



LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

Box 360 Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 610-527-3940

soccer@lmsc.net www.lmsc.net

MINUTES OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Thursday, February 4, 2010

A Director's Meeting was held for the Lower Merion Soccer Club. In attendance were Biff Sturla (President), Jay Dubow (Secretary), Marty Rubenstein and Howard Burde.

CHANGE IN BOARD - Marty Rubenstein expressed his desire to step down after twelve years as an LMSC Board Member. A new Board was voted in, consisting of returning Board Members Biff Sturla and Jay Dubow, along with new LMSC Board Member Howard Burde. Biff will continue as President while Jay Dubow will continue as secretary.

Biff and Jay expressed thanks for the tremendous work that Marty has done for the club while on the Board. Marty first coached in the club in 1993 and became a Board Member in 1998.

PHILADELPHIA UNION AND PHILADELPHIA INDEPENDENCE - It was agreed that our club should support both new professional teams. Biff will contact both organizations and discuss ways to support the two teams. This could include the purchase of season tickets, which could be distributed per game to people within LMSC who have made significant contributions to the club in recent years. We will also invite both groups to talk at our upcoming coaches meetings (April 7 for the intramural coaches meetings and April 14 for the travel team coaches meeting).

SWITCHING TO AN ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM - Biff and Nancy met with a representative from Demosphere, Inc. at the NSCAA Convention which was held in Philadelphia in mid-January. Biff and Nancy looked at their online registration system which can be used for player registration for our intramural programs, summer camps, training programs, etc. Biff and Nancy agreed that this program would be a huge benefit to the club and make our administrative work a lot easier. The Board agreed that this is a good move and will be a huge improvement over our current (outdated) method of registration. Biff will contact Demosphere to have this system setup for the club.

RELATIONSHIP WITH YSC SPORTS - The YSC Sports organization has been offering a lot of "club neutral" training programs at both their Wayne facility and the Starfinder facility in Manayunk. YSC Sports continues to emphasize that they are "club neutral," meaning that they will not be affiliating with any specific club and not organizing their own teams to compete in local leagues or state cups. Their training programs have been well received by the LMSC players that have participated. These training programs are open to players from any club. It was mentioned in the meeting that we need to continue to support all outside organizations who offer programs that could be of benefit to our players. This includes The Far Post, Haverford College Soccer Camps, U.K. Elite and several other programs.

INDOOR TRAINING FACILITY - Howard said that there are a couple of buildings that are for sale in the area that could possibly be used for indoor training for the club. While this would possibly be too expensive for our club, it is worth looking into. Howard will be investigating this and report back to the other Directors.

LONG TERM PLANNING WITH THE TOWNSHIP - Lindsay Taylor, Director of Parks and Recreation for Lower Merion Township, has organized a committee to discuss long term needs of local sports and recreation organizations. Their first meeting will be in late February. She has asked LMSC to be a part of this committee. Biff will be representing the club and will report back to the other Directors after each meeting.

NEW COACHES COMING INTO LMSC - Our club continues to attract outside coaches with strong backgrounds in the game (as players and / or as coaches). We currently have several coaches who are coaching at the college level (Will Nord and Rasheed Epps at Rosemont, Jess Reynolds at St. Joe's, Adrian Cox at Immaculata, Joe Taylor at Eastern University) as well as at the high school level (Charlie Dodds and Grant Myers at Marple Newtown, Biff at Harrilton). We also have several coaches who are coaching in the EPYSA ODP Program (Steve Fraser, Rachel Gallegos and Nick Severini). Biff has met with several new potential coaches and will hopefully be able to get them into the Travel Team Program, beginning with tryouts in late April.

LMSC will continue to offer competitive coaching salaries for coaches in order to attract high level coaches. All salaries are based on the coaches experience in the game, the age and level of the team, etc. Our salary structure for the current season has made salaries fairer throughout the organization.

FINANCES FOR 2009 - Club bookkeeper Nikki Posillico said that the club made a profit of about \$22,000 in 2009. This was a planned event designed to offset the planned loss for 2008 which occurred after the long term deal with Barrack Hebrew Academy began. This figure does not include money made due to the stock market having a good year in 2009. Overall, LMSC continues to be in very good financial shape. The 2010 year should also be a strong financial year for the club. Fred Toroni will again prepare our 2009 taxes, though he will likely file for a filing extension, as he has done every year for the past eight years. LMSC will continue to post the club's tax returns on our web page, in order to be in full compliance with our 501(c)(3) tax status. Fred continues to help us to ensure that we meet all obligations with this tax status. As a result, we have posted many different items on our web page for the public to see.

GOING FORWARD - Marty thanked the club for allowing him to be a part of the organization for the past 17 years and said he enjoyed being a part of it. He mentioned that we need to have someone be in touch with the anonymous donor who has donated \$5000 for scholarship money each year. Jay Dubow will take over that role for the club. This generous donation has helped several LMSC alumni with college tuition in their freshman year. We hope to again get a contribution from the anonymous donor in 2010. Marty also mentioned that we need to continue to be in touch with the law firm of Montgomery McCracken as needed. This is the firm that helped us to get our 501(c)(3) status. Marty also said that he will be glad to help the club as an outside consultant when needed, though in an unofficial capacity. Biff, Jay and Howard said that this is appreciated and very welcome.

In closing, Biff mentioned that Marty is one of the few people in the sports world who really sees the big picture of what youth sports is all about and that Marty's contributions to the club have been a huge benefit to children in all of the many diverse programs that we have offered over the years. He has helped the club to be a big part of the local community and his work has enabled many thousands of kids to have a positive, fun experience in LMSC. Our sincere thanks to Marty for all of his work.