

FCCI Executive Board Meeting- March 28, 2022

Members present include Tim , Chris, Jeremy, Matko, Kirt, John, and Matt. Natalee and Brenden also joined. Tim called the meeting to order at 8:09 pm.

PCSL Update:

- The rec indoor U5/U6 started today. We have 393 in the program.
- The full U7/U8 leagues start this weekend. We will continue to have the Friday advanced training offered and the kids who participate and are identified will be invited to Rantoul.
- We had 25 kids attend the inaugural PCSL spring break camp. These were okay numbers, but we hoped there would be better turnout. We will review for next year and consider improvements and communications.

FCCI Update:

- Matko wants to look at using Rantoul for a league weekend at their complex instead of using Community fields (due to bad weather, wet fields, etc.). This also would allow us to secure fields and establish the rental for next year in case our complex is not ready in time.
- We had the first club weekend this last weekend at Midstate but it had to be cancelled due to weather and field conditions.
- We are working through training schedules now as the fields open up, things get warmer, and weather challenges push us.
- We are starting the goalkeeping program starting Friday evenings for 8 hours. We have the goalkeeping coach from ISU helping with the program.
- Brenden talked about how to better integrate the operations with the PCSL and younger aged kids to transition the talented kids into travel coaching.
- We have had a handful of complaints from parents about Community fields items such as the parking lot, the field conditions, etc. We are working to upkeep things as much as we can, even with the challenging weather, but we are focusing our rebuilding efforts on the new fields as much as possible and minimizing spend at Community. The group discussed some steps that can be taken in order to improve the existing facilities in inexpensive ways.

- Tryouts are set for May. High school girls will be in June, and the high school boys will be in November. The trapped year players tryouts will be TBD based on the numbers of trapped year kids. We have already had a number of PCSL families and outside club kids signed up early.
- Next year all coaches will have to have at least the US Soccer Grassroots license next year. There are a number of local coaches clinics coming up in Peoria in June and July. The 4 v 4 and 7 v 7 can be done online and the 9 v 9 and 11 v 11 are in person. For more info, contact Natalie.

Social Media Update:

- Matt has been posting for the USMNT watch parties at lil beaver.
- Matt is ready for the media posts around tryouts along with the website.

Tournament Update:

- We have 3 weeks until registration closes and the multi team discount expires at the end of this month. We have worked with SASA and Peoria in order to ensure we all are supporting each other's teams with 11 Peoria teams and 5 SASA teams. We have 23 total clubs coming include a handful of new clubs.
- We are sitting at 103 fully registered teams with another half dozen or so in the hopper. Of those, 23 of those are FCCI connected teams. Compared to the fall, we are up from last year.
- If projections continue as expected, we will be up on revenue compared to last fall.
- We are working through which levels we need to fill up brackets and have room to add some more teams at certain ages.
- We have three vendors coming (one for team apparel, one for drink/glasses/tumblers, and we have European sports with jerseys and cleats).
- PCSL night will be on Friday night again and will feature a lineup similar to last year at 5:30.

Eclipse Select Update:

- We will know more on the Girls GA bid within the next month. If accepted this would replace the Eclipse Select ECNL regional league pathway.

- Rockford was able to get into the ECNL national league even though they were behind us in 4 of the 6 teams. The largest reason was almost definitely their fields/complex combined with some regional politics.
- The pre academy system is working well and will be improved for next year. Outside of National league ECNL, the GA is higher level than regional league ECNL and is probably going to be the best pathway for higher level competitive soccer going forward on the girls side.

Game Time Gym:

- We look like we are going to end the first year with around \$100,000 of outside revenue through rentals. This is a good number, but does not cover our costs for the facility. The club training helps supplement that, but the rest is being subsidized by club fees in order to have the facility.
- We have signed Scribbles to run the summer camp season.
- We should have a few new rentals coming in soon.
- The drink machine is in place and has constantly sold out almost instantly. The group discussed potentially expanding the offerings and adding a second machine and also perhaps adding a machine with limited food.
- Thanks to Brian Hatcher for coming in to adjust the nets and set them back on the edges of the fields.
- Thanks to Knapp contractors for helping fix the lights and providing a lift for GTG.
- Thanks to the staff for covering the year so far and ensuring we had staff coverage for the rentals for the building.

Community Fields:

- Jeremy gave updates on the mowing and field lining situation. The city will continue to mow/line through the end of the fiscal period in May. The staff will gather together to figure out which fields need to be mowed and which do not past the spring and determine a pathway for maintenance.
- **A motion was made by Jeremy and seconded by Matt to approve hiring Andy Omman and Professional Outdoor Solutions to spray the field for weeds as his quoted price. The vote passed unanimously.**

Sale Barn Fields/Complex:

- Jeremy brought the team up to speed on the status of the complex. Although the property sits in the County and we were told to go through the County process, the County told us on the application day that they would not support our application. They advised we would need to annex the property to the city and attach onto existing water/sewer connections.
- This literal last day change in Feb has caused us to shift quickly to pursue the path through the city. We have spoken with all of the relevant department heads and received unofficial sign offs on our plan documents with some additional changes being offered around the land plat, the water retention plan, the parking, and the street accesses. After these reviews, we submitted the plans to the Bloomington Planning Council and Jeremy, Andy, Dale, David, and Nate attended the meeting to present our plan.
- The planning board meeting on March 2nd went very well. We received some push back and limited concerns from neighbors during the meeting, but the neighbors also agreed that we had listened to them and presented them a forum at a public meeting we held in Feb. The planning commission approved our site plan and recommended approval of the annexation agreement as drafted to the City Council.
- This step gives us a ton of momentum, but we still must go to the City Council for final approval. Due to notices and time limits, it is doubtful we will be able to get on the agenda until late April, which could start to cause a timing issue with contractors getting into the site in enough time.
- Our engineer/design firm has completed all of the major design pieces and is now moving towards the construction plans to allow for quotes/bidding. This will likely be ready around the same time as the City Council approval, assuming there are no more changes.
- Our turf contractor has communicated that their schedule is very full from May-August due to the abnormally large amount of schools having turf installed this summer. We have started to rework the work plan so that other contractors can take on the dirt movement piece for the turf, with our turf contractor coming in the install turf in the fall.
- We continue to talk with our banker and it appears we can support a 3-3.5 million dollar complex at our current fundraising and income levels.

Fundraising:

- Chris and Kirt have been working on a fundraising plan. The goal will be to have multiple smaller events with a few larger capstone events, hoping to bring in \$100,000 in the year.
- There will be a dine to donate plan set up for April- November for both PCSL and FCCI. This will hopefully generate around 200-500 per event.
- Chris is looking to have a par 3 foot golf tournament at the Links. It will take around an hour to play for a 4 some at 40 bucks. 4-10 on a Friday and 8-2 on a Saturday, preferably July 15/16 of 2022.
- We are looking at a trivia event/spaghetti dinner sometime in Jan 2023. This would be one of our major fundraising events.
- Chris is also looking at some additional promotions at the end of the season around the World Cup. One option is some sort of NCAA bracket type promotion around FIFA.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20.