



Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 11, 2023

Exeter Senior Center

President's welcome

Maria Proulx (president) called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. In attendance were directors Jenn Young (treasurer), Jessica Costa, Scott Craig, Ben Bailey, Eric Kelley, Patrick Garrity (vice president), Geoff Meadville, Jason Faria.

Absent with regrets were Porter Hayes, Matteo Taormina, Luke Martel, Shane Bradt, Christie Farris.

Owen Willis - Seacoast United

Maria introduced Owen Willis from Seacoast United to talk to us and listen to concerns about the Fall Jamboree. Owen acknowledged that we had concerns about younger teams playing SUSC teams or other teams where there's a mismatch. He wants to work on the issues to try to improve and communicate early. Owen is reaching out to leagues and clubs about bringing folks in. SUSC will be in a separate tournament. There are issues with it being on the weekend before school starts with the end of vacation. Patrick emphasized that we are telling coaches to put this as an expectation for families. Trying to get the younger teams together a few days before (Youth Kickoff 8/24) to at least meet each other before the jamboree. Scott asked about year round teams versus seasonal teams. Owen appreciated the input and will work to differentiate between them.

Minutes from June

Minutes did not get sent out so we will bump them to August.

Academy Rosters

Ben said that some of our top-rated players in U10 dropped right after evaluations. A concern was raised about why they dropped, but we're not certain why at this point. We have 3 boys U10 teams (1 Premier/2 Championship) and 2 girls U10 teams (1 Premier/1 Championship). We have 5 Boys U9 teams and 1 Girls U9 team (15 players). We are looking for a coach for the Girls U9 team, Boys U10 Championship, Girls U10 Championship Ben will reach out to parents on these except that Laura will send an email to the U9 Girls parents. Girls U13 - Jason will email Chris Tremblay, Glenn Hebel, Darren Winham and copy Patrick. We may need to send a drop-dead email if no parents step up. We could coordinate one night of practice and have the parents coach on the weekend. SUSC coach was helpful in the Spring. Hopefully we get them back for Fall.

Fields/Equipment

We may not have room for all 11 Academy teams on one night at Exeter Rec, especially with the Rec adding their program. We could use Brentwood if necessary. Do we need another 9v9 field? If we have a 9v9-only at both Exeter and Brentwood and paint a field at Stratham Memorial School for a backup. Do we need another 7v7? We should be fine because we have the same number of teams as Spring. Patrick is still working on having N. Hampton as a Friday Night Lights option. Timberland will let us use the field 3 days per week for \$1. Goals: We have a set of 6x12 and set of 6x18 at Exeter US Soccer is fine with 6x18 for U9/U10, but NNESL recommends the 6x12. We will stick with the 6x18s for now. Craig asked for wheels to be fixed on the large goals. Pop-ups went missing. Ben will reach out to Academy coaches to see if they have them.

Items from Laura Skaal

Coaches Meeting - Will be August 16 at EHS in Morrissette Room

Girls Youth Night at EHS - The proposed night was opening week of our season. We will ask for another night.

Certificates of Insurance - Laura is working on refreshing because we are switching over to US Youth.

Youth Camp - Lauren is promoting this. We have some registrations.

Grassroots Training

This will be on August 12 from 8:30am-1:00pm all at EHS.

Coach Registrations

We need to emphasize that volunteers and coaches **MUST** be registered for liability purposes before they are allowed to step on a field and help for games or practices.

Financial

Jenn will send financials later this week. We've only had income and no expenses, so we should be in a better cash position than last month. Maria announced that the NNESL registration fees will not change from Spring. Jenn asked that Maria bring feedback to NNESL that they should send details in their invoicing.

Communication/Promotion

Patrick asked if we could try to do Team of the Week/Player of the Week. Probably too much from a resource standpoint. Could we get a photographer to get around and shoot some photos for our website and social media. We could also ask parents to post to social or to #FCExeter.

Ad Hoc

Maria talked about how Exeter LAX is also hearing back about field issues. We should consider bringing all of the youth sports teams together to find a solution to fields. LAX set a goal of \$50k and got to \$14k. Eric mentioned that we could phase in projects without touching surfaces. Discussion about breaking through with field use at EHS. Seems that Bill Ball is more responsive and is concerned about community connections.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved at 8:50pm.

DRAFT