



Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

June 13, 2023

Exeter Parks and Recreation offices

President's welcome

Maria Proulx, president, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. In attendance were directors Jenn Young (treasurer), Matteo Taormina, Eric Kelley, Patrick Garrity (vice president), Geoff Meadville, Shane Bradt, Christie Farris, Luke Martel, Jason Faria.

Absent with regrets were Jessica Costa, Porter Hayes, Ben Bailey, Scott Craig.

Minutes from April & May

Jason Faria moved to approve the minutes from April and May. Luke Martel seconded. Approved unanimously

Spring Season Wrap

There were eight NNESL playoff teams:

Boys - U11 Premier, U11 Championship, U12 Blue, U13 & High School JV

Girls - U13 Yellow, U13 Blue & U14/15

Two NHSL playoff teams: Girls U19 Varsity & Boys U19 Varsity

Three teams were in the NNESL finals:

U11 Boys (*Champions), U13 Girls Blue, U14/15 Girls

Jennifer said HS Varsity Girls' season was challenging. 50% of the games were forfeited, both because of our lack of players and opponents lack of players. Jen suggested filling a team with at least 20 and wait until there's another 20. Jason said that would also be good for Boys HS. Exeter High School girls have been cut down by a team, so this is a broader issue in our area. Maria worked with the EHS girls Boosters to have EHS girls come to speak to our 8th grade girls. Geoff worked with the Boys Boosters to have the EHS Varsity coach do the same.

On the younger end there was an imbalance between our two U9 Boys teams but we didn't know the players. We do know them now so that should improve. 2013 Premier Girls went undefeated.

Fall 2023

Maria reported that we had a good meeting with a lot of coaches participating. Biggest challenge was not having some Seacoast scores and didn't have Fall coach evaluations for some

groups. Maria emphasized to those coaches that we need the evaluations turned in to complete this process. Patrick pointed out that there's a wide range of how coaches fill out the evals so it helps to have good attendance at the team formation meeting. Getting evals done early gives us time to set expectations with players/parents. There was a discussion at the formation meeting about aligning teams by grade. We couldn't do that because all of Youth Soccer went to the birth year standard many years ago, which was a major change and has been the standard since. We discussed the pros/cons of balanced teams, but Maria talked about how, as a club, we've been entering Premier and Championship in large part so that competition in the division is appropriate rather than having a few strong players on Championship teams who dominate and create imbalance. Playing bubble players up to Premiership can help with players who are strong on a Championship team. Making use of double-rostering can also help when that option is available based on having teams in NNESL and NHSL, but that option may go away next season.

Eric suggested that age group coordinators or a specific Board member could be the person who follows up with coaches to get their evals in. Luke volunteered to be the person who follows up with coaches.

Jason will be reaching out to coaches to confirm participation for Fall and to make sure they are getting registered.

Phantoms Game Friday Night

Good registration numbers for Friday night. We have given out all of the 50 free adult tickets if everyone shows. Owen from SUSC will have interns meet us under the pavilion with tickets. If any adult shows up and has to pay after the 50 free adults, we would cover the cost. We have 57 adults registered currently. There will be a 15 minute half time for our players to scrimmage. Luke will get banners to Maria. Kickoff is at 6:00pm. Board should show up at 5:00pm. Phantoms opponent, Black Rock, has at least one player who is a former FC Exeter player.

Fields/Equipment

We will need to secure the goals prior to summer. Patrick will make a list of needs and send an email to set up a party to lock it up.

Fields: We had issues with so much water this year. Brentwood wouldn't drain at one point and we lost two days to it. We only had an issue with one Exeter field near the tennis courts. Brentwood had a charette for a master plan to work on recreation fields. It was positive, but the project is years away from happening. Knowles Field in N. Hampton gives us some options. If we pay for the lights for the month, we could schedule Friday night double-headers. For field painting, we will need to get ahead of it and tell Bob what we need for multiple colors for hybrid lining.

Equipment: We need coaches jerseys. Luke will need to do an inventory for what we need for Fall so we can do an order. There should be 8 new pop-up goals in Brentwood. Patrick will look for them in the Brentwood shed and bring them to Exeter..

NNESL

The tournament went well at Seacoast. Good investment to do it there. We had Salem and Newmarket come in for the Spring. We expect more teams for Fall, including teams from Maine and Massachusetts.

Financial

Jennifer reported that we have a \$148,078 cash balance, largely driven by registration revenue. Revenue is up \$17,532 total with an \$11,262 increase in Spring Youth registration revenue, \$4,600 in Fall Youth and \$1,600 in Spring High School. The IRS 990 and NH CT12 Charitable Trust filings were submitted on time.

Ad Hoc

Luke announced that the new uniforms are up online. Luke also got to present the Scholarship at EHS Awards Night. Charlie Gaughan was very appreciative and it was a wonderful event and he encourages others to take a turn because it's another reminder of why we do this. Luke also got a hold of someone at Dicks to work with. Got gift cards to buy equipment.

Hosting a US Soccer Grassroots Licence Course: Jason was in touch with Jeff Cousineau at NH Soccer. The course consists of a classroom session and field session. NH Soccer has two options: 1) Classroom and field session on the same weekend day or 2) Classroom one weeknight and field session on another weeknight. Jeff is looking to do these between the last weekend in July and the third weekend in August. There's no fee for FC Exeter, we just provide a classroom with AV and a field appropriate for the level we want to host (7v7, 9v9, etc.). We do not have to fill the class. It will be offered to anyone. The advantage is that it's close for our coaches. Our coaches can register and we can reimburse them. The Board preferred that we do a weekend date as late as possible in the summer to allow people to be back from vacations. Jason will work with Jeff Cousineau to secure a date and with Laura and Patrick to arrange the multi-purpose room at EHS and field. Jason will attempt to get an EHS field so it happens in the same location, but that has been a challenge in the past.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved at 8:30pm.