

Illinois Fire Juniors/PSCSL

July 2019 Meeting Agenda

General Discussion Topics:

Call to order at 7:05. In attendance John, Myron, Kirt, Sean, Rich, Andie, Pam, Amanda, Pam, Erica Hunt, Jeremy, Tim Koch. Chris and Matt joined later.

IFJ Fall Tourney Shootout – Andie

- Spring Tourney Recap- Had a state inspector show up to audit our tournament. Had 3 items that were findings. 1/Risk management form for each team that attends stating they complied with safe sport and concussion risk mitigation. Will make a standard form in years going forward. 2/Did not have air horns in each marshall/offsite tent (we did). 3/Leaving keys in golf carts (safety risk). Andie wrote mitigation plans and they were accepted. Had some radio issues.
- Fall Tourney- Two Canadian teams are confirmed. Single site, younger kids focused, officials are taken care of already. Roughly 20 fire teams are confirmed.
- Items Still Needed- Awards, Parking, Trainers.

Community Outreach- Chris/Sean

- Top Soccer – Looking to run a new session. Sept 4th first training. Six consecutive dates. Oct 9th ending game. Last year ended with 13 players, think we will likely double it. Marketing and invites will start shortly. Will send this time to both sides of the house (rec/travel). Chris will start to contact buddy players soon. If interested, contact Sean Dunne.

Rec Operations Update - John/Pam

- Operations Status Report (Board Report)- Currently have over 1100 player registered for Fall. Puts us over 100 teams. Need 17 more coaches as of today (similar to past years). 90 kids already at U5 ages. Discussed ways to enhance exposure as well as retention. Coaches meeting date set for U6-U8 Aug 5th, Aug 6th for U9-High School.
- PCSL Day at ISU vs SIU-E – Saturday Aug 10th and 3:00pm – There will be kids activities, autograph opportunities, 100 kids vs Redbird soccer, concessions, large picture. Will be travel alumni playing from both teams. Discussed expanding to both travel and rec. More details to come.
- Team Snap Renewal – Team Snap renewal is coming in August. Fire has partnered with Team Snap to be the official provider and provide a discount for all teams. The travel side is working under the new rate while the rec site was already set up independently. Pam/Kirt/Rich/Tim/Scott will work out the details to secure the best rate for both sides.
- Background Check Changes – New background checks are in effect. PCSL is covering the cost of the background checks for coaches/staff on the rec side. New program is compliant with SAFE sport. Will have the entire board go through the new program this month.
- Equipment Prep/Needs for the Fall- Going to need a larger order than usual for soccer balls and pennies given use for last year.
- PCSL High School Division – Are currently a little lower in this arena. Plan to change format to a 7 v 7 format on the 9 v 9 fields to allow each team to play each other twice and get more touches on the ball.

- PCSL Preseason Camp – July 29th through August 1st camp. Already have over 50 players signed up. More email blasts coming.
- Rule Changes – Have some rule changes coming for the next year. CIYSL is going to a build out line set up on both rec and travel. PCSL used them last year. Going to continue playing build out lines for U10 and under. Will now allow goalies to pass a player in the box but teams cannot break the breakout line until the ball is out of the goal box and another player besides the goalkeeper first touches the ball.
- Uniforms/Reeds-
- Upcoming Tasks- Next 30 Days

Travel Operations Update – Myron/Amanda

- 2019-2020 Tryouts- Status/Recap/What worked/What can be improved- Biggest tryouts of all time. Increased by about 60 players. Have over 70 coaches in place. A few coaches are still needed to be placed. Roughly 90% of the Team Managers are set up. 2010 boys Navy needs a coach, needs some assistants at academy.
- Super Y Update – Have over 200 players.
- Summer Camps – Parks and rec camps have over 350 kids. Fire camp, summer, and technical camp numbers continue to be strong as usual. Premier camp is around 80, PCSL around 50.
- Fall Season Needs – May need to have some additional help at the beginning of the season given Chrissy's departure. Discussed if we can pull in additional short term help for academy carding.

Marketing/ Fundraising/Sponsorship Alternatives - Jeremy

- Lip Sync Battle – Recap- A fun event enjoyed by those who went, but not well attended. Timing of end of spring season is not ideal. Lost money overall due to under 40 paid attendees.
- Capital Campaign Updates- A lot of new developments. Have received first sets of gifts and the campaign is focused on lead gifts and targeted donor lists. Land conversations continue and continue very positive. Likely will need to make some decisions in the next few months. More to come.

President's Topics - Tim

- Merger/Logos – Making progress on legal merger and have formal documents to review. Expect a vote in the next month or two. Will circulate to the group for final approval and order new sign for the front entrance made.
- Complex Maintenance Needs- F.S., Mower, Golf Cart. The green gator has been fixed but is getting quite old and keeps breaking down. The other golf cart with the flat bed back is breaking down and at least 20 years old. It may also make sense to have some sort of 6 person golf cart for assistance with elderly and mobility.
- New Board Members/Structure – We have 3 open board slots (currently marketing, communication, and travel operations). We have at least 4 individuals interested and Erika has expressed an interest to move from volunteer into marketing, potentially opening up her slot instead. We will hold interviews for potential board members in the next 30 days and will hold a vote next month on various board positions.
- Director of Operations – Director of operations positions are being posted this week. Tim will send around the link so we can fully publicize the position. We plan to start the hiring process shortly with the aim to have someone in place for the Fall season.
- Closed Session- 8:30:

Meeting adjourned at 9:02