

--	--	--

MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
AYSO REGION 18

A meeting of the Board of Directors of AYSO REGION 18 (“AYSO18”), was held at Henessey’s Tavern located at 313 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach, California 90266 and via video conference, on February 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. after verbal and written Notice duly given.

Krista Skinner chaired the meeting and Jessica Waybright took the meeting minutes.

The following Directors participated in person:

Krista Skinner; Jackie Eanes; Wolf Heim; Jimmy Orland; Scott Lentz; Russ Allen; Andrew Werhane; Albert Chen; Christina Finlay; Ashley Choi; Steve Hershkowitz; Scott Coopman; Michael Hinz; Zack Beckman; Steve Killman; David Brantly; Andrew Werhane; Jamie Chang.

The following Directors participated via video conference:

Jessica Waybright; Amanda Walls Murphy; Pauline Loder; Jeff Stephens; Ben Davidson; Sarah Lefton; Mars Brownsen; Nedra Yost.

The following Directors did not participate:

Vince O’Hara; Damian Stevens; Michael Miles; Chris Otey; Kim Digillio; Lou Figueroa; Kelly Ankley; Scott Champagne; Karl Primm; Iris Shin; Mark Hodson; Anthony Lombardo; Chris Wong; Dan Angress; Ken Garcia; Byron Eguchi; Woody Hauck.

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

New Board members were introduced to the Board.

The next order of business was the approval of the meeting minutes from the January 17, 2023 meeting. Upon motion duly made by Scott Lentz and seconded by Jackie Eanes the minutes of the January 17, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

Regional Commissioner’s Report

- Krista Skinner reported that AYSO18 has a new, larger storage unit that is closer to the front at Hermosa Storage. The new location is easier to access. All extra uniforms should now be placed in the storage unit rather than being held by DCs.
- Anthony Lombardo is working on transferring the AYSO18 account from US Bank to Chase Bank to take advantage of better interest rates. AYSO National approved the new accounts on Tuesday. Idle cash will now be invested in an interest-bearing account.
- Efforts to get the Marine Avenue Park field re-turfed is going slowly. Krista may ask community members to make requests to the City Council. Krista met with Joe Franklin and explained that not only did AYSO18 help pay for the field, but AYSO18 pays rent for use of the field and the rent has increased. The new re-turf will require approximately \$400,000 from the user groups including AYSO18, Sand & Surf and Vista Mar and the additional \$250,000 is being requested from the City of Manhattan Beach.
- Most of the dirt is gone from Begg field and sod will be laid soon. Scott Champagne is pushing to get it done so Pony can use the fields this Spring.
- The Sports Connect error has been resolved and affected parents have been refunded the excess fees.

--	--	--

- Josie, the local Girl Scout who met with the Board previously, is possibly interested in taking on the project of installing AED machines at local soccer fields. Krista noted that only 14 states mandate AED machines at high schools and sometimes the machines are not easily accessible if they are on campus.
  - o Mars Brownsen is pricing the AED machine and containers to house them. Pony supports the efforts and Krista hopes to get the rest of the local sports community involved.
- AYSO18 is co-sponsoring the Changing the Game Speaker Series. There will be 3 different sessions on March 13 and 14. The series will address raising positive players and athletes and how to support student athletes.
  - o Wolf Heim reiterated the value of seeing the Speaker John O’Sullivan speak about youth sports and also recommended Mr. O’Sullivan’s book for those interested in learning more.
- The Robot has been used primarily by Russ Allen to line the fields. It has been successful most of the time. It uses pre-allocated plans to make straight lines. However, the lines are sometimes light. Krista is recommending buying the newer model of the robot, which has improved technology with a dual modem that should minimize dead zones on certain fields, making the process more reliable. The Board discussed needing to get better service help from the robot company and the possibility of hiring someone to run the robot.
- Krista also reminded the Board that the search for a new Regional Commissioner is ongoing, and she is open to suggestions as to how to make the job easier and more enticing for someone new to take on. Michael McKnight is heading the search committee.

League Play – 10/12/14U

- AYSO18 has 5 teams advancing to Section Playoffs in Chino on February 25-26 and several teams may advance to Western States in Moorpark on March 11.

All-Stars – 10/12/14U

- The All-Star teams have been successful with almost all AYSO18 teams taking 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> place and if they were 3<sup>rd</sup> place the team played against another AYSO18 team in the prior round.
- Chris Wong and Dan Angress have ensured that AYSO18 provides good referee coverage and it is clear that AYSO18 has some of the best referees and some of the best fields in the Area.
- Krista informed the Board that there are some concerns about AYSO18 and the fact that the AYSO18 teams dominate in these tournaments. This is in part a function of AYSO18 being the largest Region in the Area with more talent to pull from. Some Regions only start with 6 or 8 teams in a division when AYSO18 has 34 teams in 10UB. Some Regions chose not to field a Premier team and chose to compete in Select only.

Spring

- Current registration is at 1630 with 121 players on the waitlist. The waitlist is a way to get more coaches involved to ensure their player gets off the waitlist. Once a player is moved off the waitlist, they need to confirm their spot and pay.
- A DC is still needed for 7UG, but the Division has most of the coaches.
- 5/6/7/8UB will play Sundays. Other divisions play primarily on Saturdays with some Sunday games in 10U+. Lots of coaches also coach baseball and are overcommitted in the Spring.
- 10UB still needs more coaches.
- Some coaches may be unaware that they need to sign up to coach again in the Spring after coaching in the Fall and should be contacted.
- Divisions 12U and below should add teams in pairs so there are no byes.
- The season will be 10-weeks from March 11 – May 21 ending before Memorial Day with Easter weekend being skipped.
- Field space will be tight until Begg field is usable.
- 10UG is having teams of 10 instead of 9 and 10UB can consider the same.
- Divisions doing drafts need to get on calendar.

--	--	--

### Referee

- A survey is being sent to all referees in the system to get feedback about recruitment and retention.
- Scott reported that referee classes will be available in March for 8U, Regional Referee and Intermediate Referee.
- A Referee Assessor class will be held in April.

### Coach

- Wolf reported that blue coach shirts are available and can be made available at the 10U coach training.
- Steve Hershowitz reported that a 10U field only class will be held on Thursday 3/2.
  - o A full 10U class will be held on 3/5
  - o 12U class will be held on 2/25
  - o 6/8U will be online only
- Coach certification lists are being sent out. Coaches in 10U+ may have gotten a waiver for the in-person class component during the pandemic but will be required to complete the in-person this season.
- Coaches should be certified before the first practice and uniforms should not be passed out to coaches who have not completed their certifications.
- Nedra Yost reported that uniforms are coming by the end of the month. Extra uniforms may be available, but it is difficult so uniforms should be collected from kids who drop, and uniform numbers should be passed out based on size.

### Coach Trainers

- A camp for Ski Week has been scheduled, but there are not a lot of registrants and may be canceled.
- A camp for Spring Break has also been scheduled.
- There is interest in holding spring goalkeeper clinics.

### Fields

- Russ will do the initial field lining, but coaches should be prepared to line fields, as necessary.

### Youth Scholarship Program

- Nedra has provided scholarship forms to Mira Costa and Redondo and the deadline for submission is March 17.
- Anyone interested in helping to read the entries should reach out to Nedra.
- Anyone interested in presenting at Mira Costa's Senior Scholarship Night should also reach out to Nedra.

Meeting concluded at 8:14pm

**NEXT MEETING: March 14, 2023 at 7:00pm**