

**Northern Soccer Club Board Meeting Minutes  
(Approved 7 Sep 2005)**

**Date:** August 10, 2005

**Start Time:** 7:00 pm

**Adjourned:** 9:07 pm

**Attendees:** Carol Ish, Hersch Wilson, Casey Clendenin, Gaby Camarena, Marc Bertram, Mike Landen, Molly Cernicek, Brian Brigham, Andy Winnegar

**Visitors:** Tom Blog (District Commissioner for AYSO), Alfonso Camarena, Ed Velie

Northern SC meeting and NMYSL meeting overlapped with participants and topics due to time change.

**Next Meeting:** September 7, 6:30pm at Santa Fe Prep

**Agenda:**

Director of Coaching  
Fields  
Rules  
Mountain League Logistics  
Current issues  
Referee  
Web site  
Out of district team participation  
Open Comments/ New Business

**Director of Coaching:**

Marc, Hersch and Casey reviewed discussions with possible replacement candidates, specifically Jason and Greg Rusk. Greg Rusk is officially interested in the position. Mike Landen brought up whether the timing is right to hire a new DoC, given budget considerations. Marc and Hersch said that they believe that Santa Fe needs a DoC now and do not want to wait if Greg is interested due to his impressive qualifications. The NSC Executive Committee (Marc, Molly, Merritt, Gaby voted in favor, Mark Hogan was not present) has made a decision to hire Greg, due to present needs of the club at this critical time of launching the fall season. The DoC will be an independent contractor with guidance and expectations set by the Club.

Hersch moves that Marc, Brian, Merritt, Rennae to form a hiring subcommittee to negotiate the contract with Greg. Approved unanimously.

**Fields:**

Brian Brigham talked to Santa Fe County. Merritt, Barbara Lopez, and Tom Manning were there. Meeting went very well. Northern will have Majors Field (Zozobra), Greg Lopez, Monica Lucero, Patrick Smith, Griego Park 1,2, 3, 4 until 630pm; the Downs (except the Southern section being reseeded). Brian commented that this is a much better situation than last year.

Ashbaugh Park and Alto will be designated for football teams. Salvadore Perez will be for High School soccer practices. MRC is committed to Desert, Monte del Sol, and Waldorf. (MRC is charging \$15/kid and supports striping, goals, and watering).

U8 and below practice at Griego and play at Majors. Marc is worried about Zozobra trashing it and Rennae said this would happen. Thus, Majors may not support our needs.

With U9 and U10 teams, the goal is to practice and play at the Downs. We have to worry about numbers since U9 and U10 registration was so big.

Lopez, Smith and Monica Lucero are U5-U8 practice.

What is the process for assigning teams to practice spots? Merritt knows the process. We need to prepare a calendar and assign field space. If we run out of space, we will look for additional field space. Casey will look into software options. We will know more after registration ends next Saturday.

#### **Registrations:**

Rec - Over 300. U5/U6 is growing by leaps and bounds. U8 is growing. U9 and U10 is very large. Casey will tally latest numbers this week.

#### **Rules:**

Mike Landen recommends using US Youth Soccer rules for Northern, with the exception of having U9 and U10 playing 7v7. NNMSL has adopted this approach. We will do 7v7 instead of 6v6 (as recommended by US Youth Soccer) since we have so many kids and not enough coaches. Additional rules should be considered to encourage fair play, such as limiting the possibility of lop-sided scoring games occurring. We will get a subcommittee to look at this.

Mike proposes that the default rules be the US Youth Soccer rules for the Mountain League (U8 and above). Mike's recommendation, with the 7v7 change, is proposed and adopted unanimously. Tom Blog would like to look at adopting similar rules for AYSO.

#### **Mountain League**

Is the League or the Club organizing the Mountain League? (ML)

Our DoC for the Club is responsible for logistics for the Mountain League since s/he is our paid employee. (HW)

After registration is finished, we will take on these issues all at once (fields, rules, schedule, etc.) (MB).

Marc, Mike and Molly will form the basis of a subcommittee to deal with these issues.

#### **Ongoing Issues:**

The core group of the rec board is meeting weekly currently to keep operations moving.

Casey needs help with the competitive side. Merritt and Hersch will help with competitive team issues until the DoC comes on board. Merritt will be the main contact.

#### **Upcoming Training:**

Youth Module I (8/20) and Youth Module II (8/27) will be offered free of charge for Northern coaches. A registration form will be e-mailed out by Mike to go to coaches to fill out and send to Casey. We will offer this training for AYSO coaches as well.

#### **Web Site:**

We agreed to do a better job of giving feedback to Bill. Everyone is encouraged to give him feedback as you see it as Bill is good at integrating it. All agreed Bill is doing a fantastic job and the web site is improving. We also agreed that we need to do a better job of giving him feedback in a timely fashion.

#### **Refereeing**

Molly brought up the need for a couple of NSC people to take a course that will allow NSC to be legal within State rules as whoever schedules referees must take referee scheduling training to assign referees to our games. Also, we need to have an NSC contract that all local referees sign before we hire them. Molly will send more information about training dates and a possible contract format.

### **Outside Team Registration into Mountain League**

We had a request from an outside club to enter teams this fall into the Mountain League. We agreed that we hold off accepting outside teams this fall until we have the time to define a process to do this. Hersch will respond to the club.

### **Open Comments/ New Business:**

Tom Blog – there is a large demand from AYSO to play more competitive games, but not as competitive as Duke City. There is a market for an intermediate level of competition in the fall where maybe 6 teams U10 and above play at this level. AYSO would like to work with Northern to coordinate this opportunity.

(MB) – We want Mountain League to evolve into serving this need. We, however, want to have teams be equal and not have an unbalanced league.

(TM) – We would like to enter balanced AYSO teams to participate after tryouts following their summer season. We would be interested to start this in 2006.

(MB) – We would like AYSO to help us develop the Mountain League.

(EV) – Would you want to bring back Northern kids to stay longer in AYSO?

(TB) – Yes. We are looking at approximately 6 teams of which 80 percent are probably playing Northern rec.

(AC) – We have to be careful that AYSO doesn't take the cream of the crop from both Northern and AYSO or we will have unbalanced teams. Perhaps we bring all the players together and assign teams so that they are equal.

(MC) – Explained vision and growth of Northern to TB.

(TB) – Consider having a 4-week period next year in between AYSO and Northern seasons to better train the players who want better development and competition.

(MB) – We need to be careful not to create an environment where coaches don't come in and cherry pick.

We agreed to keep discussions continuing on this topic at future weekends. AYSO would like to coordinate in general with issues dealing with fields and SF logistics. Andy said that there oil and gas money available to help with fields and other issues and agreed to help with these issues.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.**