

Northwest District

of the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association

May 30, 2018 Wyndham Southbury Hotel, Southbury, CT

Attendees: Corrado Perugini (Watertown), Dave Brouillette (Wolcott), Karen Puskas (Shepaug), Tim Holland (Southbury), Cari Boucher (Highlander), Tom Fitzpatrick (Sherman), Laura Anderson (New Fairfield), Vin Dorso (Thomaston), Steve Vetter (Brookfield), Brian Reale (Brookfield), Kevin LaFond (Northwest United), Mark Crowe (Torrington), Paul Maloney (Wolcott), David Cardoso (New Milford), Ashley Bouchard (Terryville), Tyler Vander Sloot (Terryville), Kevin Lillie (Winchester United), Joseph Abdella (Shepaug), Jay Zelewsky (Southbury)

Not in Attendance: Danbury, Bunker Hill, Middlebury, Litchfield, Woodbury/Bethlehem

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The minutes from March's meeting will be posted on our website. All were asked if there were any changes to the March minutes as they were posted and there were no changes.

Treasurer's Report: We are winding down, we have a couple of months left in the fiscal year. We have about \$95,000 in income and \$97,000 in expenses. Highlander, Middlebury, Northwest United, New Milford, Torrington, Winchester United, and Wolcott still owe the district spring fees. Karen asked, is anyone not getting monthly invoices from CJSA? Tom and Paul said they are not getting them. The club president and treasurer should get them based on the email in the affiliation form. Remember affiliation forms are due July 1st. Karen will send an email with directions on how affiliations will be done. Karen asked if we are going to fine clubs who miss meetings? Dave said that we need to keep the fines in place to keep clubs attending the meetings.

Capital improvement receipts for 2017-2018 are due by August 31st. Your club can receive \$1000 for capital improvements or \$1500 for purchasing goals. This money is for long term benefits of the club, not for individual improvements.

Registration: We are moving to Stack Sports (previously called Blue Star) for the fall. All adult background checks will be done through the new system. All adults will need to complete new background checks. Players who were previously validated in our current system will carry over to the new system. Passes will be printed on regular paper. There will be bumps in the road, so get an early start and be patient. All towns have signed up except for Watertown. Cory stated that Watertown would get signed up very soon. Every club sets administrators for their club's website. Encourage your parents to register with Stack Sports now. Once the player profile exists in the new system, the data for that player will transfer over from the old system. The district will be fully using Stack Sports for their website beginning July 1st. If you're using Stack Sports now, you will be able to register your fall teams in July with one click. If your club is not using them yet, you'll have to upload your roster and team. New Milford asked what to do about non-paid players. You can set Stack Sports to allow your club to accept checks and those players will be need to be manually marked as paid or you can set it so that your club only accepts credit cards.

Classic Travel: Steve mentioned that the Danbury U15 girls are primarily made up of 9th grade girls. It was

previously agreed by all that the teams would be played in U15 so that 14 year old 8th graders could play, but there should be no high school players on the team. The district will look into this further.

Amy Famiglietti has started a TOPS Soccer program in Thomaston. She said that there are five or six clubs who have kids playing there. We would like to find a way to give this program more financial support. Dave asked if the clubs who are participating could help with this or the district could cover the \$1100 to cover the costs. Paul asked why the state can't cover these costs. Dave and Cory explained that the state gives us 15% of our fees back to fund district programs such as TOPS. Vin from Thomaston made a motion that the district give Thomaston up to \$1100 for the year for TOPS Soccer. Nicole from Torrington seconded the motion. All approved the motion.

A question was asked, does anyone have a U8 boys team? Dave said that they should register for U9 and play in that division. For U11 girls travel, will there be an A and B division again in the fall? It's hard to know, this will depend on how many teams register for the fall.

A question was asked, most clubs seem to be using the smaller goals for U9/U10 instead of the larger size indicated in the handbook, is this okay? We had agreed previously that teams could use the smaller size if they wanted to. We will include the range for future publications of the handbook to clarify. How many clubs will find it a hardship to use the 6 x 18 goals for U9/U10? Four clubs said it would be a hardship for their clubs. The rules read that goals should be no larger than 6.5 ft high x 18 ft wide and the recommended size is 6.5 high x 12 ft wide.

Upcoming Dates:

July 1st – Team commitment submission begins, closes August 5th, late fee period will extend to August 10th

August 15th – Fall Scheduling Meeting/District Meeting

August 27th – Fall Coach's Meeting

September 19th – District Meeting

State Report: We have an opportunity in our district to provide some high level training in hopes of keeping our kids in our district instead of leaving to go play premier soccer. Mario, our director of coaching, will be offering this training in one or two locations in the district. Once a week during the fall and spring seasons, U9/U10 travel players can have a high level ODP trainer for \$650 per player/per year. These players must play with your club and then they can get extra training. There also may be an opportunity for some games. The clubs need to be able to get the word out to your players. The idea is offer this training to support your clubs. The district would like to be able to email all families. Do we have any clubs that have field space for this trainings? Dave asked who would be interested, nine clubs responded that they would be interested. Dave said that Wolcott could provide field space. New Fairfield said that they could also possibly provide field space. Steve mentioned that Brookfield also has a pre-premier training program that is open to all clubs. Steve will send the information for that program to Dave so that it can be shared with all of us. Dave will put all of the information together and send it out to everyone.

Premier: No new report

Training: Cari from Highlander asked, are there any coaches training happening? They are happening all over the state, but none seem to be offered in our district. We need clubs who are willing to host the training. Dave will work with Mario to try to get some trainings scheduled.

Website/Publicity: The district website will change over in July. Please remind your teams to enter scores. The last day of the season is June 17th, scores must be in by June 19th.

Referees: No new report

Disciplinary: We have had a few minor issues, but otherwise there haven't been any major issues, keep up the good work.

All Star Game: The game will be on June 9th for 8th graders, each club should submit three players. If you haven't already, please submit the players to Harry Allison. If you've submitted a player who can no longer attend, please just submit a replacement player. The boys' game is at 4:30pm and the girls' game is at 7pm in New Fairfield on the Stadium Field.

For the Good of Soccer: The Waterbury men's league is playing in New Britain in a state game. New Fairfield has a great co-ed summer college league. There's a rec and an intermediate level.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be June 20th at 7:30pm.