



Exeter Youth Soccer Association

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held by Zoom video conference on January 25, 2022

1. Chairman welcome

The meeting started at 7:35pm, immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Marc Chabot noted there was a quorum with more than half the directors in attendance and welcomed the attendees at the Annual Meeting, being: Maria Proulx, Randall Skaal, Brian Melick, Luke Martel, Jenn Young, Stephen Osborne, Patrick Garrity, Jason Faria (all members of the Board). Also in attendance were Scott Craig and Chuck Murray.

There were apologies for absence from Matteo Taormina.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held January 11th, 2022, having previously been circulated as draft, were approved by a vote.

3. Appointed Positions

Following the Annual Meeting, the Board reviewed the appointed positions. The following appointments were agreed:

- Director of Coaching and Player Development – Randall
- Academy – Patrick, with a sub-committee to be formed including Scott Craig and other volunteers. Maria to support if no other volunteers come forward
- Age Group Directors – to be reviewed
- High School – Luke, supported by Jason
- Director of External Affairs – Maria (and NNESL rep)
- Fields – Patrick
- Equipment – Brian
- Marketing, fanwear and uniforms - Luke
- Website – Jenn
- Evaluations – provisionally Scott, supported by Maria

4. Evaluations

There was a discussion about possible dates for the fall evaluations. Provisionally, May 14th appears to be the most optimal weekend. This avoids Get Fit in May, Mother's Day and Memorial Day weekend. It was agreed that this would be for all registering youth players for fall, U10 and up.

5. Age group coordinators

It was agreed that these should be re-evaluated at the February meeting, taking into account volunteers' age group knowledge.

6. Spring

Approach deadlines include March 1 for registration through fcexeter.com and mid-March to advise NNESL of the teams being formed.



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7. High School teams

Luke and Jason will coordinate on driving registration. In addition, Laura is working with the boosters to promote signups. HS registration is notoriously slow and has often been dependent on coaches driving reminders. Based on current knowledge, we should be able to form 2 teams for each of girls and boys.

8. Fields and goals

Patrick advised that he has asked Seth about availability at Stratham. This is currently under review, with the request being for at least one full field for a weeknight practice.

Greg has not advised regarding Exeter Rec. We should expect the same as last spring.

There are unlikely to be any issues at Brentwood. CMS has not replied. Laura is waiting to hear what North Hampton has to offer.

The improvement of the grading at Brentwood was discussed with Patrick and Brian to discuss and get quotes for possible summer work.

Brian noted that he will perform an inspection of the goals. He anticipates the only needs will be for new nets, which are usually quick to procure.

9. Club socials

There was a discussion about possible ways to offer social opportunities through the year. This will help families understand the club better, how the club is run and how they can bring their own energy to its operations. Both play-off weekends and Columbus Day weekend were identified as times where a club 'tent'.

The concept of a Team of the Week, or Player of the Week for promoting on Facebook/ Instagram was discussed. Randall agreed to develop a simple protocol to engage parents and coaches. This may include parent sharing cool video clips of goals etc.

10. Coach development

Jason advised that he was looking at how US grassroots coaching resources could be made available to our coaches.

There was a discussion about how experienced coaches could support/ mentor new coaches at games and practices. Initially, this could focus one Academy night a week.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting will be February 22 at 7pm.



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Maria advised that there had been no NNESL board meeting in December and that matters coming up for the January meeting include updates on the spring season, the approach towards the high school divisions and age group, and possible adjustments to how the Competition Committee operate.

11. Spring season

It was agreed to keep league placement under review to ensure that teams have appropriate competition. Regarding age groups, again, these should be reviewed once spring registration has progressed further. It being noted that where a team has limited competition in fall, playing up an age group in spring may be in the players' best interest.

Luke advised that Chuck Murray has enquired about coaching a high school girls team again this year. There was consensus that, in the first instance, volunteer parents should be considered first before appointing a non-parent member.

Stephen said he would reach out to the indoor high school parents of the boys' teams to see if they have interest for spring. Stephen will also confirm which girls teams are participating indoors. These individuals can also communicate to player families and help drive player registration.

Currently there are only 40 youth players registered and 9 players for high school.

Maria advised that, following 3Step's transaction with Seacoast United, there are not expected to be any near-term impacts on how Seacoast will support FC Exeter.

12. Fields/ Equipment

Patrick confirmed that at Exeter Rec, the goals are now secured with padlocks. He noted that the 7v7 goals at Exeter are in working order even though these were not used in fall. We could take them to another field if necessary. Patrick may seek a scrap metal guy to haul away the dilapidated frames.

At Brentwood, the goals have been lined up and set out of the way. Patrick and Andy from the Rec Department are looking at setting up a third field in Brentwood at the end of Spring. Brian cautioned that it is currently hard to get contractors and many are working with long lead times. Brian and Patrick will seek to obtain quotes for grading the field, as necessary.

Regarding the North Hampton floodlit field, Luke advised that Danielle told him she has some commitments to flag football and lacrosse for spring and she'd like to assign any EYSA requirements.



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The rate charged for fall was \$75 per hour plus \$25 for lines. It is possible that daytime rates may be lower.

There was a discussion about expected 11v 11 field resources for spring, with Brentwood being available at all times, and Stratham likely to be available for practice nights but not weekends). Patrick will consult with CMS's athletic director to establish the position there, before we decide on the need for North Hampton.

Scott Craig, who has enquired about volunteering on the board, joined the meeting.

13. Financials

Jenn, having previously issued draft accounts, reported that there was \$70,305 cash in hand. This compares to \$70,798 last year. The 2021 numbers include approximately \$5,000 spent on goals. There are no other significant expenses relating to the fall season anticipated.

14. Other business

Randall noted that for coaching education and licensing, there have been some sign ups after Jason's email to the volunteers. Randall will arrange more reminders to go out to coaches for sign up.

Jenn advised that Exeter High School had asked if FC Exeter would be offering a college scholarship to a graduating senior, consistent with previous years. The board voted to approve such a scholarship, for \$500. As previously agreed, it was noted that the Board will be looking for a stronger connection between the recipient and the club than that which has generally the case.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8.15PM.