



# **Exeter Youth Soccer Association**

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors**

### **Held January 12, 2021 at Exeter Parks and Rec, 32 Front Street and by video conference**

#### **1. Chairman welcome**

The Chairman, Marc Chabot, noting that the meeting had been convened properly and that a quorum was present opened the meeting at 7pm. Also in attendance were Patrick Garrity, Jenn Young, Maria Proulx, Matteo Taormina, Randall Sckaal, Amy Farnham and Stephen Osborne, who acted as Secretary. There had been apologies for absence from Luke Martel, Brian Melick and Jason Faria.

#### **2. Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, having previously been circulated as draft, were approved by a vote.

#### **3. Annual Meeting**

Stephen confirmed that, in accordance with the bylaws of the club, a notice had been sent to members to advise them of the 2022 Annual Meeting. This will be held in person at the Exeter Town Senior Center on January 25<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Marc noted that we have space on the board for new directors and that these do not necessarily need to be drawn from those who already volunteer as coaches. It was agreed that, if possible, it would be good to add new directors from those with children involved in the Academy age groups.

#### **4. Fall season**

##### Play offs

Following the season end it was noted that the NNESL play-off weekend had gone well. The only difficulty had been dealing with a power outage that impacted the last few games on Saturday afternoon. These were successfully rearranged for the Sunday morning. There was a positive tournament atmosphere and NNESL achieved approximately \$2,500 in merchandise sales.

From Exeter's perspective, there were multiple teams involved in play-off games and the winning teams were coached by Matteo Taormina, Maria Proulx and Patrick Garrity.

Some NNESL clubs continue to question the timing of the playoff weekend, with it being after the daylight savings come into effect. Maria reported that there will be some discussion about season logistics at the NNESL board.

##### Zoom debrief/ Coaches player feedback

Randall reported that he had held this meeting with coaches on Zoom. He had walked through the feedback form and already 30% of the evaluation forms are back with Laura who will send reminders out this weekend ahead of December 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

##### Seacoast feedback on Academy coaches

Maria advised that this had been requested and was to come.



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#### Double rostering

It was agreed that, further to coach Jeremy Forest sharing ideas with the board at the beginning of the season, and following board discussions and emails, the club will introduce an option for players to be placed on a training roster, when it is a good solution for an age group. It was noted that such players will still need player cards and uniforms. Stephen will write to Jeremy to inform him of the board's decision.

#### **5. NNESL update**

Maria noted that following the recent complaints raised by an FC Exeter coach and parent, NNESL had sent an apology to those concerned. In addition, FC Kittery issued an apology. Nothing significant has happened since and the matter appears to be closed.

Regarding the effectiveness of how the league addresses competition issues, Maria noted that NNESL board had held a 3-hour meeting with representatives invited from all clubs. Various issues were shared and it was acknowledged that while for the most part the initial team placements and subsequent mid-season adjustments worked out well, it would be preferable for decisions to be made earlier if possible, so that they may be shared with members while there is still time to address concerns. NNESL is going to set out rules for go forward.

Finally, Maria advised that there was going to be a NNESL discussion about the approach to team formation and age groups for the spring season. The two possible approaches being age-based and JV/ Varsity U19 teams. There was a consensus, for Exeter, that age-based eligibility is preferable.

#### **6. Spring season**

Currently there are only 10 players registered, however, it is very early for registration.

There was a discussion about how the Drunsic girls teams had successfully operated on a mix/ match model, where that group was generally of even ability. This may be considered for spring, as needed.

Randall will ask that Laura send another email promoting registration.

#### **7. Fields/ Equipment**

Jenn noted that only 1 coaches equipment bag had been returned so far. More follow-up to issued.

In terms of securing goals, Patrick will aim to have 3 or 4 people at Exeter to secure and lock the goals in the next few days. Regarding the goals at Brentwood, Patrick is still waiting to hear back from Andy.



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The North Hampton fields, which had been used for evening practice before the play-offs, had been a useful facility. Patrick confirmed we intend to secure an arrangement for an ongoing basis. Randall will ask Laura to follow up with Danielle Strater of the North Hampton Youth Association to determine what is available. It was noted that the lights primarily serve the baseball field, leaving one end of the soccer field less well lit. It was also noted that the 11v11 field is small, making it fine for U13 and U14 but less preferable for high school teams.

**8. Financials**

Jenn, having previously issue draft accounts, reported that there was \$82,111 cash in hand. This is with approximately \$17,000 still to be paid to Brentwood, the Capitol Cup and Bob the field painter.

**9. Other business**

Patrick advised that he is in discussions with one parent about possibly joining the board and there are two other parents he can sound out. Whether or not these parents volunteer as full board members, he would also like to introduce a subcommittee for the Academy.