

Arlington Soccer Association (ASA) Meeting minutes for October 14, 2014

Meeting commenced approximately 7:40 pm

Members present: John (NWAL), Justin (ED-ASA), Dan L (SASC), Matt & Bryan (Tornadoes), Chad & Chuck (Civitans), Chris (Falls Church), Liz (Revs), Mary B (ASA), Kyle (Aces), Tiffany (Crystal City), Dave (Optimists), David G (Lightning) and Soraya (ASA)

Agenda Items

1. Selection of person to take minutes. Chuck (Civitans) volunteered to take minutes.
2. Executive Director Update (Justin) There were three quick items: (1) Dave B. will be sending an email out shortly that will outline what do with the extra jerseys, socks, and shorts each club may have. (2) There is a storage unit for the different groups within ASA to share. The REC storage location is on the right side of the shed. Please label your stuff and the place clean. Hours of operation are 6am – 9pm. Justin will send an email out with details such as gate passcode, unit number and the combination to the lock. (3) This weekend Dan Ferguson will be in town to meet and greet a lot of folks. He is one of the top candidates to replace the Technical Director position. If REC managers can make some time this weekend that would be great.
3. Update the sportsmanship process. There was very good dialogue amongst the group – some the topics and issues that came out were the following:
 - a. Some discussed that there were problems with the mechanics of entering a rating such as only being able to do one task at a time and then having to re-enter to the score, the referee rating and then the sportsmanship rating.
 - b. Mary indicated the on average the scores were good
 - c. There was a problem with entering text where folks were going back and forth because each coach could see what the other wrote. This feature has been disabled.
 - d. The overall consensus on the sportsmanship piece and next steps were to continue to gather data, see what is in the data, analyze, promote better with

the idea of doing something in the spring. Matt (Tornadoes) was going to lead a working group in this area.

- e. There was also talk about the referee rating the teams. It was decided by Justin and a majority of the membership agreed that it was not the referee's job to judge sportsmanship.
4. Update on Code of Conduct – The group unanimously agreed to add the following language to the Code of Conduct for Coaches, Players, and Parents (not sure if we determined if there was already language in place in one or more of these). John was going to look at player and parent code of conduct to ensure that similar language was present.
 - a. Code of Conduct – Language added
 - i. I will not abuse referees. Referee abuse includes but is not limited to shouting dissent over a call from the sidelines, criticizing the referee's performance in front of players, debate over a call or the referee's performance after the game has finished, or other acts of disrespect toward the referee or game officials.
 5. Update on Rules and Discipline Process – After a short discussion, it was decided that there is a process in place and that the process below needed to be added to the website:
 - a. The membership of this committee was the REC Chair, HS Chair and Appointed Referee Committee Chairman.
 6. ART – ART takes place on November 22-23. Justin led the discussion by saying that the REC Community needs to support not as a community but as hosts. He also said this is a chance for us to put ASA front and deliver a cool tournament experience. We need to get more volunteering from clubs. We need to get more information on the Field Marshall volunteer job description from Jerry (tournament director).
 7. REC Program Goals & Mission – This was a brainstorming session where we gathered a bunch of ideas on the board (see below). Chad, Chuck, David, Kyle, Liz and I think Tiffany agreed to taking a stab at developing draft.

- a. Foster a love of soccer
 - b. Fun
 - c. Socialize
 - d. Exercise
 - e. Education
 - f. Inclusive
 - g. Teamwork
 - h. Outreach
 - i. Player Development – to the best of their ability
 - j. Neighborhood club
 - k. Every coach is capable of developing players
 - l. Volunteer basis
 - m. Parent education
8. Next steps on age group verification – The group discussed many issues. One of the more significant issues was to know who needed documentation. Justin indicated that color coding was recently added to identify those that needed to complete the age verification process. Some in the group indicated that the color coding was not available in “Unrostered Players”. Justin will check. There were suggestions to hard code the application process so that it would require you to attach a DOB to be verified. Justin indicated that would be difficult to accomplish because anything could be attached at that point. Other ideas that were thrown out were to strongly encourage folks to self-select and upload their documentation because eventually every grade level will be required to submit date of birth documentation. For Spring Soccer 2015 – All second graders will be required to provide date of birth documentation.
9. Lessons learned from Fall Registration:
- a. Systems
 - i. It was challenging to see the kids on the access data screen but then not be able to assign them to a team. Verify/expand use of color coding

- ii. Date stamp registration. Those that had DOB issues were getting dated stamped with original registration date and not the date those DOB issues were resolved.

b. Process

- i. Team Formation – not a smooth process for some new club managers. It was discussed perhaps putting together an orientation manual to help the new person(s) through the do's and do not's of Team Formation.
- ii. Field allotment for practices before you know how many teams you have or will have
- iii. Clearer registration deadline
- iv. Because of Bob's departure, one of the things that slipped through the cracks was the shaking of trees at those events for Little Kickers to start the process of getting coaches for the Kindergartner's.
- v. The clinic this past fall was a huge help to get coaches

10. Next Steps for ASA Recreational Soccer (This got folded into #7)

11. Frequency of meetings – The consensus amongst the group was to continue meeting monthly versus bi-monthly for Nov-Dec-Jan-Feb. John will send actual date and time as soon as he can.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm