



**Exeter Youth Soccer Association**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the board of directors**  
**Held at 7pm on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 84 Front Street, Exeter, NH**

**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, Brian Melick and Stephen Osborne, who acted as Secretary. There had been apologies for absence from Luke Martel and Jason Faria.

Marc noted that Chris Sera had written to him on November 8th to advise him that due to the burden of other commitments, he had tendered his resignation as a member of the board. Marc noted the valuable contribution that Chris has provided to the club over the past few years.

**2. Minutes**

The draft minutes of the meetings held on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 having been previously circulated were approved.

**3. Annual Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting on Tuesday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Stephen will ask Laura to secure the Senior Center as a venue and issue the appropriate notices at least 60 days in advance. It was agreed to offer attendance at the meeting via Zoom for those wanting to attend without being in person.

**4. Fall season**

With play-off's scheduled for the coming weekend, it was agreed to hold an end of season debrief with all coaches, on Zoom. The purpose is to advise the importance of and the approach to completing coaches' feedback forms. Randall will run the meeting, Laura to provide notifications. Laura will issue blank feedback forms in advance, and team-populated forms shortly after the meeting. The aim is to have all completed feedback returned by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Laura will issue a request for coaches to return fall equipment to the club, with a drop off at Jenn's porch.

It was suggested that for fall 2022, it would be helpful to cover the approach to coach feedback at the pre-season kick off meeting.

Maria will collect Academy coaching feedback from Kim at Seacoast United, to take into account on future coaching assignments.

There was a discussion about the matters raised previously by Jeremy Forrest, regarding policy towards double rostering and the impact on teams. Stephen will draft a response by the club, indicating that the board does agree there is merit with having practice squads registered and will consider these on a case-by-case basis at team formation.

There had been a complaint made by a U9 boys coach (Ashley Healy) and a parent of one her team's players (Todd Guerdat) about an incident at a game that involved a volunteer referee's conduct. The



**Exeter Youth Soccer Association**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the board of directors**  
**Held at 7pm on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 84 Front Street, Exeter, NH**

matter was raised with the club and then referred to NNESL. Maria will share NNESL's response with the board, in due course.

Patrick outlined several recommendations for 2022's Academy program, based upon experiences this fall. Maria and Patrick noted that these recommendations were being made in the spirit of making the program even better and that, overall, it had been an excellent season with high participation and enjoyment that laid great foundations for players coming through. Recommendations included:

1. Offering up more support to new coaches at the start of the season with a volunteer delegate available to advise and support coaches on the practical essentials
2. A review of U8/9 Academy team participation in the pre-season jamboree which is the first occasion on which the teams assemble
3. Support of available volunteers at Week 1 league games
4. An understanding of coach ability/ confidence ahead of the season, to help shape support
5. Re-enforcement of parents' sideline involvement (practices and games)
6. Repeat messaging at the pre-season coaches' kick-off meeting.

It was agreed that the board should ask Laura for a report on coach certification status prior to the initial season waiver period ending, to ensure compliance. Stephen to note in the annual calendar for May and September meetings.

It was noted that some clubs, e.g. Seacoast United, generate social media awareness and player recognition with fun awards such as player of the week or goal of the week, coach of the year etc. This is something we could consider as a practice for next season, in some form.

**5. NNESL**

Maria reported:

- NNESL has worked with Seacoast to make the playoff weekend have a fun competitive feel to the event with the 101 Grille providing a concession stand and there will also be NNESL swag for sale. Finals will involve international walk-ons for the players.
- NNESL board is continuing to review the procedures around the Competition Committee, with more information to come.
- NNESL is considering organizing a registration session for referees.

**6. Spring Season 2022**

Registration is open. Teams will need to be submitted by the end of January.

Laura to promote registration with email blasts and contact with HS boosters.

**7. Fall Season 2022**

Amy will look at dates that are available to hold the evaluations, given other community events. She will then secure Seacoast as a contingency if Brentwood is not available as a location.

At the evaluations, Amy requested that uniforms be available as samples and for cards to be printed so that families can note the appropriate sizes to order.



**Exeter Youth Soccer Association**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the board of directors**  
**Held at 7pm on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 84 Front Street, Exeter, NH**

**8. Fields**

The floodlit Knowles Field, in North Hampton, has been secured by Luke for use by teams that want to hold evening practices during the week before the playoff games.

Patrick will buy chains and padlocks so that the goals at Exeter Rec may be set aside and secured. Patrick will ask Andy, at Brentwood, about securing the goals at Brentwood Rec.

Maria noted that the Parks & Rec department of Exeter is pursuing a proposal to purchase the Qessential building at 10 Hampton Road, adjacent to the Rec. This would potentially enhance the Park & Rec's amenities.

**9. Finances**

Jenn reported the cash balance at \$82,414. This is before paying for the Capitol Cup fees, Brentwood Rec or Knowles. It was noted that, regarding expenses, the cost of paint had tripled year on year, driven by the pandemic.

**10. Other Business**

It was suggested that the club was founded in 1965 and, with the 60-year anniversary being in 2025, some kind of action to mark the occasion would be attractive.