

Rochester District Youth Soccer League Board Meeting

September 29, 2020 7:00 – 7:45pm – Teleconference

Attendance (List generated from information garnered during the meeting. Understood the list may be incomplete):

RDYSL Board: Kathleen Buckley (Division Coordinator), Sean Doherty (Division Coordinator), Sue Gurak (Treasurer), Amy Kosinski (Division Coordinator), DJ Maggio (Ref VP), Ed Muoio (Division Coordinator), Tom O'Neil (President), Jacky VanDellon (Secretary), Mark VanDellon (Web VP)

Clubs:

Batavia – Michael Taggart, Brockport SC – Patrick Saeva, Byron-Bergen SC – Vicky Shallenberger, Caledonia SC - Amy Kosinski, Churchville SC - Jamie Gagnon, Cobras FC – Bob Donahue, FC Dynamo ROC – Meghan Lavrynenko, Genesee Valley Bronze Bears - unknown, Greece United – Pete LaRosa, Hilton SC – Tony Cafarelli, Holley SC – Haley Walker, Honeoye Falls Blaze SC – Tony Maiola, Irondequoit SC – Justin Connor, LeRoy SC – David Cashein, Pittsford Mustangs - Bill Beach & Nancy Mantle, River Flow SC - Dion Rogers, Rush-Henrietta SC – Ed Muoio

Tom O'Neil opened the meeting and stated he wanted the format of the meeting to be an 'Open Forum' and be an exchange of information and ideas. He hoped the presidents would drive the discussion.

Tom stated there were no new clubs entering and no clubs leaving RDYSL for the 2021 season.

TALKING POINTS:

*Clubs were asked for any information on status, fields, practices,....where are you?

- Dave Cashin from LeRoy SC offered: Over the summer the coaches organized practices and scrimmages with insured players. They are participating in the Livingston League. Socially distancing and other rules are in play. They have a facility which has two U-10 and 1 U-12 field. No school field access.
- No school fields in town of Greece.
- York schools are letting Livingston League use their fields. One spectator per child, and they have to wear mask.
- Webster school fields not available.
- Irondequoit town fields able to use.
- Hilton using town fields
- Bishop Kearney allowing field use.

*Tournaments in August, what were peoples thoughts?

- Both tournaments held in August did their best but audience did not.
- Pete LaRosa stated Gates tournament and Greece United Tournament worked together to maintain safety rules which were the consistent between the two tournaments.
- Anthony Cafarelli thought the tournaments did a good job with spacing the games out. Greece United tournament had parents on one side and coaches and players on other, and he thought the parents side was very crowded.

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*Fall sports moved to the spring, what do you anticipate for problems?

- This discussion point was not delved into as most of the clubs are not sure what next year will bring. Everyone in RDYSL will have to communicate to understand any impact on the schedule and understand the flexibility of RDYSL's scheduling is a strong point for the league.

*Has anyone heard how other sports or soccer leagues are handling the season with the integration of CoVid safety?

- Kathleen Buckley brought up the rules for the NYSW Fall League and further investigation by RDYSL into what precautions they have implemented. The league needs to investigate all things put in place by others to continue to protect our players.
- DJ Maggio and Tony Cafarelli stated the protocol for high school sports should be reviewed and see what works. Both the NYSW Fall League and high school can be used as the leagues benchmarks.
- A few people discussed guidelines for CoVid safety can only be guidelines and not rules. These guidelines will be hard to 'police' and enforce stated David Cashin from LeRoy SC.
- The refs who sit on the league board, Kathleen Buckley and DJ Maggio, will keep us up-to-date on how the fall season progresses.
- The league also needs to stay current on NY safety guidelines for soccer/sports.

*US Youth Soccer is allowing a **onetime** change in the rule allowing U20's to play in youth soccer. What do clubs think about this rule? Is there interest?

- Amy Kosinski (Caledonia SC) was most concerned about the size differential in a U20 player versus a U15 or U16 player. Small clubs have their older teams made up of a variety of ages.
- Joe Kozan (Penfield Rangers) stated varsity players are a variety of ages so this is no different.
- Bob Smith (Victor SC) stated commitment of players at the older ages is very difficult and U20's should not be considered to be any easier in that regard.
- Pete LaRosa stated RDSL league has put in place any player under U-21 will have to undergo training. The league will look into what training that entails.
- **No conclusion** of U20's in RDYSL at this point

*Annual Meeting in November:

- Tom O'Neil stated per RDYSL bylaws we have to have an AGM meeting in November. All clubs are required to attend. The meeting can be held via 'ZOOM' (online meeting). More information will follow.

*Questions and statements were taken from the audience:

- Deon Rogers (River Flow Soccer) asked the question will there be a portal for positive CoVid tests? Not at this time.
- Jacky VanDellon wanted the presidents to be aware, as the tournaments had all parents of players sign a waiver for participation, this may be required in RDYSL for 2021. RDYSL is looking for guidance from NYSW.

Please reach out to Tom O'Neil if you have any questions or concerns.

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Meeting ended 7:40.