



Exeter Youth Soccer Association

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held by Zoom video conference on February 22, 2022

1. Chairman welcome

The meeting started at 7:00pm.

Marc Chabot noted there was a quorum with more than half the directors in attendance, welcoming Maria Proulx, Randall Skaal, Luke Martel, Jenn Young, Stephen Osborne, Patrick Garrity and Matteo Taormina. Also in attendance was Scott Craig, a member.

There were apologies for absence from Jason Faria and Brian Melick.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meetings, held January 25th, 2022, having previously been circulated as draft, were approved by a vote. These were the minutes of both the Annual Meeting and a subsequent ordinary meeting of the Board.

3. Age Group Directors

There was a discussion about the appointment of age group directors, with the following proposals to be reviewed once team formation and coach appointments are settled for spring 2022.

2013 and prior (Academy) boys and girls – Patrick and Scott

2011 and 2012 boys – Matteo

2011 and 2012 girls – Patrick

2008, 2009 and 2010 girls – Maria. With possible support to be requested from Javier Jiménez, Mike Drunsic and Jeff Biron

2008, 2009 and 2010 boys – to be determined after review of the coaching pool.

Stephen will circulate the original description of the age group director role, for review and as these positions are discussed with individuals.

4. Spring

Jenn gave an update on the current numbers registered, which were High School 32 (2021 we had 63) and Youth 152 (2021: 174). Jenn noted that in 2019, our last spring before COVID-19, we had 210 youth registrations. Randall will ask Laura to keep the recruitment notices going with a special focus on HS freshmen girls, where we have none signed up.

In terms of coaches, there are healthy volunteer numbers, with 18 signed up.

It was noted that the season kicks off on Saturday 4/23 with 4/23 and 5/3 both being weekends during the vacation week. This is difficult, but consistent with prior years. We will need coaches to have an early take on player numbers for these weekends, to determine if any games need rescheduling due to player availability.

Jenn confirmed that teams must be registered by 3/18, after our next board meeting.



Exeter Youth Soccer Association Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors Held by Zoom video conference on February 22, 2022

5. NNESL update

Maria advised that NNESL had, after healthy discussion, agreed with EYSA's recommendation to create HS age divisions at U17 (2005) and U19 (2003) which will allow sophomores to be eligible for the younger age group.

Maria noted that she expects to be able to share news about how the procedures relating to the Competition Committee will be changing.

6. Fall

Evaluations are set for May 14.

We will review pricing at the next board and then target a date for opening registration.

7. Fields

Patrick advised that Greg (Exeter) said we should expect the same availability as last spring. That is Friday and Saturday afternoons. Softball has Monday to Thursday.

At Stratham, we have one field at Stevens Park on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Stratham Hill Park is not available.

Brentwood will be wide open every day during the week and over the weekends.

Timberland has asked which days we want. Patrick will give three days.

North Hampton we may have Mondays, Wednesdays and occasional Friday night games.

8. Community opportunities

We had been approached about having a presence at the UFO Festival but there was consensus that based on the timing and the demographic, it did not lend itself to the club attending.

Get Fit In May is a more promising opportunity with local families in attendance. Jenn will approach Kim Meyers.

9. Goalkeeper Clinic

An SNHU/ Seacoast coach will run a clinic in spring. We need to identify a weekday night, or possibly a Sunday night at the Exeter or Brentwood Rec. Maria will circle back. We will open it up to all have interest in playing time in goal.

10. Finances

Jenn summarized finances by advising cash is \$89,496 which is up \$7,300 compared to the same point in 2021, reflecting earlier registrations. There have not been many expenses year to date.



Exeter Youth Soccer Association Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors Held by Zoom video conference on February 22, 2022

11. Other Business

The coaches meeting should be held April 11 or April 12.

Scott shared that when he was a volunteer in Arlington, there was value from having guest speakers at coaches meetings. This made meetings more informative and more attractive when driving for attendance.

It was agreed that a 15 to 20 minute slot on a topic, for example 'what it means to coach youth' could be arranged. A guest to be approached (e.g. Mark Hubbard, an Exeter HS coach or a Seacoast United coach). This type of event also allows for stronger relationships with local soccer leaders and influencers.

Other ideas shared included:

- A High School clinic one afternoon where High Schoolers and youth practice, possibly a week or 2 before the HS soccer night.
- High School coaching opportunities for students to assist on youth teams in spring or fall

Randall noted that 2 HS boys had signed up to coach in spring. Stephen to follow up.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting will be March 15th at 7pm.