

AYSO Region 10 Board Meeting Minutes

Nov 20th, 2019

In Attendance – K. Baranick, D. Capozzola, B. Caseres, M. Dee, C. Handijan, M. Heinze, J. Hernandez, J. Ignacio, J. Jacobson, D. Jahns, A. Lem, R. Lin, L. Manth, S. Mastan, E. Mendez, J. Mendez, W. Murdoch, R. Murdock, J. Nolan, K. Oberstein, D. Olson, D. Potter, M. Rapoport, A. Rosalez, A. Siegel, W. Welch, C. Wong.

Minutes – The minutes for the Oct meeting were approved with two typo corrections.

Division Coordinators – D. Capozzola reported playoff dates are all set in BU14. Only one team did not accumulate enough Playoff Participation Points to participate in the playoffs despite weekly e-mails informing teams how many points they had. Another team on the brink of not making it set to work the last weekend of regular play and refereed enough games to accumulate the points needed.

D. Jahns BU8 reported most complaints this season was due to parity of the teams. The mixed age division seemed to have been the biggest culprit to the problem. Ratings request was not well received by coaches and needed some additional review and player observation by D/C and L. Manth before being submitted.

E. Mendez has swag for Adult soccer signups and showed us the hot looking caps they will receive. Visors will be coming soon!

B Murdoch reported EXTRA teams are all over the place; good, bad and in-between this season.

J. Ignacio GU8 reported ratings meeting went well. Coaches put in a lot of work.

B. Gardner BU9 reported his division had 3 teams that did not accumulate enough Playoff Participation points to participate in the playoffs. Coaches' ratings meeting were well attended.

J. Hernandez GU7 reported main complaint was in regards to sportsmanship issues and blowouts.

R. Lin BU11 reported Highridge WEST field had more stones than grass this season and enormous problems with gopher infestations. He was also happy to report that the 6th seed team beat the 3rd seed team in first playoff game!

C. Handijan GU9 reported parents seemed confused as to what is considered appropriate contact between players during game time and not realizing that soccer is indeed a contact sport. He spent a lot of time explaining that falling down is also a big part of U9 soccer and not in itself a punishable foul.

D. Olson GU12 reported a late unrated add-on player threw off the balance in the teams this season when such player turned out to be the top rated player in the division. This team has been undefeated all season. They are down to 4 teams for the next round of playoffs slated for Dec 7th.

Referee – A. Siegel provided some interesting facts for this season: of the 15 youth referees that got badged this year 12 of them did the required 4 or more games per the Youth Referee Commitment form that the youth refs and a parent signed! Extra refs covered 198 game spots last year. With the new point system they only did 49 this year.

We had 60 refs for the regional class last year compared to 73 this year. Total refs were 259 last year compared to 272 this year. 78 of those did between 6 – 12 games this season! However, most did 4 or fewer games.

The biggest benefit of the implementation of the Playoff Participation Policy is that in the 9U through 14U divisions, 99% of the games had center referees and 93% of the games had 3-person referee crews. This is up substantially from 2018 statistics of 95% for centers and 77% for 3-person crews.

Discussion: Playoff Participation Policy - D. Donatoni suggested each D/C should make sure their own division is covered before opening up games to other divisions to earn ref points. This should cut down on the problem we incurred in GU10 where referees were unable to find games due to referees from other divisions booking all the game spots way ahead of time. Per A. Siegel we have the ability to open up CGI Ref schedule for only 1 or 2 weeks in advance of each game to prevent some refs from filling up all spots prematurely. M. Dee pointed out this may cause other scheduling conflicts for parents who like to plan out their weekend activities/obligations ahead of time and advocated we keep CGI open for extended time period. We also have the ability to add D/C approval in system for ref coverage before game time. This feature can be applied by each division as they see fit, but it's a lot of work for the ref coordinator. D. Capozzola pointed out the system is not able to track no shows nor refs who end up reffing last minute due to no shows. Therefore he kept a spreadsheet offline and matched up with game-cards after each weekend play and recorded points manually. BU14 had 46 regular season games and all of them had referee coverage. Four teams in the entire Region 10 did not accumulate enough points to participate in the playoffs.

K. Baranick relayed that Coach Ron Light in GU10 suggested the point system be expanded to other volunteer duties such as lining fields etc. in order to spread the workload around. Board agreed that this could be instituted on a D/C by D/C basis as some divisions have enough volunteers to cover all jobs.

One item that was overlooked this year was the need for playoff Referee coverage. This can be considered in the point system next year to prevent the last minute scramble for referee coverage now that regular season is over.

Other suggestions that were made and will be considered next year are: 1/ lowering the required points from 50% of the games ' points to between 33% - 40% (with perhaps allowing 10% of the points to be earned in other volunteer roles. 2/ Keeping the required points at 50% in the younger divisions to allow for older division parents to earn points in the younger division games, while lowering the older divisions' points which leaves room for experienced refs to do these games. 3/ Changing the points earned from CR:2 and AR:1 to something like CR:4 and AR:2 and other volunteer roles: 1. 4/ Allow 8U games to earn points for older divisions' parents but only open this up halfway through the season.

Overall everyone agreed that the Playoff Participation Point system had a positive effect for our Region! We just need a few simple tweaks for next season. W. Murdoch will lead a small group effort to rewrite the Policy and bring this to the board for discussion and vote. This will be completed prior to the registration beginning in March and acknowledgment of the policy by all parents can be made a part of the online registration process.

Winter Soccer – M. Heinze reported we currently have 163 registered players for the upcoming winter soccer season. He encouraged all D/C's to send out e-mails to their teams informing them of Referee opportunities in the winter league.

KOH/QOH – J. Nolan reported medals for final games are arriving this upcoming week. One box of trophies for the GU6 Superstar fish team is still missing in action and may need to be re-ordered.

New Business – W. Welch made motion to approve W. Murdoch as an immediate check signor in order to ease RC transition. Motion was unanimously approved.

B. Caseres informed that Blue Sombrero has been acquired by Sports Connect. The only “enhancement” is that every player will be charged \$3.00 for registration next season.

Our Sportsmanship celebrations are set at Lamppost for Dec 4th, 5th and 12th.

M. Dee reminded everyone to add the date for our upcoming annual banquet to their calendars; January 11th @ Los Verdes Country Club.

Next meeting is February 19th, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM – which set an all-time record for the longest B Caseres board meeting time.