

Board Meeting:

December 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

MEETING DETAILS

Date: December 11, 2024	Time: 7:30PM-9PM
Location: Braveheart	Purpose: December Board Meeting Open to the public

Mission Statement:

Statement: Our mission is to be a community based program that will positively impact the youth in our area by providing experiences through soccer to young players of all ages and abilities; to develop character, encourage physical fitness and foster personal growth for all participants.

ATTENDANCE:

- **Present Directors:**
 - **President:** Tyler Papaz
 - **Vice President/Coaching Director:** Nicole Spirk
 - **Secretary:** Joe Kerr
 - **Registrar:** Robin Kelchner
 - **Director of Fundraising & Events:** Denise O’Connell
 - **Director of Risk:** Nikki Yoder
- **Present Staff:** N/A
- **Present Coaches:**
 - Andrea Trivisano
 - Mike Cleffi
 - Seth Eisenerg
 - Anthony Castelluccio
 - Tina Tomczuk
 - Chris Mack
 - Peter Becker
- **Present Guests:** N/A
- **Absent:** N/A

CALL TO ORDER:

Time: 7:31 PM

Called by: Tyler Papaz

Approval of November Minutes:

- Motion to approve by Tyler Papaz
- Seconded by Joe Kerr
- **Vote:** 6 in favor
- **Outcome:** Motion passed

Season Recap :

President (Tyler Papaz):

Governance:

- Meeting minutes posted to Board and Meetings – Saucon Valley Soccer League
- Adopted new club bylaws in November
- Exploring insurance needs: \$425/year for \$1 million of liability coverage
- Clearance tracking – Nikki Yoder

Financials:

- Implemented more formal processes around club financials:
 - Empowered coaches with discretionary budgets for PTS, tournaments, indoor leagues
 - Eliminated mandates around PTS while keeping it available
- Budget status:
 - \$4,000–\$5,000 available for insurance and equipment
 - \$2,000 discretionary budget remaining for reserves and future offsets
- Elevated fundraising efforts – thanks to Denise

Equipment:

- Uniforms:
 - Benchmarked Soccer Post against Soccer.com for pricing
 - Connected with Corporate Images regarding uniforms for Travel, Rec, and Intramural programs

- Field Equipment:
 - Working with Corporate Images to identify needs (e.g., field lining, nets)

Looking Ahead:

- Open Positions: Assistant Treasurer and Director of Recreation
- Cultivating a culture of volunteers
- Discussion on birth year vs. calendar year for player evaluations:
 - Girls: April 28-29, 2025
 - Boys: April 30-May 1, 2025

NEW BUSINESS:

Uniform vote to stay with Soccer Post:

- **Motion:** Tyler Papaz
- **Second:** Nicki Yoder
- **Vote:** 6 in favor
- **Outcome:** Motion passed

Things to consider :

- Referee fees are increasing
- Uniform purchases required
- Potential fee adjustments

Open Forum:

- **Birth year vs. school year alignment:**
 - Changes won't take effect until Spring '26 evaluations for Fall '26.
 - A thorough discussion was held about balancing player placement and retention:
 - The 2013 girls' team struggled, highlighting challenges with competitive balance.

- Some players may benefit from being moved to recreational leagues to develop their skills, while others may need to stay in travel programs to remain challenged.
 - Concerns were raised about losing top players to elite clubs due to limited competitive opportunities at SVSL.
 - Maintaining a balance between developing players and retaining engagement in the league remains a priority.
- **Historical Context:**
 - Historically, the club shifted towards more travel opportunities, but this has caused some growing pains. Decisions need to be made about aligning travel and recreational programs more effectively.
 - Feedback from prior surveys indicated a preference for offering travel teams annually and welcoming players from nearby areas.
- **Challenges with Partner Leagues:**
 - Blue Mountain League is challenging to work with, while Inter-county has been more accommodating.
 - Decisions around league participation impact both team dynamics and administrative ease.
- **Future Considerations:**
 - Discussion about the timing of travel team evaluations and how they align with other sports seasons to maximize player participation.
 - Ideas were exchanged on how to improve communication with parents about the value of both travel and recreational programs, emphasizing the development opportunities available in each.

Action Items:

- Nicole and Tyler to communicate Spring information to the coaches for Spring commitment.
- Robin to create a link for Spring Rec.

Adjournment:

Time: 9:05 PM

NEXT MEETING:

Date: February 12, 2025 7:30 PM at Braveheart

Details: Board Only

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Coaches' Meeting for Evaluations:** March 26, 2025 (7:30 PM – 9:00 PM)
- **Player Evaluations:**
 - **Girls:** April 28-29, 2025
 - **Boys:** April 30-May 1, 2025