



“Soccer for Life”

**2023 February AGM League Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2023, 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*

1. Roll Call

Meeting called to order, 7:05 P.M. by Dee Woolley.

2. Approval of August 2022 meeting minutes

Meeting minutes need to be amended to 2022.

Motioned to approve August 2022 meeting minutes as amended, seconded, all in favor.

Motion carries.

3. Reports from the Board/field:

a. President (Dee)

- Fall was a smooth season. No major issues.
- Jim will give an update on finances, but due to our belt tightening, we should be back on track for a Summer All Star game.
- We highly encourage you to pick up new players. Please connect with Dick if you are not on the new player list. Keep him updated with you pick up new players off the list.
- Make sure fields are all set and locked in for the Spring. Give an update of your field info to Dick ASAP so he can update the schedule. We need this information to schedule referees.

b. Vice President (Liz)

- No disciplinary issues.
- Liz will give an update on Boston Women’s Soccer Summit and can provide information as needed. This is taking place on March 25th. The panel lineup is exceptional.
- We appreciate Dee’s help and leadership over the past years.

c. Secretary (Tricia Carroll)

- No updates

d. Treasurer Report/financial Update (Jim Livingston)

- Jim provided a financial update. Please refer to the Treasurer's report for further details.

e. Field Committee (Dee)

- We are always looking for volunteers to help with the field committee. This involves going to a field in your area to evaluate the conditions.
- Please let us know as soon as possible if you have a new field that needs to be evaluated. This allows us time to coordinate and get someone out to look at the field.

f. New Player Coordinator/Game Scheduler (Dick)

- Please review the new player emails that Dick is sending out. There are a ton of qualified players out there and nobody is picking them up. If you do pick one up, let Dick know.
- Are you getting these new player updates? Dick will send an email out to everyone in the morning. If you don't receive an email, you are not on the list and should reach out to Dick. He will resend the list of available players. Its worth trying out new players-no risk to you.
- Dick has completed the schedules. He needs field information. Send to Jeanene, Patti or Peter. If you field share and need dates, please get in touch.
 - Veterans per the website says the field will be closed for the Summer for repairs (starting June 4). They are closing with no alternatives. North Reading will also be closed down this Summer.
- No games on April 9th. A makeup for teams going to South Africa will be schedules the second week in June.
- Dick will get you schedules as soon as possible so you can plan accordingly. The earlier we hear on field issues, the quicker we can look for alternatives.

g. Referee Assignor (Joe D'Amico)

- We are always looking for more referees. If the clubs know of people to contact, please let Joe know and he will get in touch.

h. USASA and Mass Soccer Update (Liz & Lisa)

- USASA Soccer Fest, July 12-16 in Greensville, NC. O30-O75. We're looking for a lot of teams to participate. Mass Spirit and Breakers are going. Reach out to those teams or Liz for more information. There is lots of information on the website and the Facebook page.
- We got funding from USASA for a Women's National Cup. This is huge! We've been working to get this done for a couple years. Liz is going to find out more information but we are very excited for this opportunity.
- Mass Soccer will run the National Tourney in April/May. We'd like to see teams participate. Any questions, please ask Liz.
- Lisa Z: Mass Soccer Hall of Fame induction. We had a videographer do a highlight reel. That will be on the website.

- Cezar Wislocki-Wasecki (former Mass Soccer President) was inducted. Cezar does so much for the league as an administrator. He has been instrumental with a lot of the programs at the state and national level. It was wonderful to have our league represented at the dinner.
- If you haven't used the Team Snap app, it's highly recommended. You get a large discount off the membership fee from Mass Soccer.
- Reminder you need to be registered with Mass Soccer to play. Please start tracking down your players now to make sure they are current with their registration. This provides field insurance and other benefits to the player- \$30 for 2 years.

i. Outreach Director/social media

- We are working to have someone in outreach. Justine is going to step up to do this but I'm sure she would like some help so please get the word out. We know we can do more than we're currently doing. Justine is doing a great job. Connect with Justine if you're interested.
- There are lots of opportunities for outreach in the league.

4. New Business:

a. Discussion of Substitution rule

How are we doing with the new substitution rule? Joe: some refs are unaware that we switched to the new rules. OTH does not follow this rule so there is confusion on what is being enforced.

Old Rule: team can sub on its own throw in and when the other team is subbing.

Current (FIFA): allows substitution on any stoppage, although FIFA has a limit to 5 times in the game. This should be a team decision, not the ref decision.

Can we send out a survey and have everyone vote?

We can't act on this tonight. With enough notice, we can act on this. Having a poll to gauge whether this is something where we need to take action.

Dave: reason for the change is that we generally follow IFAB rule. As a Summer only team, its frustrating having players waiting on the half line. The way it is written that refs may allow subbing at his discretion. Would be opposed to going back to the former rule that wouldn't align with how we play. Refs are certainly able to manage the substitutions and make sure there are no issues. Maybe the "issue" isn't an issue if you think about the way we play.

b. Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws

Liz: Would like to set precedent change going forward to allow a year of transition for the past president to stay in a role on the BOD as an Advisor to help transition. This position would still be a voting member of the Board.

We will send out the proposed language to teams to review.

Proposed language:

“Immediate Past President: The Immediate Past President shall remain a Director for so long as their successor serves as President (or, if later, the meeting at which such successor’s replacement is duly selected and qualified). The position of Immediate Past President will serve as a voting member of the Board of Directors for one year following the time their tenure as President ends.”

Dave: Membership can approve changes to the bylaws without being at meeting. We require 60 days advance notice or we can act by written consent by signing a notice of written intent. Will work with Tricia to get a consent action drafted to send to team to review and sign and send back. Once we receive 50%, this motion will be approved.

c. Support for some soccer opportunities/outreach

We were contacted by Marie Alice D. She is traveling with Lexpressas and Breakers Soccer Clubs to the first Granny’s soccer tournament in Limpopo, South Africa. 3 Teams are participating. In 2010 when Soccerfest was hosted here, the Soccer Grannies came over to participate.

When our teams go over, they’d like us to help financially or by donating goods. They’re looking to support local youth groups. They’re looking for soccer balls, uniforms, pinnies, water bottles, etc. Check out your basements! Can be singles, complete sets, they’re looking for anything we can donate.

Get word out to your team to see what we can get. Mary Alice will pick up.

Mary Alice’s info for donation:

Mary Alice Vallarino

617-990-4425

Maryalicevallarino@gmail.com

5. Open discussion

Charlotte: part of a club with Mens teams. Movement towards having more AEDs around. Mass soccer is subsidizing. Liz: Yes, Mass Soccer has an AED program that we will subsidizing. That information is on Mass Soccer’s website. Great program to take advantage. Would be great to have that part of ours as well.

<https://www.mass-soccer.org/page/show/4413251-aed-subsidy-program>

6. Elections:

a. President

Dee is stepping down as President. Becca Brook from Azzurri is nominated.

Liz moves to nominate Becca as president. Peter seconds.

Congrats to Becca on the new position.

b. Treasurer

Jim Livingston is willing to stay on as Treasurer.

Peter nominates Jim, Liz seconds. So moved.

c. Referee Assignor

Joe is willing to stay on for 2 years.

Dick nominates Joe. Peter seconds. So moved. Thanks to Joe for keeping us safe.

d. New Player Coordinator

Dick is willing to stay in this position

Motion to nominate by Joe. Second by Peter. So moved.

e. Game Scheduler

Dick is willing to stay in this position.

Motion to nominate by Joe. Harry seconds. So moved.

Thank you Dick.

Thank you to all the Board members. They will do a great job for Becca.

f. Dee appoints Rose to the Competition Committee. This is a President appointment.

A big thank you to all team managers. We know how much work this is. Keep up the good work and keep in touch with division directors. Support Becca moving forward.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, seconded, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.