



"Soccer for Life"

2020 February Agenda-League Meeting

February 11, 2020, Wellesley Community Center

Sign In:

- *Review contacts for your team*
- *Imperative we have valid email from all teams*
- *Review status of fees and make payments if owed (deposit is due today)!*

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of August 2019 meeting minutes motion to approve, all in favor

3. Reports from the field:

a. Division 1 Updates – (Peter)

It was a competitive season this fall. Numbers were better than in the past. We're hoping to expand the number of teams in the Spring. We would love to get Summer only teams back. Overall, it was a good season.

b. Division 2 Updates (Patti)

If games get canceled, let the referee know. Don't rely on telling Patti.

c. Division 3 Updates (Dee for Jeanene)

Please ensure you pay deposits due tonight and are working on fields

d. Feedback on fall season-

Went a little more geographical this fall and negative feedback was filtered back

Issue with refs not whistling for head injuries. Can we make sure this is an immediate call. Don't hesitate to reach out to Joe or Dee with any issues.

This was a bad season of refs. Encourage everyone to keep reporting bad experiences. The more real time we can address these issues, we can act.

Overall this season was quiet- good soccer and not a lot of issues.

e. Scheduling- Don't assume dick knows you are field sharing. If you know your field, let dick know asap. If you need dates, let Dick know.

f. Referee Report-

Homework: send a list of 5 referees that you would like doing your games and the name of 1 referee that you do not want reffing your games. We will also send one of these nominated refs to the nationals
8 new rules that will apply to this league. Referees will be enforcing this Spring. Please refer to handout.

Referee feedback:

Can we unpack the no jewelry rule? Players are seeing it as an assault on their identity. What about fitbits hidden under their wrist bands? Some players are clearly getting away with Is it a liability issue? Jewelry is covered under the dangerous equipment bylaw. Its really up to the referee. You can't exempt yourself and not expose yourself to risk.

It comes down to the discretion of the ref on what is dangerous.

Knee braces can be covered to play but that's the only

To clarify: it comes down to the discretion of the ref. If you feel that the referee is discriminating against a player, you need to report the issue.

4. Reports from the Front Office:

a. President-

We revitalized the competition committee (led by Ana). This committee is looking at all aspects of making bracketing for the Summer and the comp committee is a big part of that.

Constitution bylaws- trying to bring up to date. Small group under the direction of David A are working hard on this project. We hoped to have an update tonight but will look to present in August

David: met with group of 6-7 players to go through rules. Went through and comment

Started with new principle construct. League will be involved with having a say in how we Board wants league rules in place before Spring season starts. Constitution and bylaws (governance docs) will go out to league to approve for August meeting or via email.

Dee still looking for assistance with marketing. Looking for a bigger footprint in social media. Looking for players to step up and volunteer so we can attract more players. Are pools are dwindling. We need to get the word out! Get it out to teams (someone may do marketing or be a whiz at social media).

b. Vice President no updates

c. Secretary no updates

d. Treasurer Report/financial Update

Jim presented treasurer report.

Why are team payments lower this year than last year (by 10k)? For several years, we have thought our cash balance was too high. We deliberately worked to get that down to 15k which we feel comfortable with those levels.

e. Field Committee Dee

Get field info to Dick ASAP. If you have a new field, we need to check and inspect with the league.

f. New Player Coordinator-

Calendar- D1 will be playing an 8th game (eliminating make-up date) and will be starting Summer on the 15th.

D2&3 – do we want to play on June 7th or have that game for a make-up? Teams all in agreement to have that day reserved as a make-up. Update on calendar (Ana) everyone should have the same amount of games. D1 wants to finish earlier because of college players.

Every division will start on the 15th, will have 14 games and end on the 29th. D1 playoffs Aug 3rd, 5th. If you have a canceled game, you need to make it up in the season prior to playoffs.

D2&3, will have a designated make-up on 8/3. Playoffs 8/6, 8/10.

Playoff locations, team feedback: all playoffs will be on lighted fields, and later start time so everyone can get to the field.

Merged D2&3 divisions- based on competition, not location. Most teams told the competition committee that they did not like that arrangement. So this year we are going back to geographic concentration.

Will send out field vote via survey monkey. If you don't respond, you cannot complain. We are trying to proactively secure the fields for playoffs.

All Star games – D1 & D2 July 19 @6 in Lexington

Working on division breakouts- keeping track of the bye, so it will be equally distributed.

g. USASA and Mass Soccer Update-

Soccerfest- Breakers sending 5 teams! Mass Spirit 4 teams!

Great deal on Team Snap- take handout. This is an app helps manage teams by that tracks game invites, field info. Mass soccer discount is \$39 for the year (through March 2021)

Registrar: check renewal of ID, price increase of \$5 (\$30 for 2 years). If there is a problem with the ID, it will not print on your roster.

Mass Soccer can also offer sideline credentials.

Andy (President of Mass Soccer) – we will support any endeavor to grow this game in Massachusetts. i.e. will award money to a league for projects that will result in growing the game.

Please share your ideas- we will support you.

Uniforms – Atlantic Sportswear (Angel)- right now needs 3 teams minimum to place an order. LEAGUE IS PAYING FOR LOGO AND NUMBERING to encourage teams to update uniforms

What is the minimum # for a team? 10 uniforms.

Angel puts up a website so you don't have collect information, money and numbers. Painless for the captains!

angel@atlanticsportswear.com, info is also on the Website.

Have we reached out to other leagues to help plug or league? Great idea! What about advertising at indoor facilities?

5. Upcoming Events:

- a. USASA Adult Soccer Fest 2020 6-12 July Escondido, CA (San Diego)
Supporting EMWSL teams going out to soccer fest. Motion to support the 9 teams going out to San Diego (\$200 each)? All approved.
If there is anyone that is interested in playing, please let us know. We want you on our teams. There are all age groups competing.

6. Elections:

- a. Vice President- Liz nominated and all in favor
- b. Secretary- Tricia nominated, Tricia remains
- c. Division Directors-
 - D1- Peter nominated, all in favor
 - D2- Patti nominated, all in favor
 - D3- Jeanene nominated, all in favor

7. Adjournment