

ASA Rec Committee Meeting

10/8/2013, 7:30pm, ASA Office

Attendees: Chris Madison, Ron Malachowski, David Gould, Justin Wilt, Mary Bevis, John Mingus, Tommy Lo, Dan Lopez, Chad Gent, David Hurren, Bob Bigney, Robb Tanner, Chuck Schulz, Tiffany Sawers

Tommy Lo volunteered to take notes.

Minutes were approved.

ASA website undergoing redesign. Working group being formed to talk to user community to identify needed and desired improvements. David Hurren volunteered to be the rec committee representative to the working group.

Discussion regarding post TFD, how long can hold spaces in teams for neighborhood kids. The group agreed that Kindergarten age group requires more time and work. If 1st grade is moved to the rest of the age groups then Kindergarten can be treated completely differently. If the K TFD and season are moved later then there would be fewer games but for the spring it could be changed back to the standard seven games. The group also felt it was important to leave more spaces on teams at TFD to accommodate late stragglers. John Mingus suggested this is a topic that can be ironed out in the TFD subcommittee.

Team size limits. The group discussed the pros and cons of having oversized teams. Some pointed out that playing time is important and having oversized teams takes away playing time. Some pointed out that kids just want to be on the same team as their friends and the coaches are happy with larger teams. The group discussed having a firm maximum size of twice the number of players on the field or twice minus one. Bob Bigney suggested having a recommended size for which the coaches would have to agree to go over but also have a firm maximum cap. The group decided to table the discussion to the next meeting.

Lessons on fall team formation. Registration was very much front loaded. The number of issues and players that club managers had to deal with at the pizza meeting was much reduced. It was pointed out that the earlier deadlines were an issue for the lower income kids because of free/reduced lunch paperwork. ASA assumes that a player's free/reduced lunch status doesn't change over time and accepts letters from the previous season. The group discussed the pros and cons of offering the FUNdamental program. Justin pointed out that having the FUNdamental program helps to spur earlier registrations. John Mingus asked the TFD subcommittee to discuss this further. Mary reported that special requests were significantly down this season and the issue of the crazy schedules has gone away. Mary also reported that forming the divisions for 3rd and 4th grade was difficult because so many players and coaches went to the Dev program. Bob Bigney pointed out a couple of issues: too many travel

players being on a team and teams that were formed but weren't really viable and threatened to drop out. Bob raised the idea of age group czars again; the TFD subcommittee will discuss the idea of age group czars.

Bob's document. Bob highlighted that 98 coaches signed up for formal coaching classes. Bob also highlighted the definition and importance of the Team Formation Date. Bob pointed out that there are empty unused practice fields and this is an issue. Bob also asked that the rec committee should look at the referee program. Bob asked that the rec committee be involved in the planning of the ART. Bob suggested the rec committee ask the high school program to disallow 8th graders. John Mingus will talk to the high school program leadership. Bob also suggested we formulate a practice policy for the rec league and that the committee discuss the maintenance of the fields.

Field Labeling. John asked that for fields that are shared by multiple clubs that the designation be clearer on the allocation by Mary.

Field Allocation. Regarding field allocation across programs, John will discuss the issue with the ASA Board.

John Mingus reminded the committee about submitting budget requests.

John Mingus indicated that we now have ASA funded equipment storage.

Justin recommendation for making fall scheduling easier. Practice permits currently go into effect approximately two weeks prior to Labor Day. Justin asked if we can take away any of that time from the rec teams. The group generally agreed that they did not use the fields two weeks before Labor Day but did use them the week before Labor Day.

The next meetings are December 10 and February 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08pm.