

REC COMM MEETING NOTES 8 Jan 2013

Attending: Chad Gent (CIV), Chuck Schulz (CIV), Sharon Davidson (Tornados), John Mingus (Lions), Daniel Lopez (SASC), Mary Bevis (ASA), Robb Tanner (REV), Tommy Lo (Tornados), Bob Bigney (ASA), Justin Wilt (ASA), David Gould (LGT), Kassie Stewart (Arl. Kiwanis), Ron Graft (Optimists), Soraya Strobach (ASA)

Agenda:

1. Update on Intermediate League
2. Spring dates, registration process
3. Bob's "stuff"
4. Playing time issue-- from Tommy/Sharon
5. Community Issues-- from Tommy/Sharon
6. Special requests and byes

1. Intermediate League

Intermediate/Developmental League has been approved by Board for the fall, starting with u9/u10 (3rd/4th grades). Will hire a commissioner to arrange tryout schedules, etc. Still a lot of unknowns at this point – which day games will be played, etc. Rec issue: do we allow cross-program eligibility? Do we limit it?

DECISION: Intermediate/Developmental players will be treated as Travel players – they will be allowed to participate but their numbers limited and games will not be de-conflicted. Together, Developmental and Travel players will be known as “Select” players; the total combined number of Select players will be the same as that currently allowed for Travel players only.

John will edit the language of the current rules and send it around for comments.

2. Spring dates

Registration will open by the end of January, with team formation date Weds, 20 March. DECISION: We will try a “pizza meeting” on Sunday March 17 to jointly organize thorny issues.

ASA will send out information soon, including by backpack flyers. Club Managers are asked to please pass the word and especially to use coaches to help get kids registered.

3. Bob's "stuff"

1. Proposal to fund placement of small goals for 1st and 2nd graders' games. PASSED with amendment that the people also place corner flags (as necessary).
2. Proposal to extend game length for 1st grade games. PASSED with amendment to also extend 2nd grade games: 1st grade to have four 10 minute quarters; 2nd grade to play four 12 minute quarters. Mary to adjust timing between games as appropriate.
Discussion of whether to change the obligatory team size to 7 from 8 for 2nd grade teams. Decision: no change for time being.

3. to 5. Upcoming issues: this spring there will be mandatory meetings with coaches (mainly against referee abuse); Bob outlined parents meetings (on game formats, philosophies and processes); and upcoming coaching clinics.
6. to 8. Longer term issues: ASA Rec All-Star team program (ASA moving on this, but there is a question about the degree to which this should be subsidized by the ASA); professional training for Rec coaches (available for coaches/teams that need it most – paid for by the Club or by the team); Fundamental/Rec Lite soccer (more info on costs and field needs).

4. Playing time issue

Tommy and Sharon: Question: how can we get more playing time for second graders?

Decision largely covered under discussion for 3.2 (above). No new action taken.

5. Community issues

Tommy: Question: what happens to community feedback?

Justin: Currently ad hoc response/use of information among ASA staff. But Club Managers encouraged to also use it to identify problems/issues and bring them to Rec Committee attention (such as playing time issue).

6. Special requests and byes

Proposal by Chris Madison (Falls Church) to eliminate byes and special requests.

Discussion: byes currently tightened to 2 byes/team/season; Mary is changing division size to eight teams as much as possible; this should improve things and reduce the number of Sunday games. No new action taken.

NOTE: Friday March 15 will be the spring deadline for byes – five days before the team formation date. Please inform your coaches that they need to get requests in early or it will be too late.

(Mary adds: as always, de-conflicting the games of coaches who coach multiple teams is not a special request.)

Next meeting: 12 Feb