to communicate to Pat McCloskey, VP Travel, as he should be the one handling these situations. Scott Holec mentioned that serving the membership means giving them the ability to follow the process, not necessarily meeting every demand or request.

A discussion followed on the disparities between the U4s and U5s as the U4s receive a professional coach. It was recommended by Mike Allen that more evaluation take place and VYS hold off on the U4 program until spring.

President (Mike Allen):

There were two resolutions that were proposed:

- Creating the position of Past President and naming Margaret Kerfoot to the role. This will be a non-voting role and her responsibilities will be:
 - Working with the current President to ensure an orderly and smooth transition
 - Continuing to coordinate and oversee the work of the NSCAA consultant
 - Supporting the VP of Fields on fields initiatives and participating in the work of the Fields Committee
 - Assisting with any other special projects as may be authorized by the President or the Board of Directors

Mike Allen proposed the motion, it was seconded by Jag and the vote was unanimous in support.

- Indemnification – The Governance Committee has determined that the Board not sufficiently covered from an indemnification perspective. It will take more time to correct this and as a stop-gap measure the committee has asked that this resolution be passed.
 - Brian Ebert asked if this measure will cover retroactively.
 - It was decided that the measure should.

Ryan Phair proposed the motion, it was seconded by Melissa Taylormoore and the vote was unanimous in support.

Reports of Committees and Staff:

Executive Director Search Committee (Pete Wacht):

Pete reported that the committee has added its last member and is ready to commence moving forward.

Governance (Ryan Phair):

Ryan reported that the committee is in place and is currently reviewing the VYS insurance policies. They are reviewing the possibility of adding more insurance coverage as VYS handles more than \$2 million. The insurance broker inquired whether VYS wants to insure equipment. Should there be a rider to the policy? Ryan will come back with a proposal.

The committee is also reviewing the bylaws and policies that VYS should have in place.

Contracts (Brian Ebert):

Brian deferred to Ryan Phair as he had been handling much of the contract issues while Brian was out of the country. Ryan reported that he asked for payments from the travel teams by August 15 to make payments to the contract training companies. There will also be three payments rather than two. VYS will be invoiced monthly and at the end there will be a final reconciliation of payments.

Ryan asked for the TC approval to approve trainers by August 15.

Eddie Lima raised the point that it is ok to have the Age Group Coordinators (AGCs) track when trainers get there, the days they are at practice, whether they scrimmage or train but not the minutes that the trainer spends on each activity.

Ryan Phair also thanked Eddie Lima for all his help and support working on the contracts.

Communications (Scott Holec):

Scott asked the committee chairs to advise him of any internal needs for technology. He also proposed highlighting a "Team of the Week" from both House and Travel on a weekly basis via the website and other social mediums. The commissioners of each can/should make the recommendations. He also encouraged the use of Shutterfly or a similar product by each of the teams.

Scott and Mike (Allen) also met with Anjali Thompson for a few hours recently. Scott is in the process of rewriting her job description as she is much more than a webmaster (her current title).

Registration (Debbie Brenchick):

Debbie reported the following numbers:

| Registration | Number |
|---------------------|---------------|
| House | 2677 |
| Travel | 922 |
| Parent League | 97 |
| TOPS | 11 |
| Total Registered | 3707 |

This is down 170 registrations year over year.

Webmaster (Anjali Thompson):

Anjali reported that page views were down about 15% from the previous month. Changes were made to the website to include registration at the top of the page, a travel team main page, summer pick up page. Mike Allen recommended adding a page and creating a library for a series of videos as well as a page for concussion awareness.

Administrator (Mary Nunley):

Mary announced that "VYS Community Day" would occur on Sunday, August 24 from 2-5 PM at Caffi Field. She would like all Board members to attend if possible. There will be three large inflatables, DC United mascot and Eddie said that there will be fun soccer games to play. A suggestion was made to add a "dunk tank" which was supported.

Closing:

Mike Allen thanked all those who came. A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Ryan Phair. It was seconded by Melissa Taylormoore. The Board voted unanimously to move to Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Wilson
VYS Board Secretary