Soaring Capital Board of Directors- Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2024

Soaring Capital Soccer Club-Zoom Meeting

Members Present

Derek Hamilton

Chad Sustello

Michelle Augustine

Sarah Crouse

Jillian Mastronardi

Zach Sarno

Chris Kamas

Stacie VanSkiver

Chris Kamas

Ron Sherburne

Kyle Adriance

Meeting Summary:

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 p.m. by Derek, who confirmed the attendance of the board members and motioned to approve the minutes from September meeting. Chad seconded and minutes were approved.

Presidents Report

Derek did not have anything to present and moved to financial report.

Financial Report

- Renee presented end of 2024/2025 budget, which follows player season not fiscal year.
- Estimated revenue is $195,000 based on 350 players for spring and 150 fall players. Key challenges from last year included shortfalls in fundraising and sponsorship, as well as unexpected costs.
- 5 $200 scholarships are included, coaches' discounts are retained, and funds are allocated for Sing Sing fields maintenance.
- Registration Fee increase:
  U13-U19 is now $490 and U8-U12 is $390 and Fall will be $225.

- Payment Plan- monthly payments November through March. Derek said preference would be 5 payments starting with registration.
- Refund policy discussion- Injuries may allow for prorated refunds, but documentation must be provided. This is called out in the proposed budget.
- Registrations should be prepared and launched early next year.
- Renee mentioned that our payment plan does not charge an extra fee, where many other clubs do, that is something worth highlighting.
- After much discussion regarding budget approval Chad stated he would like more time to review. Chad motioned for electronic vote on Wednesday, giving everyone 3 days to review. Derek seconded, all approved.

Registrar Report/ID Sessions

- ID session going well at 297. Jillian said last year at this time we had 197 and ended with 397. Call out that U18-U19 boys and girls team had 39 last year currently have 12. Zach stated they are typically the last to register.
- Discussed COI and that only place approved by club is Philo Road Facility or New Beginnings. Anything outside of New Beginnings is on team to cover expenses. I suggested an email to coaches as a reminder.
  Renee suggested we include that coaches practicing elsewhere will need to request a COI from the executive committee before committing to a space. Zach concurred and will include.

Director of Coaching:

- Zach had a coaches meeting before this meeting and everything looks good for ID camp. Trying to get himself up to speed on boys' side, since Josh is no longer in that role.

Fundraising:

- Sarah proposed a mandatory club wide fundraiser where each player would sell 5 $10 tickets with cash prizes of $500, $300 and $100. This would raise about $16,000 for the club.
- The $50 would be added to the registration, allowing families to recoup the cost through the ticket sales. Sarah offered to write a letter to explain this and manage ticket printing and other logistics.
- Rob asked if the fundraiser could proceed without an additional registration increase.
- Question posed what if people do not participate, Sarah advised it would be mandatory, but even if some did not do, we would still net a good profit for the club.
- Chad motioned to approve; Stacey seconded. Approved by majority, with one opposition. (Renee)

Scholarship Committee:

- No scholarships have been received, but Stacey noted has not been advertising, due to budget concerns. Renee noted in new budget there is 5 $200 scholarships built in.

Other Business:

- Chad had resigned and then withdrew his resignation. He did state he was pursuing another position as district commissioner and if he gets the position he would have to resign from the board.

- Sarah asked Chad if he was planning to take Caps players to play either in another league or another team at 434. Chad said no he has no affiliation with 434. Derek clarified if Chad had plans to have Caps players play in any capacity at any facilities, Chad said no.
- Zach asked for clarification on trainer role/fees. Renee explained registration fee covers facilities cost and training, while team fees are separate. Everyone agreed and Zach will convey this to coaches.
- Jillian was asked if additional support for her role would be helpful, she will assess and follow up.
- Board member updates, Stacey and Ed will step down on December 31st.. Derek proposed nominating Chris as a new board member. Chad recommended Chris to fill his Vice President role if he secures the commissioner position. Derek motioned to add Chris to the board, Renee seconded, and all approved.

Derek motioned to adjourn meeting; Chad seconded.

Submitted by Michelle Augustine-Secretary