

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 Hennessey’s Tavern located at 313 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach, California 90266 and via video conference, on April 11, 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; Jimmy Orland; Russ Allen; Andrew Werhane; Chris Wong; Christina Finlay; Ashley Choi; Michael Hinz; Dan Angress; Steve Killman; Baldeep Sadhal; Byron Eguchi; Jessica Waybright; Scott Lentz; Amanda Murphy; Mark Hodson; Sarah Lefton

The following Directors participated via video conference:

Nedra Yost; Jamie Chang; Albert Chen; Steve Hershowitz

The following Directors did not participate:

Vince O’Hara; Damian Stevens; Michael Miles; Chris Otey; Kim Digillio; Lou Figueroa; Michael McKnight; Kelly Ankley; Scott Coopman; Karl Primm; Iris Shin; Wolf Heim; Ken Garcia; Anthony Lombardo; Dave Brantly; Pauline Loder; Scott Champagne; Jeff Stephens; Ben Davidson; Woody Hauck

Johnnie Mundell joined the meeting as a guest.

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

The first order of business was the approval of the meeting minutes from the February 15, 2023 meeting. Upon motion duly made by Jimmy Orland and seconded by Byron Eguchi the minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

The next order of business was the approval of the meeting minutes from the March 14, 2023 meeting. Upon motion duly made by Jackie Eanes and seconded by Byron Eguchi the minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

Regional Commissioner’s Report

- Krista Skinner reported that the Marine Avenue Park re-turf project will be presented to the Manhattan Beach City Council on April 18.
- The Western States Champion teams will be honored at the Manhattan Beach City Council on April 18 and the Hermosa Beach City Council on May 9. A newspaper article will also be published that recognizes the accomplishments of the teams.
- A group of parents is pushing a turf field at MBMS, which would cost approximately \$1,500,000. New sod would cost \$150,000 and could be in place by the summer. The Board discussed the layout of the field and how the field could be used more effectively. The Board concluded that sod would be a more prudent investment for the field given its current and future use.

- Sod has been laid at Begg Field. A 6ft fence has been erected to keep vehicles off the field and should be left unused during the summer to ensure the grass thrives. 10UB will use Begg in the fall.
- Krista informed the Board that Mars Brownsen recently passed away and will be deeply missed by the AYSO18 community. He contributed to the success of AYSO18 in both big and small ways. Krista will send along any information she receives about a GoFundMe or meal train for his family.
 - o In Mars' absence Scott Lentz will take on the AED project and Griffin O'Gorman (youth volunteer) will help.
 - o Andrew Werhane will take over the robot project. There is a training at Pennekamp at 3:30 for volunteers to become acquainted with the robot to line the fields.
 - o Krista is seeking volunteers to take on the role of Safety Director / Assistant Field Manager.
- The Board discussed various ways to honor Mars including the Mars Brownsen Scholarship for recipients that demonstrate a similar contribution to the community that Mars made. The new robot will also be named Brownie in Mars' honor. Other suggestions are also welcome.
- DCs and Board members are encouraged to confirm their commitment for Fall Season by May 1.
- Additional volunteers are needed to handle scheduling; DCs for 5UB/G; uniforms; photo and CVPA.
- Krista reported that the accounts have been transferred to Chase Bank where idle cash is invested in money market accounts and receiving 4-4.5% returns with staggered maturities.
- The search continues for a replacement Regional Commissioner (RC). The Board discussed breaking up the RC role and including two assistant RCs. A commissioner for the Beach Cup divisions, 10/12/14U, could be responsible for drafts, Beach Cup and All-Stars for those divisions, which would help reduce the role of the new RC. The search committee for the RC is working on ways to make the role of the RC less demanding and more appealing for someone to take on.
- Krista is making efforts to make the monthly Board meetings more efficient and encourage in person attendance. She presented a new calendar that allows for two zoom only meetings during the "off-season" in summer and winter when people are traveling. Two meetings each year will be for DCs only as they work out the logistics of getting their divisions ready for the seasons.
 - o Each meeting will have a topic for discussion to be discussed after the business of the meeting is concluded (e.g. positive sideline).
- Krista introduced Johnnie Mundell to discuss approaches to coaches and player behavior. He encouraged more engagement between the coaches and more team building among coaches. If coaches know each other better, they will be more likely to engage in positive behavior during a difficult game. The Board discussed the need to pass on the knowledge of older coaches and DCs before they age out. The earlier parents are engaged in the coaching community the easier it will be to get volunteers. The Board discussed having more coach trainings, which is now possible with Mike McKnight becoming certified as a coach trainer. Referees should also be integrated into the coach community to ensure mutual respect. Coaches should also feel like they are responsible for coaching the age group not just their team. The Board discussed having a Volunteer engagement and support position.

Spring

- Most divisions have been running smoothly, but there is generally not enough referee coverage.
- There are 1700 registered players, which is more than any other Region in the Area.
- 8UB has experienced some issues during the season. DCs often have to beg coaches to coach which makes it harder to eliminate lower quality coaches.
- Dan Angress has refereed many 8UB games this season and has witnessed coaches not focused enough on skill development. The Board discussed reinforcing the coach's role during 7/8U divisions and building a strong coaching community.
- 5UB had a coaches meeting and training session that was successful.
- Covid put a damper on coach development and more effort needs to be put on coach development in the younger divisions.
- The Board discussed the difficulties of getting all coaches certified and Live Scanned.
- More coach training sessions for younger divisions with field sessions would be helpful in training coaches better and involving them in the community.

Referee

- A Referee Assessor class will be held on Saturday.
- Dan reported that the Referee Administrators are a good group that work well together.
- Dan sent out a survey to all referees in the system and got a 47% response rate. He will share the data soon.
- Kent Enomoto is developing an 8U in person referee class.

Coach

- Steve Hershowitz stated that the more in person classes they can have the better it will be for coaches and referees.
- Coach certifications need to be completed by this weekend. Any issues with accounts and names need to be sent to Steve and Krista. Many of the non-compliance issues relate to background checks which are easier to deal with.
- Uncertified parents cannot be coaching.

Coach Trainers

- 7 weeks of summer camps have been scheduled.

Fields

- Robot training will be held at Pennekamp.
- Sheds have been cleaned at Village and Marine fields.
- Ice packs should be in storage by tomorrow.

Youth Volunteer Scholarship Program

- Jackie Eanes reported that the Scholarship committee received 8 applications and will meet this weekend to review.
- Applications will be judged on AYSO performance and volunteerism as well as other criteria.
- The Committee can determine the scholarship recipients and amounts as long as they remain within the \$2,500 budget. If the Committee recommends going over the budget they can bring the issue to the Board to decide whether to allocate additional funds.
- Some scholarships are given out at the Mira Costa scholarship night and some are given at the Board meeting.

Krista discussed again the new Board meeting format and reiterated that the business of the Board would be handled first at meetings and discussion topics would follow. The goal is to keep the business portion of the meeting to 1 hour.

- The June meeting will be zoom only.
- The July meeting will be DC only and in person.

Meeting concluded at 8:56pm

NEXT MEETING: May 23, 2023 at 7:00pm