

**DC Stoddert Soccer
Minutes of the Meeting of the Board
November 14, 2007**

Attendance: D. Repka, D. Sarley, R. Hartheimer, W. Garcia, C. Dunbar, C. Myers, L. Oliver, G. Robb, K. Perkins, E. Glick.

I. Consent Items

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2007.

II. Reports

A. Fields

Wilson High School: Charlie Myers reported that he will follow up regarding the use of Wilson High School's new turf field. The outstanding question is how much will be charged to DC Stoddert for field usage and who will be in charge of centralized payments into a maintenance fund.

Francis: Tom Gross has begun discussions with Clark Ray from DCPR regarding turfing Francis Field. Tom reported that Clark Ray is supportive of the idea but there is a question as to the amount of DC Stoddert's financial commitment to the project.

Kenilworth: Len Oliver stated that Kenilworth is available but no one is using the field. Cindy Dunbar suggested that we load Kenilworth for travel games on Sundays. Dave Repka stated that Tom Gross should follow up with Clark Ray regarding permitting status.

George Washington: Kate Samsot reported that she met with Jessi Goodell in the athletic department last week. Jessi will quote DC Stoddert a price to rent that field. Cindy Dunbar and Bill Garcia asked that Kate get a minimum 4-hour block of time on Saturdays for make-up travel games and/or practices for high school-aged teams.

UDC: Bob Hartheimer reported that there had been progress on the agreement to turf the field at UDC. Bob said that the bids from DOC and Field Turf need to be refreshed. The parties are hopeful that the field will be ready to use August 1, 2008. DC Stoddert's use of the field would be 600 hours per year on weekends only, with the exception of 2 weeks of summer use and a few days of preseason time. The cost for the field would be split as follows: Maret – 45%; DC Stoddert – 45%; Burke – 10%.

B. Financial Report

Bob Hartheimer distributed the current financial report, noting that the league is in good financial shape. The general consensus was that the travel program needs to find new ways to subsidize the growing number of scholarship players.

Greg Robb asked whether the club had any contingency plan for replacement of revenue in the recreational program if the country experienced a significant economic downturn. There was a

consensus that the registration fee for recreational soccer is sufficiently low that this should not pose a problem.

Bob Hartheimer reported that the club had received a clean audit from the accounting firm. The audited financial statement is posted on the web site.

C. Open Committee

Greg Robb had positive things to say about the recreational experience for the fall season. He said that Walt Anderson's leadership with the referee program had been extremely helpful. In two cases, Karin Perkins, Greg Robb, and Allistair Gellatly formed an instant discipline committee, sat two coaches down, and solved the problems. There were, however, a few instances of players using derogatory terms during games. A communications campaign before the start of the Spring season will be required.

Tom Gross has set a timeline for Spring registration and the Spring season (attached).

D. Travel Committee

Kate Samsot reported that she had met with most of the Age Group Directors in the travel program. With a few exceptions, the age band structure seems to be running smoothly. Both Craig Jones and Mohamed Bennani have made great strides with the U9/U10 and U11/U12 age groups, respectively. In the spring, Kate plans to mandate practice times and dates across the board that match the age bands and foster club cohesion.

Kate reported that she sent RFPs to Soccer American and two other vendors to explore new travel uniform kits for Fall 2008.

Kate noted that she and Tom Gross had discussed the timeline for online registration. Travel registration will begin November 28th and a late fee will begin January 5th since travel league fees are due January 18th.

E. Director of Coaching

Len Oliver talked about the VYSA meeting that he and Kate Samsot attended Tuesday, November 13th. Gordon Miller brought together all of the technical directors of coaching in northern Virginia and Washington, DC to discuss how to improve player development in the area. The general consensus was that the travel league structure promotes results over player development, and that there were too many clubs competing for the same players rather than developing players.

Len, Kate, and Sona Walla will meet with John Maessner of DC United November 27th to discuss the relationship of DC Stoddert teams to the US Soccer Academy teams.

III. Discussion Items

A. General Director Nominations

The Board agreed to renominate the following general directors to be voted upon at the upcoming Annual General Meeting: Dave Repka, Bob Hartheimer, Jennifer Hillman, Cindy Dunbar, and Len Oliver.

B. Sponsorship Policy

The Board considered a proposal from one Rec team to accept a “sponsorship” from a restaurant in Italy. The Board approved, with the understanding that: (1) the sponsorship go to the club scholarship program; and (2) there would be no on-field (*e.g.*, jersey) logos or the like.

Bill Garcia agreed to draft a more general policy on sponsorship to be considered at the January Board meeting.

C. Fundraising Plan

The fundraising plan is still in development, but will be activated upon approval of a specific field project. The fundraising will focus on the field as well as scholarships.

Next Board Meeting: Annual General Meeting December 5, 2007



SPRING 2008 RECREATIONAL GAME DATES AND REGISTRATION TIME LINE

Game dates:

April 5, 12, 19 & 26

May 3, 10, 17 & 31

June 7

Registration Timeline:

December 1, E-mail Renewal notice, open registration

February 16, First late fee

March 8, Second late fee

All Recreational fees remain the same as Fall 2007