

**Woodbury-Bethlehem Youth Soccer  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
May 2016**

**Call to Order** – 6/7/2016, 7:43 pm

**In Attendance** – Steve Hale, Andie Greene, Dave McCarthy, Ryan Chmielewski, Mike Losh, Jane Girgasky, Kathy Francis, Cari Brandt, Andy Gee, Michaela Forbes, Robert Forbes, Patricia Forbes

**Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)** – Presented and accepted

**Privilege of the Floor** – Michaela and her parents described the unfortunate incident during a U11 boys game where Michaela was the center ref. She and the ARs was verbally abused by the Torrington head coach. Board members informed her that we fully supported her and the ARs. We would recommend to our coaches that they leave the game with their team under similar circumstances in the future. We also informed her that she had the right to eject the coach from the game for this type of behavior. Michaela and her parents were appreciative of our support and recommendations.

**Treasurer's Report** – Taxes were filed before 5/15. The annual report was also filed.

- Still need to pay the second half spring season payment to Soccer Extreme.
- Report approved.

**Committee Reports:**

**Registration** – Set to open tomorrow for the Fall Season.

- The early registration discount for travel will end on 7/18 and registration will close on 7/24. Team commitments are due on 8/1.
- U14s will be waitlisted as in past seasons to determine if there are enough to field teams.
- In-house: Early registration discount until 9/6. Regular rate starts first day of the season through week 3.

**Coaching & Player Development** – We signed the contract with Soccer Extreme for the Fall.

**In-House** – N/A

**Parks & Recreation** – N/A

**Referees** – Had one major incident of ref. abuse. We discussed how we can minimize future incidents. We also discussed updates to our current ref. abuse policy.

- We reviewed and made changes to our policy on ref. abuse to clearly cover verbal abuse as well as threats of physical abuse. We are also going to review CJSA and or US Youth Soccer ref abuse policies to see if our policies are in-line with theirs.
  - We will emphasize our ref abuse policies with our coaches at the beginning of each season. Remind our coaches that if the opposing coaches/players/parents are abusing the refs and the situation becomes serious, they should leave the field and take their team with them.
- Made the following recommendations:
  - At check in, have refs inform coaches and players that no form of abuse will be tolerated by parents, coaches, or players. This includes dissent, profanity, or insults directed at the refs or players of the opposing team. Inform them that the ref has the right to eject them from the game for this behavior.
  - We recommend that youth refs receive more training on how to deal with ref. abuse situations and remind them that the board/club fully supports them. Help them gain confidence to make tough decisions.

**Uniforms** – N/A

❑ **Public Relations** – N/A

❑ **Fund Raising** – We received \$305 from the TD Bank Affinity program.

**Recognition** – N/A

**Old Business** – Mike Losh received the WBYS business cards and distributed some to board members.

**New Business** – We agreed to raise our registration fees by \$5.00 at all ages to offset the increased fees charged by CJSA. The fees for tots will increase to \$10.00.

**Calendar Review** –The next board meeting is 6/30.

**Executive Session** – None

**Adjournment** – 9:44 pm