GACSL Captains’ Meeting

August 21, 2014

7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Bill Hardage, President, at 7:10 p.m.

Bill pointed out that we have changed to once per year captains’ meetings as the ability to communicate rapidly with email makes it unnecessary to meet more frequently.

As twenty teams were represented at this meeting, it was determined that we had a quorum and were able to conduct league business.

The minutes from the last meeting on August 25, 2012 were distributed and approved.

D & P Report

Jessi Beyer reported that we had a good season with few issues reported. She said she suspected that there may have been some cards that were not reported as required. She also discussed reports of unregistered players being on the field and how this can impact our insurance status and ability to file claims as needed.

7-a-side Report

Jurgen Hastor reported that we are trying to keep our fees as low as possible. One complaint he has heard is about players having to move goals before games. He pointed out that the goals are jointly owned and shared with other leagues, all of which have to move goals when they use them. We could pay someone to do this for us, but then we would have to raise fees. We do have the budget to purchase our own goals but it is difficult to keep them secure and the parks people would be moving them around for mowing.

Treasury Report

As Maureen Torkos, Treasurer, was unable to attend, Jurgen Hastor gave a Treasury report. Jurgen stated that when Maureen took over as treasurer we were $3000 in debt having had to borrow money from another league. Since that time, Maureen has done an excellent job of helping manage our finances and bring us back to a state of financial health.

At the beginning of this year, we had $3,000 in checking and $12,000 in savings. As of August 19, we had $6,749 in checking and $7,400 in savings. We still need to pay the referees for 7-a-side. All 11-a-side fees have been paid. We are current on all fees with the online registration site. We have close to $14,000 with $10-11,000 of that in savings.

Jurgen reports that even when players who register with us have paid their state affiliation fees with other leagues, we are still getting billed for and having to pay those fees. This is costly for the league as we have to pay out fees that we have not collected. Captains should have their players who play in multiple leagues register with us first. We have rolled the state fee into the total cost of playing and will not make any exceptions.

Secretary’s Report

Marguerite Radatz provided a list of all potential players who had contacted us through our website to find a team over the past year. All player information had been forwarded to the captains. There was discussion of whether players were being contacted and how many of these people eventually signed up with the league. There had been 40 contacts with 23 players expressing interest in 7-a-side, 20 in 11-a-side, and 8 who were interested in both. It appears that at least 11 players were added to teams.

Fields

There was discussion of the plans for upgrading 11 soccer fields beginning in 2017. Tier one fields would be at Hubert and Mudcreek. If money is left, Tier two fields at Terrell Mill and Noonday will also be upgraded. There is a possibility that within a few years, we would be able to play summer and winter on Cobb fields with artificial turf.

CASL and NASA pay out a lot of money to help sod fields and it would be in our best interest to help pay for this as well. We would pay any money directly to the sod company at a rate we can afford. Hutson Best suggested adding a small amount to our fee to collect the money for this. Karon Beyer suggested $1 per player 4 times a year would be a good amount to collect.

We do not have any winter fields lined up at this time and no ideas. Jurgen Hastor suggested that we form a committee to work on finding field possibilities. He and Bill Hardage would follow up on any information collected. Karon Beyer will email her high school contacts as CASL is giving up those contracts. We have Sharon as a contact at Walton High School, which charges $3000 per season.

GACSL Management

The idea of merging with another league was discussed. The more numbers a league has, the more field space they can demand. The women’s league did this a while back but found that they could not go back when they did not like the change. It was decided that GACSL will remain as an independent entity as long as possible.

Jurgen Hastor stated that if we go over 16 teams in the league, we may want to consider paying someone to run the league. This would be someone who would manage our business and also be the face of our league – going to meetings, making contacts, etc.

At this point, the only paid position is that of registrar. Currently, that is Carrie Crawford, who is well known in Georgia soccer and very knowledgeable about how the system works. Recently, we had an issue with an insurance claim not being accepted due to a registration glitch. The fact that Carrie was well known to the state office helped us to get the situation resolved quickly.

Safety Issues

Jurgen Hastor addressed the recent issue with players refusing to leave the field after a game had been called by the referee due to severe weather with lightning. He reminded everyone that GACSL is responsible for the fields during specific time periods and it is not all right for players to ignore the directions of the referees. When a game is temporarily suspended due to dangerous conditions, players must go to their cars and wait for the signal to return. If the game is cancelled, players must go to their cars and leave the complex.

Officer Elections

Nominations were taken and elections were held for officers. The results were as follows:

Bill Hardage – President

Jennifer Best – 1st Vice President and D&P Chairman

Kevin Hillen – 2nd Vice President 11-a-side

Jurgen Hastor -3rd Vice President 7-a-side

Maureen Torkos – Treasurer

Marguerite Radatz – Secretary

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Marguerite Radatz, GACSL Secretary