

The meeting was called to order 7:05 p.m. on September 28, 2009

In attendance

Rich Altonaga, Krissy Carter, Steve Finley, Bob Lynch-Galvin, Janice Mancini, Brad Michaels, Sean O'Brien, Gary Smith, David Valade

Secretary

- The August 2009 meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

President

- Melrose Free Press article contains Free Soccer Ball program information Uniroyal and Montvale Tire. Forms were handed out for distribution by age coordinators.

Equipment

- We should have about 4 teams worth of extra travel team uniforms available.

Treasurer

- MAYS will be paid on 9/30/2009.

Registrar

- Fall 2009 Registrations (FINAL):
 - Total: 944 (plus 6 withdrawals)
 - U6 – 129
 - U6 W/L rejected - 2
 - U8 – 316
 - U10C – 160
 - B10T – 52
 - G10T – 29
 - B12T – 87
 - G12T – 73
 - B14T – 44
 - G14T – 54
- Need to determine when to open Spring Registration and deadlines:
 - Last year, opened Spring Registration on 9/24/2008
 - Travel deadline was Nov 2nd
 - On-Time City deadline was Nov 30th
- Proposed Dates (accepted at September meeting):
 - Open Spring Registration by 10/5
 - Website updated by 10/6
 - School notice distributed by 10/16
 - Travel Registration close 11/8
 - City Registration (on time) close by 11/30
 - Wait list open until 1st games
- CORI forms:
 - Per MAYS records, 35 coaches delinquent in submitting online form. List was emailed to age coordinators today (9/28/2009).
 - Please make sure you either forward Bob the receipt (email they receive after they fill out the form) or that you've personally seen it. Having them say they've done it isn't good enough.
 - Proposal:

- Anyone whose name appears on this list as missing the CORI form must fill out the form and produce the receipt to their age coordinator prior to this coming Saturday's games (10/3). Anyone who fails to do so will not coach those games or any subsequent practices or games until the form is complete and receipt provided to their age coordinator. Age coordinators will report compliance to MYS Registrar and MYS President.
 - CORI process needs to be discussed with SportsManager to work with MAYS to make this run more efficiently.
- Bob Bigelow – Former NBA player (first round draft pick) and lecturer on youth sports and the needs of children engaged in youth sports. Co-Author of book “Just Let the Kids Play”.
 - Spoke to MYH coaches last month. Frank Sorrenti gave high marks for talk.
 - 10 min video
 - Would like to explore having him address MYH coaches (possibly parents).
 - \$750 fee
 - Possibly coordinate/split costs with other youth sports such as:
 - Incarnation Baseball?
 - Other Baseball?
 - Recreation Dept?

Field Scheduler

- David reported that all makeup games have been played or rescheduled.

Field Manager

- Last weekend in September, the lines were not marked on one of the Hesseltine fields (lines were yellowish). Rich went down to the field early and lined them.
- Munchkin fields are lined (variably) and should be 20 x 28 yards.
- All fields are in decent shape.
- Vandalism incident with a port-a-potty on the WSK.
- Cabbage Patch is open – will new U10 nets be set up there? Portable set at Franklin available to move to CP.
- Brad would like more flexibility of having games @ CP. Steve will try to transition as many U10 (practices) to CP. Issue is around referee availability.
- U12 at PB has been lined (for U12 play vs U14) and it is fine for play.
- Safety issue over debris left over at the WSK from Fireworks run by City. Mens over 40 league cleaned up the field the next morning. Concern is for safety and what the plan is for next year.
- Lines are not thick or dark enough @ the Franklin and the Common. Rich will talk to Jeff & Tony about the lines.
- The crease @ Hesseltine is too big. Need to be sure they reline the field properly (9'w x 4 ½' semi-circle). Decision by board is to make crease 9'w x 4 ½' and make the penalty box a little smaller.

Munchkins

- Everything is going smoothly.

City League

- Photo day this weekend-Sean has been and is currently passing out forms this week.
- 7:45 a.m. – Franklin field: MYS BOD photo
- Apparel for coaches: can we put something on website (jackets, etc)? Coaches have inquired about where they can buy jackets, etc. Other items?

- There is someone in Stoneham that would provide a link that could be available anytime for anyone. Rich will talk to Bill to get a package together to present to the BOD that can be made available to anyone (coaches, etc.)
- Sean is actively looking for replacement position for his role as U8 Coordinator. Would like to transition out of role in Spring 2010 to phase out by Fall 2010. Eliminate kid requests would require a lot less effort/hours of work. Suggestion to have U7 and U8 (currently U8 league has 40 coaches – lots of running around).
- Week 1 games rained out:
 - Three games made up;
 - Two make up games scheduled;
 - Two games TBD;
- Most photo day forms handed out.
- Player with hard cast out of games for 3-4 weeks
- Articles posted in Melrose Free Press for U10 games.
- U10 City – some referees are not calling 'rough play'. Steve F mentioned that it is sometimes difficult to tell if kids are simply tripping or if it is in fact rough play. U10 City typically will stop game if player is injured, but it is up to the referee's discretion.
- U10 Championship game? Where/when will this be played? Would like before next BOD meeting.
- Coach's right to refuse a player they did not draft? Coach cannot refuse player(s). Age coordinator makes this decision.
- Player refunds (City league only): 2 U8 players broke their arms. Assumed risk if already started playing (insurance would cover this). Table until next board meeting.

Travel

- Girls Travel:
 - All the games are underway and there are no major issues to report.
 - Team placement for the Fall seems to be working out "ok" as of Week 3 into the season.
 - There are some issues in the league (MYSL) with some teams really blowing other teams out of the water. Scores of greater than 5+ are being noticed by the MYSL VP and the Commissioners. I sent a reminder to all Melrose coaches to avoid blowouts. We had one game where this was an issue but the coach did try to address the score and it is not an ongoing issue with that particular team or any of the other Melrose girl's teams.
- Rich had the following to report on Boys Travel:
 - BU12-3 is playing in Div 2 and Rich has requested a move down to Div 3 based on their record through 3 games this season.
 - The U12 D1& D2 age director (Bob Folk) is working on this for us.
 - BU10-3 is playing in Div 2 and we will request a move down to Div 3.
 - The Middlesex age directors for BU10 Div 1&2 & Div 3&4 have been contacted with a request for a move to Div 3.
- Rich mentioned that a score of 5-0 is considered a blowout and looked at by Middlesex Travel League as suspicious.

Coach Development

- U8/U10 skills clinic @ the Franklin:
 - This has been successful so far. This can be used as a vehicle for coach education.

- How do we handle individuals that have signed up and do not show up? Let's monitor player appearance.

Referee Items

- How do we communicate information when games have been declared playable, then at game time, the field was deemed not playable?
 - How do we disseminate the information to travel teams (how do we get the information out to the coaches from other towns)?
 - Coach (who shows up at the game) should let Carlos and Heather know or David (who may/may not be available to provide update and feedback in a timely manner).
 - No immediate solution.