

Cheektowaga SC Board Meeting - Minutes
March 11, 2025

In attendance: N. Bartnik, D. Puccio, B. Detlef, P. Schifano, J. Potozniak, J. Fordham, M. Klopp

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of January & February Minutes

Approval of January meeting minutes motioned by BD; second by NB. By a vote of 6-0 and no abstentions, motion passes.

Approval of February meeting minutes motioned by NB; second by JP. By a vote of 7-0 and no abstentions, motion passes.

Treasurer Report

Current Balance: **\$13,699.28**

JF added to the account to shop for snack stand supplies; paperwork completed this evening

501c3 Charitable Organization Process

Club had been active in 501c3 status since founding in 1993 and only expired back in 2022. Certificate of Incorporation was retrieved and will work with WNY Law Center on a path forward.

Discussed two options on path forward: reinstate current 501c3 that expired and filing back taxes/tax forms from 2019-2024 or start brand new with a new Charitable Organization for IRS/legal purposes. Discussed pros and cons of each option.

Motion made by BD to form a new legal corporation and start fresh as a club. Seconded by MK. Final vote 7-0 with no abstentions, motion passes. NB and DP will work with WNY Law Center on pathway forward.

Club owes the previous attorney around \$70 for work done up to this point. Recommended to either try and keep current DBA name of Cheektowaga Soccer Club or add 'of WNY' at the end, go keep names similar to current organizational name.

- Quick discussion about possible club expansion into touch/flag football and opportunities presented given the necessary steps of being reclassified as a 501c3

Once paperwork has been filed with NY and the IRS, will provide the Club with sponsorship opportunities to request funding as a 501c3 and provide tax write-offs

Bylaws

The board were reminded to review the Club's current bylaws, especially since these will need to be updated before 501c3 documentation submission, and to know their position's role and

responsibilities moving forward. Board member participation is required and expected in chats and discussion.

With that understanding, discussion shifted to current board member, DN, who was not fulfilling their responsibilities and communication expectations of their position. Discussion followed, in which said board member was made aware of charges in accordance of current CSC bylaw protocol, but chose not to respond to prior communication nor attend the meeting this evening.

Motion to impeach DN made by BD, seconded by JP. By vote of 7-0 and no abstentions, DM has been removed from their position and was notified.

Headcount of current key holder's and their #'s as to individual who has them:

- MK # 4, JF # 5, PS (?), NB # 1, JP # 8, DP # 7

Rush/Travel Teams

U19 Girls: Trip to Florida, college showcase in Binghamton, college recruiters

- Won one, lost two. Played team from Cayam Islands. Had a great time. 3 players from CSC went. Going outside for practices at Nardin. Outdoor Thruway starts on March 29

U15 Boys: Tournament team; may exit out of their sportsplex session

- Team morale low; losing this winter at sportsplex. In the process of forming a summer tournament team to keep in locally

U10 Boys: Trying to build our own, potential new travel logo moving forward

- 9 kids so far; possibility for more. Uniforms needed and iron out tournaments
- Rebrand for house and travel as 'The Knights'

Failures of Rush/ Future Outlook

- One (1) year remaining in three (3) year contract signed back in 2023; lack of travel players to continue with teams; teams/players have not reached premier level as expected or promised

Gym/Winter Open Gym

General gym session from 12-2 p.m. Will seek coaching assistance to help facilitate this session. Time slot from 2 - 4 p.m. will feature the U10 travel/tournament practices

Spring House Session

Good numbers so far for early registration; currently 82 registered (20 timbits, 22 6-8 y/o, 30 9-11 y/o, 10 12+ y/o). Discussed further opportunities to advertise, particularly thru email, flyers, at schools, and on other avenues on social media. Early bird discount expires on March 14 while returner discount expires April 14

Field set-up/stand clean-out will take place sometime in April. So far, returning coaches are Matt, John, Phil, Bart, Doug, Amy, Jenn, Jeff, and Tyler(asst). In conversations with Kelly and Claire to assist with Timbits. Will push for background checks for coaches and board members. All current volunteers will not pay for said checks, future volunteers will pay and be reimbursed at some point in-season, to be worked out later

Coaching manual for all coaches is important and needs to be done prior to practice starts. Should include links from Rush drills, tactical training, development trainings that adhere to NYS and soccer mandates in relation to sexual assault/harrassment, concussions, heat stroke, etc. LF had previously expressed a desire in putting them together.

The Club was reached out to about having someone come in and offer First Aid/CPR Training. Board decided not to initiate due to potentially lagging interest and will look into classes in the future, if there is enough volunteer interest.

Equipment Update

Will begin to look into and gather uniform bids over the next week or two. Should be able to find a sponsor in the future (maybe Fall) with 501c3 and have their logo on the chest of all house jerseys. Target for House and Travel jerseys will be mid-April to place order. Will also get quotes for new soccer netting (soccer.com) and donated equipment thru Leveling the Playing Field.

Upcoming Community Events

Maryvale Health & Wellness event - this Wednesday, March 12 from 6-8 p.m. Table setup 5pm.

Youth Team Sports Committee - Brian Pilarski, Board Member, Town of Cheektowaga. Held at Cheektowaga Town Hall - Thursday, March 20 @ 6 p.m. RSVP by 3/15, all board members encouraged to attend. (attending so far: NB, JF, BD, maybe DP)

Unfinished Business

Working with Cheektowaga town soccer - Scrimmages, other leagues? Topic tabled for April meeting

Grant from NYSW is now open - Becky in charge of populating and filing it with NY West Soccer.

Field Painters - need two new ones, inquired about robot liner

Contract for Town Completed and Insurance Finished

Listserv Website/Program? Topic tabled for April meeting

Motion to Adjourn by BD; seconded by JF. No objections.

Adjournment at 8:00 p.m.