



Tantasqua Regional Youth Soccer

Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016

7:30 PM

BRIMFIELD TOWN HALL

ATTENDEES	<u>Board Representatives</u> Kelly Parent (Commissioner) Jack Keough (Head Referee) Ian McGrath (Treasurer) Megan Panek (Girls Travel Registrar) Bill Bailey (Boys Travel Registrar) John Buday (Brimfield Town Coordinator) Heather Blakeley (Holland Town Coordinator) Jen Bailey (Sturbridge Town Coordinator) Peter Higgins (Wales Town Coordinator)
	<u>General Membership</u> Four (4) Members: Doug Blakeley, Mark Michalak (Field & Equipment Director), Craig Healey, Jeff Ardis
CALLED TO ORDER	7:42 PM
MATERIALS	Agenda "AGM 2016 for the 2017 Season"
NOTE TAKER	Doug Blakeley

Agenda topics

1. COMMISSIONER'S OPENING STATEMENT AND 2016 REVIEW

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION		
Participation: TRY Travel had an increase in participation; TRY Rec had flat growth.		
Revolution Partnership: Great Start. TRY Night at Gillette had ~60 kids, bunch got to go down on field; Revs visit went well with Slyde and bounce house.		
Changes in 2015-16: MAYS switch to increase players on field at U10 and U12 levels (7v7 and 9v9, respectively); Birth Year change made in keeping with US Soccer. C. Healey/ voiced opinion on inconsistency in registrations which yielded a marked difference in the ages (ed. sizes) of kids on the field. His kid is on the cusp of age level and was assigned up. Would rather keep his own kid with younger age level. KP / Many towns in MAYS have already adopted US Soccer ages. The particular years of U12/U14 have growth spurts. CH/ Would like communication increased for birth year team assignments. Also states that evaluations may not have reflected how his kid compares to the evaluations of those older kids with whom he ended up playing. KP/ Evals done on individual level. Age levels unclear to TRY as well. JK/ SportsManager has not yet changed the registration ages MP/ Evaluation process included 5 th to 8 th graders. Skills are markedly different. Team assignors have to identify what's best for kids on the cusps. TRY still wrestling with that decision. D. Ardis/ Why the inconsistency? KP/ US Soccer rules roll down to Mass Youth Soccer (MYS) which rolls down to MAYS (Midland Area Youth Soccer) and then to TRY. Talked about trying to find a loophole for MAYS. There is a mandate to adopt by Fall, 2017. TRY went earlier, which equates to – at most – a 5 month age gap difference. Most parents OK with it. CH/ 2/3 of kids on the team were 6 th graders going up against other teams with mostly 8 th graders. IM/ U14 – there were also “D1” teams in the D2 groupings CH/ Please send out better communication going forward KP/ Will send out communication. JBU./ Tryouts/evaluations were well done, and consistent with Olympic Development Program (ODP). TRY needs to make sure that kids try out with the right age group. Kids evaluated with a “4” were kids who can get the ball and keep it. “1” were kids who would consistently be unable to control the ball.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Request to Advertise “Revs Day” at TRY Rec Opener more	Secretary	August 15, 2017

Better Communicate Age Levels in Registration Process	K. Parent / J. Keough	TBD
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2. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

DISCUSSION	
A) <u>Treasurer</u> (Ian McGrath) (provided handouts for Cash Flow; attached) Rec – need to add receipts from Holland and subtract \$300 for referee party (acknowledged Jack Keough for minimizing costs) Travel – Broken out by season; running about \$3,000 short YTD due to one-time expenses and expenses from FY15 carried over into FY16. Also working with Challenger on a \$1,977 charge recently invoiced. D. Blakeley/ is the shortfall for this year a trend? IM/ seems to be more expenses this year than in the past. KP/ Also a big Pug net expense for this year to equip all the Pee-Wee teams and the Travel coaches (~\$1,600) M. Michalak/ We have paint for next season; all payments to painters are out IM/ Bank Statements: Rec - \$7,929.03; Travel - \$12,837.25 PH/ All Town Coordinator info in? IM/ Yes Move to accept Treasurer's Report (MP-motion; JBa.-second). Unanimously approved.	
B) <u>Head Referee</u> (Jack Keough) Referee program is going OK. Fewer refs this year, but more manageable. Feedback regarding referee performance was "awesome". Of the few complaints, a couple were on protection of the goalies; particularly in the Rec Freshmen Division. Upon investigation, the situations didn't appear as bad as initially thought from the complaints. Refs are instructed to award possession / blow whistle when goalie has "1 finger on the ball". Scheduling for refs worked out OK – Rec Jr/Sr Division became an issue with the field change. Also negatively affected the concessions. Goals on the Jr High were moved so had to move to the front field. Cage can no longer be used for Rec Pee-Wee as the field lines cannot accommodate. Discussion regarding location of TRY full-size nets and school's acknowledgment of whether or not the goals are TRY property. MP/ School committee believes the TRY nets are theirs (in the committee minutes). JK/ TRY nets need to be removed from school property. Didn't want to move during soccer season, but now is a good time. Referee training going OK. Equipment for refs is essentially all set. CH/ Extended kudos to the refs working the Rec Pee-Wee games. "Great job." JK/ Rec Pee-Wee is "education" more than refereeing. Refs instructed not to whistle too much. Refs start at 11 years old and always work in pairs – in all divisions.	
C) <u>Travel Coordinator – Girls</u> (Megan Panek) Nine (9) teams for Fall season. Three (3) teams had tough years due to ages (they were all 'young' teams for their age level). Everyone had fun. Evaluations from coaches are back. Teams were properly placed. Shuffling with placements per evaluations. Noted that the D1 team did win (Coaches – Leland/Buday). KP/ D3 team had a blast despite not winning. MP/ Always in the games; no blowouts J.Bu/ Related personal experience: Daughter's growth from rec level to D1 participation. Keep kids where they are competing well is key. JA/ Son on U14 D3 team competing against older / more experienced kids. It appears that the work done for the TRY evals not carried to other towns (teams seem misplaced). MP/ Travel coordinators then meet at MAYS to discuss proper team placement. BB/ Team profiles are key – they help set placement. Team evaluated with team and individual focus. IM/ Of the 18 kids on the D3 team he coached, 2 had 11v11 experience. MM/ What happens if we submit a D1 team to MAYS, but there's no D1 division that season? BB/ They move to D2; work with MAYS on competition KP/ Will try to put stronger teams in the same divisional grouping MP/ Drafting for individual teams is not done on purpose. MM/ I can see why you wouldn't draft to balance competition vs. even team strength. HB/ Some towns "sandbag" in Spring for MTOC. MAYS tries to prevent this. <u>Travel Coordinator – Boys</u> (Bill Bailey) Same general observations as Girls. Had a U16 team where TRY hadn't in awhile. Almost all Coaches' evals are back; three to come. MP/ Coaches asking for smaller teams; this Fall had the largest rosters in some time. KP/ She is currently sending out emails with hard deadlines for Spring registrations to be able to limit team roster sizes. BB/ Travel Coordinators will work with Coaches on late sign-ups. Up to them to take on or refuse late registrants. DB/ Asked to leave some roster spots open in Fall seasons at the U16 level to accept those who might get cut from School (JV/Varsity)	
D) <u>Field & Equipment Director</u> (Mark Michalak) Burgess U12 field worked out well this year, but field is getting beat up with other sports. Will see about next year; but the location is great. Have contacted two landscapers about fixing U12 field at Brimfield Acres; only one responded. Proposes to go with Landscape Evolution to build-up U12 field (~\$2,200). Motion tabled for future Board meeting. Has also discussed using the Holland Rec field (Hitchcock Park) as a U12 alternative site. Scheduling practice times in Fall ended up being a folly.	

HB/ Problems with practice field scheduling is in Spring when soccer is “off-season”. There are two Flea Market weekends that also greatly impact the Spring season.
MM/ Will try scheduling again in the Spring.

Summary statement provided for Notes.

E) **Secretary** (No one) - skipped

F) **Town Coordinators**

Brimfield (John Buday) – 118 players; excellent participation this year

Brookfield (Absent) – No report

Holland (Heather Blakeley) – No report

Sturbridge (Jen Bailey) – No report

Wales (Pete Higgins) – Rec went well

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Provide updated Cash Flow Statements	I. McGrath	Dec. 31, 2016
Remove TRY QUIKSET goals from Cage and Stadium Fields	M. Michalak	Nov. 26, 2016
Review need to improve U12 field at Brimfield Acres or consider alternate locations	M. Michalak	

3. PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION	(All proposed changes are reflected in the Agenda)	
General agreement to move all proposed Bylaws changes to the next Board meeting.		
Open discussion on the current and proposed positions of League Director, Field & Equipment Director, and Coaching Director: MP/ League Director – had two people splitting duties. Don't want a Board of~ 20 people. KP/ League Director was a lot of work MP/ Keep League Director on Board, Equipment Director can be a volunteer job. "League Director" is also misleading as a title and confusing with also having a "Commissioner" title. KP/ Position needs to be broken up MP/ People need to do their job description MM/ OK with job description - just not the title Motion: Remove "League Director" title and replace with "Field & Equipment Director". (seconded). Unanimously passed and therefore will be incorporated in edits reviewed at next meeting. Motion: Coaching Director to be voted on at next meeting. (seconded) Unanimously passed.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Update proposed by-laws to reflect motions	Secretary	~ 1 week prior to Dec. 19, 2016 Board Meeting
Review proposed changes	Entire Board	Dec. 19, 2016

4. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION	(All proposed changes are reflected in the Agenda)	
General agreement to vote on the proposed changes at next meeting.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Review proposed changes	Entire Board	Dec. 19, 2016

5. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION	(opened meeting up for discussion(s) from the attendees)		
DB/ Would like to see if TRY could promote registrations more with sandwich boards on the Commons; akin to how Football does their promotions. Also wondered if Board had considered receiving sponsorships to defray expenses of TRY. KP/ Both issues have been discussed; lacking individual(s) to take up the causes. DB/ NEFC Mendon complex is a nice template for TRY “Field of Dreams” KP/ Noted.			
ACTION ITEMS		PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
None			

6. NEW BUSINESS

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION		
KP/ Upcoming target dates: Recited dates presented in Agenda. MAYS to start games for Fall 2017 before school starts. Coaches can postpone those initial games without pushback. BB/ Preliminary rosters need to be reviewed before January 14, 2017. Picked dates for review: informal Dec. 19, 2016 @ 7:30 and formal January 9, 2017 @ 7:30. Location: Holland Town Hall JK/ Will renew email account on the TRY website – costs \$50 per year. Needs P-card from Treasurer.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Select location(s) for Registrars' Preliminary Travel Roster Review	Travel Registrars	Dec. 5, 2016
Update TRY Website	Jack Keough	Dec. 31, 2016

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

K. PARENT

DISCUSSION	(terms to begin January 1, 2017)	
<u>Commissioner</u> – Left Open <u>Head Referee</u> – Jack Keough nominated / seconded. Hand vote – Unanimous <u>Secretary</u> – Doug Blakeley nominated / seconded. Hand vote – 10 for, 1 against <u>Treasurer</u> – Ian McGrath nominated / seconded. Hand vote – Unanimous <u>Boys Travel Registrar</u> – Bill Bailey nominated / seconded. Hand vote – Unanimous <u>Girls Travel Registrar</u> – Megan Panek nominated / seconded. Hand vote – Unanimous Motion (J. Buday) for Commissioner needing two (2) years of service on Board prior to being recommended. No second. Motion (J. Keough) to reopen vote for Commissioner. Seconded. Unanimous approval. <u>Commissioner</u> – Kelly Parent nominated / seconded. Hand vote - Unanimous		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Vote on Field & Equipment Director (pending Bylaw approval)	All	Dec. 19, 2016
Vote on Coaching Director (pending Bylaw approval)	All	Dec. 19, 2016

Motion to Adjourn @ 9:43 PM. Seconded. Unanimous approval.

ATTACHMENTS	1. Agenda 2. Treasurer Cash Flow Statements 3. Summary statement from Equipment Coordinator
SPECIAL NOTES	Thanks to the Town of Brimfield for offering the Town Hall for the Annual General Meeting and thanks to those of the General Membership who attended.

Minutes corrected following Board review and approval as corrected at Dec. 19, 2016 Board Meeting by D. Blakeley