

SCOR-January 2013 Board Meeting Minutes and Action Items January 7 2013

Board members in attendance:

Steve Sasse (President)
Peter Coffin (VP)
Scott Kemp (Academy)
Mark Vanni (Travel)
Alicia Barlow (Travel)
Terry Rychlik (Fields)
John Healy (Development)
Seth Critchell (Special Programs)
Kishore Rao (House)
Mary Maue (Secretary)

Also present: Hillary Lust (Registrar)
Aimee Berger Girvalo (HOUSE field & ref assignor)

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Mary Maue introduced as new secretary of the board - Steve Sasse motioned for an approval, Hillary Lust seconded, all in favor/approved.

December 2012 Board minutes approved.

Committee Reports:

President:

2012 Year in Review: Steve Sasse shared 2012 year in review highlights (attached at end of this report)

-Discussed proposed rule change submitted to CJSA in conjunction with Westport & Wilton soccer clubs: the time window a player can change from classic to premier club should be restricted to Nov 1st - March 1st of the calendar year to avoid loss of classic players after rosters are finalized.

-Annual CJSA dinner discussed: attendees so far Bergen, Sasse, and Rychlik

-Decision finalized: SCOR Tournament will change from 2 day Labor Day Tourney to

1 Day Columbus Day (Sat) tourney. Reasons noted: competition with Fairfield LD tourney and struggle with early-in-the-season sign-up.

Treasurer: (absent, report via email)

-contract with TeamExcel, Phil Bergen's new company, started on January 1, 2013 and provides SCOR with a Director of Coaching and professional coaches via a company structure. The contract term is four (4) years and covers fall, spring and winter sessions. Summer camp payment is still TBD. From the club's

perspective, this change allows for an easier accounting structure and savings from various administrative costs that no longer fall under SCOR purview.

Development: The HOUSE Program will now be headed up by Kishore “Keesh” Rao with a slightly different organization. Under Keesh, there will be three (3) separate Directors directly responsible for the specific age groups as outlined below:

PreK-1st gr

2nd-4th gr

5th gr and up-

-Discussion re: spring shirts for HOUSE: White & Orange or different colors per team.

Decision was leaning to White/ Orange for it’s classic SCOR look and last minute field/player flexibility on low show days and holiday weekends.

Dick’s Sporting Goods Coaches’ Kits were discussed in light of possible sponsorship deal...**Scott Kemp to follow up.** Issue raised re: Adidas conflict.

-Spring sponsorships to be sought after now.

-Discussed a possible 3/30/13 SCOR Trail Run co-sponsored by Evan McGerald of

TriRidgefield. **John Healy to follow-up.**

Travel: New ‘Practice Only’ player added to registration: new option for the BB or lacrosse player that wants to keep in condition with weekly practice without weekend game commitment. Registration dates and fees discussed.

-Referee payments.....tbd

-Tournament paymts: 1 per team

-Discussed FALL 2013 try-out schedule, noting that past years there have been conflicts with school concerts-suggest pushing tryouts to mid June, and/or a Saturday. Trying to be more sensitive to reoccurring calendar issues (Relay 4 Life). Once decided, should be marked on calendar early (before 4/1).

Academy:

-A3 start to coincide with Travel

A1 & A2 start to coincide with House

-Code of Conduct and Photo waiver to be addressed

-Advertising: Team Excel now responsible for advertising

-Confirm the link for Soccer and Rugby is still associated with Academy sign up

-Waiver form: Discussed what is required for House vs. Academy 1, 2 3 & Travel:

(physical form vs. email consent) -Action item: Follow up with CJSA re: Waiver form

House:

Aimee, Keesh & Steve are currently recruiting House Directors to fulfill new structure of PreK-1/2-4th/5th and up Directorships: each age group will have it's own division Director under the three top tier Directors

Special Programs:

-1 Request for Fincl Aid for winter indoor approved.

-Ridgefield Academy: open to SCOR using their turf field for practices ONLY- does not want the crowds associated with a game. Cost is \$100 / hr (Reference: TH is \$250 / hr)

Consider the space for PDP Friday practices? Tryouts?

-Winter Session Update: 144 kids signed up for first session / 2nd session is up to 118 (supposed to close registration 1/11)

-Danbury facility still not ready for league play

-Any league play set up, Phil will provide the coaches for an extra fee

-Summer camp: Payment to Team Excel has not yet been decided (summer season is outside of contract). Noted: Phil will be the driving force behind the camp, but SCOR will have to coordinate with Parks & Rec for field space.

Website/Communications: Updates are needed online...Aimee is willing to edit/update while the WebMaster position remains open. She needs password to get in.

Who is TeamExcel? We need to communicate the change and why. Action item: letter to be crafted for website/membership.

Fields: Discussed the tightened SPRING field situation with lacrosse on SRMS. Fridays not available. Need full 8v.8 goals at Farmingville School for potential Cup games.

Went around the table to confirm all present agree to their position for the new year. As noted below, all agreed to their stated positions:

Steve Sasse (President)

Peter Coffin (VP)

Scott Kemp (Academy)

Mark Vanni (Travel)

Alicia Barlow (Travel)

Terry Rychlik (Fields)

John Healy (Development)

Seth Critchell (Special Programs)
Kishore Rao (House)
Mary Maue (Secretary)

8:50 Meeting adjournment

2012 Year in Review: President's Comments

Highlights:

- During 2012, we had nearly 2,200 participants in SCOR related programs with roughly 60 teams per season.
- We successfully hosted our 29th Labor Day "Warm Up" Tournament offering a competitive opportunity for our members and players from neighboring towns. We helped increase business traffic for our local merchants as more than 1,600 soccer players and their families were in town that made up 80 teams from 15 towns.
- Thanks to the efforts of Rob Jasminski and Phil Bergen we have come to an agreement with Team Excel Soccer that will continue the great and consistent coaching for years to come- additional details to follow.
- SCOR alumni led Ridgefield's high school soccer teams to successful seasons. The Varsity Girls ended the season 11-2-3 and made it to the FCIAC semis while the Boy's team went 13-2-1 and were FCIAC co-champions.
- We upgraded our Club website over the past year to League Athletics which offers a better communication vehicle and easier access to information by our membership. We need to continue to use this and other vehicles to better communicate with our membership in the coming year.
- We successfully launched our new communications campaign by publishing a monthly SCOR newsletter & re-launching the SCOR FB page.
- Our travel teams had success on the field. Six SCOR travel teams made it to the playoffs with the U13 boys and U14 girls winning their divisions. The U13 boys also made it to the CT Cup semi finals. Congratulations to everyone involved.
- We have been "innovative" in our travel program by joining forces with the Lewisboro NY soccer club and combining 11 NY players with our U12 girls program that allowed us to field two full squads rather than cut 6-8 SCOR players entirely out of the program.
- The U13 girls' team has successfully proven that if the skills and commitment are in place SCOR can develop teams to be competitive at the premier level.
- Our Academy program continues to develop and prepare our house players to the travel program. We had 78 boys and 72 girls in the program this past year.
- The Holland program completed its 9th season under the direction of Aimee Berger-Girvalo and Steve Carlson allowing kids with physical and/or mental disabilities the opportunity to also enjoy soccer. Special thanks to the H.S. players that also assisted in the program.
- As a club we have continued our efforts to be more efficient and cut costs whenever possible by reducing payroll & equipment while at the same time raising incremental funds via several new funds raising efforts.
- We have revamped our referee payment process that allows better controls and record keeping.
- We hosted our 1st annual SCOR "Have a Ball" fundraiser that was assisted by close to 150

- SCOR members raising over \$5K for the club. We look forward to the 2nd annual event.
- Once again weather wreaked havoc on Ridgefield with Super Storm Sandy in late October and as a club have prevailed to allow our players to finish out the season as well as successfully hosting the U13 playoffs.
 - As a volunteer organization, we are into a time of change. We have several board members (Tom Cherner, Dan Collins, Joe Buczek, Aimee Berger-Girvalo and Paul Shickell) who after years of dedicated service are “retiring” from the SCOR Board of Directors. Paul and Aimee will all continue to support the club in a different role. Thank you Tom, Dan, Aimee, Joe and Paul for your time, your dedication, and your service.
 - To the new incoming Board members, welcome. We look forward to your thoughts and ideas around making the Soccer Club of Ridgefield the best club that we can be for the community where we all live.