



“Soccer for Life”

2019 August Agenda-League Meeting

August 13, 2019, Wellesley Community Center

Sign In:

- *Review contacts for your team*
- *Review status of fees and make payments if owed*

1. **Roll Call:** reminder that there is a fine for teams that don't have a representative at the meeting.
2. **Approval of February 2019 meeting minutes:** minutes not available- will vote on these at the winter meeting.
3. **Reports from the field:**
 - a. **Division 1 Updates (Peter)**

D1 downsized this summer. There were 8 teams, very competitive and close games. The quality of play was good. People showed up- not many forfeits- Very few short-handed games. Playoffs were great. D1 all-star game included D2. This worked out well, and was well attended. Final was a 1-0 game.

Sidekicks were the D1 Summer champions and received a game ball.
 - b. **Division 2 Updates (Dee for Patti)**

Try to be courteous and respond to emails right away.

Comments on quality of refs should be sent to Patti and she will forward on to Joe. The same goes for complaints on fields.

Mavericks were D2 Summer champions- received game ball
 - c. **Division 3 Updates (Jeanene)**

D3 was split up into 2 groups. We really need input from teams to discuss competition. Understood that geography is hard, but nobody

wants to be blown out by a team in the same grouping because of locations. We need help from teams organizing fields in more central locations. Both teams would split the cost. This might be an issue for teams that don't pay for fields. This is not a perfect situation. That's why we need all teams to weigh in and get involved in the discussion. Comments on Refs (good and bad) should be communicated to Jeanene and she will pass on to Joe.

Haverhill D3A Summer champions. North Reading D3B Summer champions.

d. Open discussion on Summer and upcoming Fall season

- Welcome Deb, registrar from Mass Soccer
- Issues with the website- payments are hard. Ref review is hard. Its hard to navigate and hard to use.
 - Payment system, score reports, emails- can't reply to new players from the website
 - Storing credit card info- issue with multiple team captains
- Referees need to be consistent across games. We're looking out for the safety of the players on the field. There are league rules in place for these situations.
- Shirt numbers for teams: Uniforms are up to the individual team. We have engaged different companies to support us because this has been an issue across the league. We as a league have agreed to fund logo on the shirt. Quick turnaround on these shirts. Bulk orders are cheaper so seek out teams also ordering. Reach out to Dee or your registrar if you need information.
- Fundraising initiatives: can we do something to defray costs? Suggestion: maybe go out to organizations for sponsors. I.e. local bars or law firms.
- O30 or O35 league? Lopsidedness with team ages a challenge for a lot of team. We'd love to put that out there and aim to

organize for next season. We've tried in the past but this hasn't worked. Let's put it out there to try again.

- Iceland 6v6 indoor soccer tournament. A lot of fun and great opportunity. Reach out to Dee for info.
- Can we make first aid kits mandatory for the home team? Dee asks all teams to designate 2 players to bring kits to every game.

e. Referee Report (Dee for Joe)

We are always looking out for new refs, especially women. Send Joe and email if you know somebody that is interested in officiating.

Feedback form: not available on new website right now so you can email Joe directly if you have any comments.

There were a lot of Summer forfeits, mainly around teams not wanting to travel. Need to discuss this at your divisional meetings.

f. Scheduling (Dick)

If you are field sharing or need dates, please talk directly to Dick.

Is there a reason we ending the schedule earlier in August? This is mainly due to college students. If we had an O30 division, this wouldn't be an issue!

4. Reports from the Front Office:

a. President (Dee)

- Congratulations to divisional winners
- Kudos to teams that played in Soccer Fest in Lancaster.
- Forfeits still an issue. D3 was an issue because of geography. We tried to make level competition but we're seeing the geography is more important. We really need to figure this out through the Competition committee!
- Field issues need to be reported in a timely manner. Cannot be reporting this after the season starts. We will go out and check the field, but it needs to be reported right away. Any field issues will be handled by the competition committee. If we feel

it needs to be removed from the list, you cannot play on this field.

- Need two D2 reps for competition committee. Patti will be reaching out to teams for volunteers.
- League rules and bylaws are 20 years old. In talks with Dave A to review and update. Looking for 2 reps to assist.
- Tomorrow night, All Star friendly game with Old Colony league. EMWSL team comprised of D2 and D3 players. Looking forward to a great game.

b. Vice President (Liz): Different prizes this year. Winners received website for team uniforms. See Liz about this.

c. Secretary (Tricia): No updates.

d. Treasurer Report/financial Update (Jim)

Reviewed report.

Accepting fall deposit checks tonight or you can pay online. You can also send via mail.

e. Marketing

No updates.

f. Field Committee (Jim): No updates.

g. New Player Coordinator (Dick) no updates

h. USASA and Mass Soccer Update (Liz)

- Soccer Fest- Dee's Over 50 team defeated Hawaii, who hasn't lost a game in 6 years. A lot of the players on that team play or have played in EMWSL.
- There were over 100 players from Easton. Almost all age groups, including 2- 60s teams. The Over 55 team lost in the finals on a PK.
- Working on a contract with TeamSnap. The app allows you to load your team in, check availability, text and email alerts right from your phone. Trying to work with TeamSnap for a bulk membership- something around 35/40. Looking to finalize in the next month.

- Insurance- first time we're doing insurance by the calendar year. Check your status to make sure its current.

5. Elections:

- a. No elections this meeting
- b. Need 2 Reps from all Divisions to work with Dave A on revision of bylaws. Dee wants volunteers by August 31.

6. Adjournment