

Rochester District Youth Soccer League Board Meeting

October 27, 2020 7:00 – 8:00pm – Teleconference

Attendees: Kathleen Buckley (Division Coordinator), Marc Dall (Division Coordinator), Sean Doherty (Division Coordinator), Susan Gurak (Treasurer), Amy Kosinski (Division Coordinator), DJ Maggio (VP Ref), Karen May (Division Coordinator), Ed Muoio (Division Coordinator), Thomas O’Neil (President), John Prospero (Boys VP), Peter Urban (Girls VP), Jacky VanDellon (Secretary), Mark VanDellon (WebMaster), Jerry White (Division Coordinator)

Absences: Shawn Hart (Division Coordinator), Bill Heist (Division Coordinator), Brad Schreiber (Registrar)

Teleconference was held by the RDYSL board to talk on the following agenda items.

1. Presidents teleconference meeting held in September 2020:

Teleconference went reasonably well. Seventeen clubs were in attendance. Good feedback on what clubs have been doing with club protocols on CoVid, fields, players practicing.

2. AGM 7 pm Nov 24 teleconference:

Tom will send a draft agenda to the board on what will be shown to the presidents for the teleconference and looking for feedback. Tom checked the By-Laws to make sure a teleconference is acceptable, and it is. Mark and Jacky VanDellon along with Tom will work to keep an accurate attendance, due to the meeting being mandatory. The AGM should be quicker due to lack of information to be relayed from the 2020 season. Registrar needs to have time to talk about extra paper work for teams to submit when going to the RDYSL registrars.

3. New rules for 2021:

The edits to the RDYSL rules will be reviewed by the board. The changes in the rules are extremely minor in comparison with years past.

4. U20 players for 2021:

Tom did a quick survey of clubs and would they use U20’s and replies were adamantly against having U20’s. RDYSL does not plan on allowing U20’s to play in the league in 2021. U20’s have alternative places to play, RDSL.

5. 10 games for U19’s:

Reasons have not changed from when the rule was changed 10 years ago: forfeits due to lack of players, playing with less than 11 players with no subs, clubs recruiting up until June 15th to fill rosters. The clubs came to RDYSL requesting less games for the older age group – both U18 (if there is that age group and U19 only have 10 games. U18/U19 will continue to have just 10 games, all other age groups will have 12.

6. Fall sports being moved and field availability:

Everyone on the board needs to communicate ASAP any problems in fields to Tom O’Neil. We need to be aware. Any other club presidents having field information that is pertinent for the RDYSL League should contact Tom O’Neil aslo.

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7. CoVid ‘rules/guidelines’:

RDYSL will need to comply with CDC and NY state guidelines at the time – we need to be able to communicate that to our clubs. Jerry White stated RDYSL can’t enforce the guidelines, the clubs need to be responsible and protect their players. Tom O’Neil’s concern is the league and clubs be thorough and vigilant. DJ Maggio and Kathleen Buckley stated for high school there is pregame screening for the refs for some of the high schools, the number of spectators are rigidly controlled, varsity games are requiring all players to wear a mask with the addendum if they have difficulty breathing they can drop the mask. Issues such as spitting and coughing on players will have to be looked at in a different light by the league. Question was posed, should the league request/require all spectators wear masks? John Prospero, reffing the Fall NYSW league, maybe have a league/club representative at field working on spectators to conform to the guidelines of mask usage and limiting the number of spectators. A great question was asked “What are the consequences for not following the guidelines?”. A lengthy discussion was had regarding enforcement of site rules and clubs and refs responsibilities to work the game. Tom O’Neil, Pete Urban and John Prospero will work together to get a CoVid guidelines committee. RDYSL wants to make sure they inform the presidents at the AGM of guidelines to be created.

8. New league forming in NYSW:

Brief discussion on Champions league, run by NYSW. NYSW would invite top tier teams from all over western NY. The issue was brought up of playing too many games. 15 years ago NYSW put on a campaign to get more practices versus games and does this go against that principle. The Champions league will run at the same time as RDYSL, and concern is does this dilute the playing field yet again: Thruway, Champions and RDYSL.

9. Assignors contract:

Assignor contract is up as of December 2020. Tom O’Neil is having discussions with the Rochester Ref Unit to try to figure out why the ref contract and the assignor contract are separate. Pricing will change for the assignors but felt change was tolerable.

10. Talk budget for 2021:

Loss of teams for 2021 projected. We should think about a 20% drop in budget. Sue Gurak will go back and revisit the budget expenditures and optimize where the league can.

11. DC’s for 2021:

One Division Coordinator is needed for the 2021 season. Tom O’Neil will reach out to the club presidents for advertising.

Tom O’Neil will be reaching out to Mark VanDellon to get the calendar dates set.

Teleconference ended 7:58 pm.

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