

"Soccer for Life"

2021 August League Meeting Agenda

August 10, 2021, via Zoom

Housekeeping items:

- Imperative we have valid email from all teams
- Please ensure you are muted at all times unless speaking
- For items requiring a vote only 1 team contact can cast a vote if more than 1 are on the call

Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M.

1. Roll Call (Jeanene)

Please let us know if you joined the meeting after roll call. Teams unresponsive: Amazon, Babes, Badgers, Bandits, TWS

2. Approval of February 2021 meeting minutes

Motion to accept, Peter C., seconded. Minutes accepted (Minutes are posted on the website shortly after the meeting. Please look there for the latest.)

3. Proposed calendar 2022 (Dee):

Please note registration dates are earlier than you are used to seeing. We are pushing these dates up so we can get schedules planned and refs assigned. Make sure managers are aware of this drop-dead date.

The Competition committee will be meeting with teams in May. This meeting has been moved to a Tuesday night to be in line with other Tuesday meetings.

Question: How do we ensure we are giving the towns appropriate dates for the season? Check with Dick before talking with your town. He can give you dates.

Motion to accept calendar, proposed calendar approved.

4. Reports from the Board/field:

a. President (Dee)

Congrats to the Boston Breakers who sent 3 teams to Milwaukee this year in the O55,
 O60 and O65 divisions representing Massachusetts. Congratulations to these teams.

• Congrats to the teams that have played Summer finals already:

D1 Dynamis who played Azzuri and won on pk's

D3 Amigas beat Reading

Tomorrow night finals:

D2 GB Kickbacks are playing Classis Crush

D3S Bandits and Soccer Sistas

- Congrats to D1 Sidekicks at the USASA Open Cup in June (Pennsylvania) crowned the open cup champions. They will be playing this month in finals in Michigan
- Fields- please continue to ensure home field are in good shape. Fields need to be lined; corners marked. Teams need to arrive in timely fashion to check fields before checking in for the game.
- Playing games- spring and fall have a built-in make-up game but it's a tight window and
 we need to make sure everyone gets their games played. Weather is getting worse over
 the seasons. Every effort needs to be made to play the game. Make the call at the field.
- Pandemic- this is still hard on everyone and we're unfortunately not done yet. Variants
 are taking hold. We have been impacted in our schedules with individuals testing
 positive. It's important that if a player tests positive, they tell their manager and informs
 dee and the league so we can do appropriate contact tracing. Be safe, if you're
 experiencing symptoms, get tested. Take precautions.

Thank you to the league for putting together COVID procedures. This made it easier dealing with towns when securing fields.

b. Vice President (Liz)

We had an awesome game this weekend with Boston Dream. This is a new team/club/organization for graduating college players meant for soccer continuation as well as a volunteer opportunity, community engagement, coaching, etc. This is a great organization. Sidekicks and Dream played. It was a good game and a good fan base. Thanks to Anna for working behind the scenes to get this secured. We'd like to make this an annual event going forward.

c. Secretary (Tricia)

Please look for the latest minutes posted on the website.

Let Tricia know if you changed your info on the website so its captured on the d-list.

d. Treasurer Report/financial Update (Jim)

Half page summary of cash balance. Full report in February. No questions on report. Thank you to all summer teams for paying on time.

e. Field Committee

Reminder to let board know to review new fields for approval before playing. Jim can review next day. Get us your new field asap.

f. New Player Coordinator/Game Scheduler

New players- let Dick know if you've picked up a player.

3 new schedules available online, emwsl.org. No byes! We need your home field/time by Friday.

Schedules are currently posted on the main EMWSL web page. They will be moved under the season schedules once times and fields from all teams are updated.

g. USASA and Mass Soccer Update

We sent Sidekicks to regionals.

Next year there will be an Open Cup in late April or early May, \$225 for registration. We are encouraging all teams to participate.

We will be sending women's teams to the regionals again.

h. Outreach Director/social media

Anna and Liz are doing great job with social media and getting promotional games played. We live streamed the D1 game on Twitter.

Get in touch with Liz and Anna if you'd like to help with social media- and ask players on your team to help!

i. Division 1 (Peter)

Nice work to the D1 teams.

We dealt with a lot of terrible weather this Summer.

The All-Star game was great, thanks to all involved. It was a great game, and the level of play was amazing. Terrific- we need to keep this going.

j. Division 2 (Patti)

D2 finals will be played at Carter Playground in Boston tomorrow if anyone would like to attend and cheer the teams on.

k. Division 3 (Jeanene)

South finals are tomorrow night at Gonzalez in Dedham if anyone wants to attend.

There has been discussion with D3 teams that might be interested in a Summer division without playoffs. We also talked about playing one night a week. These are just suggestions, but we'd like to continue the discussion and see if teams are interested.

It was a tough year with COVID. Everyone is coming back, but with injuries. We are anxious to get back to normal. We appreciate everyone's time and effort.

Question: Is Danehy Field (Cambridge) available for the Fall? Jeanene is not sure and is checking. She will reach out to the Cambridge contact again. It is not an easy field to get. Reach out to Jeanene if you're looking.

I. Referee assignor (Joe)

Thanks for the earlier registrations, so we can start assigning referees.

We were able to put 3 referees for all playoff games which is different than in the past. This worked out well.

5. New Business: none at this time as we continue to evaluate and fine tune new league rules.

6. Old Business:

a. Uniforms

Last couple years talked about matching uniforms. Teams still have not taken care of this. Vendor information was included in this invite with pricelist. The league has been funding logo and numbers on the shirt. Angel's contact is on the form that we sent out. Please work with her or another vendor to get this taken care of.

Uniforms need to be the same (not just color)

Angel needs a couple weeks to produce the shirts- they are shipped directly to you.

We appreciate your attention to this matter.

Will check to see if angel does pinnies with numbers.

Better off buying a set and keeping them to avoid not having enough. Teams should have alternates in case the opponent has the same/similar color

b. Seasonal Registration dates

As noted previously, we moved earlier so we can assign referees and ensure fields. Talk to your teams early to determine if you have enough players and are looking to play. Make a true evaluation.

7. Elections:

(Elections are held during AGM meeting which is in February.)

Please note the change in league rules on election dates

Positions up for Election in Feb 2022:

- a. Vice President
- b. Secretary
- c. Divisional Directors (D1, D2, D3)

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (Dick), Seconded (Peter)

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.