



VYS Board Meeting

October 27, 2014

Board Members Present: Mike Allen, Brian Ebert, Bob Amani, Ryan Phair, Mike Gurdak, Melissa Taylormoore, Aravind “Jag” Jagannathan, Jamie Wilson, Peter Wacht, Dave Shiells, Linda McDonald, Michele Sullivan, Scott Holec, Al Nunley

Board of Directors Special Appointees: Margaret Kerfoot

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

Guests: Dave Harvey, Faith Boettger, Andrew Ritter

The meeting opened at 7:32. President Mike Allen made a motion to accept the September Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Pete Wacht and they were unanimously approved.

Good of the Game:

Pete Wacht opened the “Good of the Game” by sharing a story that was the opposite of such. He mentioned a coach from another club within Northern Virginia who went on the field and punched a referee.

Liz DiFrancisco shared that Denise Schwandt and Isabella Mouthino both were awarded “Champions of Character” awards for going above and beyond and promoting a positive character in athletics. (See link here: <http://vys.org/home/shortStory/845796.html>)

Eddie Lima shared appreciation to Liz DiFrancisco, Ryan Phair, and Kathy Milligan for all their help with acquiring indoor space.

Margaret Kerfoot mentioned appreciation to Faith Boettger for her efforts in the “Give Cancer the Boot pink shirt” coordination.

Reports of Officers and Directors:

Travel (Ryan Phair)

VYS has two teams in the State Cup semifinals.

Winter training space will be very limited. There is less space and more teams this year than in the past. Each team will have four practices in Vienna and four practices at an alternate locale outside Vienna. Ryan mentioned that Kathy Milligan has been a tremendous help with this effort. This has been a huge project and it should be finalized this week.

A player evaluation process is being established. Travel players in U9 and U10 will receive written evaluations by parent coaches and players in U11 and above will receive oral evaluations.

Two new policies are also being considered:

1. Financial Refunds – players that receive a season ending injury and military families who move away from the area are where more flexibility is needed
2. Roster Sizes

Mike Allen suggested a check box at registration for members to acknowledge that they have been notified of the refund policy.

Ryan also shared that handbooks are being developed for Age Group Coordinators (AGC) and Team Managers (TM) with the assistance of some AGCs and TMs.

There was also a brief discussion of the Elite Player Development Limited (EPDL) and it was highlighted that at times it worked well but there are administrative difficulties within the league.

Concussion Policy (Dave Shiells):

Dave presented a DRAFT Concussion Policy to the Board. It is based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) best practices and Virginia Law. An important element is to educate parents, coaches, and players about concussions.

It is important to turn the player back over to the parent once a concussion occurs. Dave suggested that VYS should encourage a “when in doubt, sit out” policy if a situation occurs where there is a thought a concussion has occurred, rather than a coach making the decision as to whether the player is ok to go back in. A comment came up about various applications that can help to assess a concussion. It was recommended that the app should be used to record symptoms that can be delivered to parents to give to a doctor, rather than as a determinate of player availability. An accident report form could also be utilized.

It was discussed that it is essential for coaches to understand concussion issues. Eddie emphasized that the coaches need to follow up with parents when a concussion occurs and also the importance of a first aid course for all coaches – which extend beyond concussion training. Dave also emphasized that it is important for parents to notify coaches when a concussion occurs outside of a VYS practice or game (i.e – at home or school).

The term “zero tolerance” was mentioned. Mike Allen asked what that means...is it a bump on the head, is it heading versus a strong shot to the head? It is important to make sure that the coaches and parents are educated with as much information as possible. Dave said that a set schedule needs to be developed as to when to conduct these educational sessions. A

suggestion was made to have one of the sessions at “VYS Day” in the fall. Pete Wacht proposed including it as part of the coaches’ induction program – to make sure they receive both First Aid and Concussion training. Margaret Kerfoot recommended developing a checklist, laminating it and distributing it to all coaches. This idea was well received and it was also suggested that before this happen that both the DRAFT Concussion Policy and a proposed checklist are reviewed by both legal counsel and medical experts. Mike Allen also mentioned that the Reston Raiders Hockey Program has a concussion packet that they distribute to parents and he will forward a copy to Dave Shiells.

Operations (Brian Ebert):

Mike Allen asked for a status update on the goals at Freedom Hill. Brian stated that due to more pressing issues it was low on his priority list but he will look into it. He said that the price is approximately \$500 for a set of wheels.

Brian also said that the wheels on the portable goals at Oakton need to be repaired.

Executive Director Search (Pete Wacht):

Pete highlighted that there were 15 applicants for the position, to which the ED Committee trimmed down to six or eight candidates. That group will be interviewed and two to three will be presented to the Board for consideration in early December. The process is right on schedule.

ClubSportal (Scott Holec):

Scott briefed that the working group is currently being finalized. There will be two to three House and two to three Travel coaches in the group. The pilot program will begin in the spring with two to three House teams. The demo of the program will take place in mid to late January. Melissa Taylormoore offered to assist in demoing the program.

House Program (Mike Gurdak):

Mike reported that there were some minor disciplinary issues being addressed.

Administrator (Mary Nunley):

Mary distributed and discussed a VYS Staff Calendar which includes all key events and due dates for the next 12 months.

Registrar (Debbie Brenchick):

Debbie reported that there are 1003 Travel players this fall compared to 883 last fall. There are 3969 total players within VYS this fall.

New Business – Request to hire administrative support for Admin Staff and Vice President of Travel Support (Mike Allen):

Mike Allen presented a suggestion of hiring administrative support to assist with various needs within VYS. Ryan Phair advocated a need for a Travel Administrator to run the program. Mike recommended a temp to help in framing out what is really needed before making a full time hire. VYS needs help with scholarships, administering them, and coordinating other miscellaneous daily needs. To assist Ryan and also help offload some of the routine work, it was decided to hire a temp to handle some work for the Admin Staff, so they in turn can devote time to assisting Ryan, as that type of support requires a more detailed understanding of VYS.

Pete Wacht asked Ryan if the Travel Committee is of assistance and support to his role. Ryan said that if it wasn't for the Travel Committee, a lot of things would not get done.

Closing:

A motion was made to go into Executive Session by Mike Allen. It was seconded by Jamie Wilson. The Board voted unanimously to move to Executive Session.

The open Board Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM.

Executive Session:

Topic(s) discussed included:

Vote on VYS membership Application

Discussion of removal of "Acting" from Acting VP of Travel

Expansion of Webmaster role

Discussion of Vacant BOD seat

Discussion on renewal of TD employment

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Wilson
VYS Board Secretary