

# **REGION 41 AYSO**

## **MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**January 14, 2018**

The monthly Region 41 AYSO Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Regional Commissioner Chris Connelly at 6:48 p.m. The meeting was held at the home of Chris Connelly, located at 31112 Boca Raton Place, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677.

In absence of objection, Chris Connelly served as Chairman and Secretary of the meeting. Chris Connelly noted that four (4) of seven (7) Executive Board Members were present, including himself, Derek Bartolome, Jason Roxby, Rod Robinson, which constituted a quorum, so Region business could be discussed. In attendance also was non-voting board-members-at-large, Lissette Bartolome and Dinny To. Region Registrar, Megan Valles arrived at approximately 7:20 pm, making five (5) Executive Board Members present.

The minutes from the previous board meeting on November 5, 2017 were reviewed. No changes were recommended. Upon the motion of Derek Bartolome and seconded by Rod Robinson, the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

In absence of Region Treasure, Darryl Ross, Chairman Connelly noted that the Region's current financial records report had not been provided to him and that he recommended that discussion regarding the same be tabled until the next board meeting in February 2018. No objection being heard, the matter was tabled.

### **AYSO NATIONAL, AREA and REGIONAL ITEMS:**

Chairman Connelly notified those in attendance that the AYSO Western States Expo will be held in Las Vegas on March 2-4 and encouraged them to attend. Chairman Connelly then requested that everyone indicate whether they plan to attend by January 18, 2018.

Chairman Connelly then provided an update regarding AYSO's new club soccer program, AYSO United, which will have South Orange County team based out of Laguna Hills. Try-outs are by invitation only and will take place January 20, 2018 in Aliso Viejo.

Special recognition and congratulations were given to Board members, Derek Bartolome and Dinny To for taking and passing the AYSO intermediate referee and 12U coaching courses, respectfully.

Chairman Connelly then notified those present that he could not attend the upcoming Area 11L board meeting on January 22, 2018, or the Laguna Niguel Sports Advisory Council meeting on January 25, 2018. Rod Robinson agreed to attend the Sports Advisory Council meeting requested that board members and Megan Valles agreed to attend the Area 11L meeting. Further, upon the recommendation of Chairman Connelly, both Rod Robinson and Megan Valles agreed to assume the position of co-Assistant Regional Commissioners, in addition to their current board positions. Hearing no objection, both were confirmed as Region 41's new co-Assistant Regional Commissioners.

### **AYSO REGION 41 SPECIFIC ITEMS:**

- **UK International**

The Board discussed the recent Fall season. It was recommended that UK International be utilized more in the coming seasons. Chairman Connelly indicated that while UK International is a great program, additional services may be cost prohibitive, but did agree to discuss more programs with the UK International representative during his meeting on January 18, 2018 and report back to the board.

- **Region Referee's**

The lack of Region referees was then discussed, as well as proposals to improve the Region's numbers. All agreed that the board will make a greater effort to notify all participants of the problem and encourage them to become referees. In addition, it was agreed that an end of season tournament, with a large winner's trophy will be contested at each level from 8U up, and that only teams with active referees are qualified to participate. The board also agreed to have a "Meet the Coach" day, where the critical need for referees can be highlighted. Further, Chairman Connelly indicated that reimbursement was not an option due to AYSO's moratorium on bartering. Instead, a rewards chart would be more appropriate and was proposed. However, it was agreed by the board, that the Items to be included on the reward chart would be determined at a later date.

- **Fiduciary and Good Example Responsibilities**

Chairman Connelly then reminded the board of its fiduciary responsibility to the participants in the Region and that money spent on behalf of the Region may only be done so by direction of the board of directors meeting minutes or through written authorization of the Regional Commissioner. Further, Chairman Connelly told the board that its members and coaches must always be good examples and adhere to AYSO's core principles, with particularly emphasis on positive coaching and good sportsmanship. A discussion was then held regarding the Region's B10U coach who was sent off during the final game of the Tournament of Champions for improper conduct. Following this discussion, board members Rod Robinson, Dinny To, Jason Roxby, and Chairman Connelly shared their experiences at the same tournament, which was very positive.

- **Board Positions**

The discussion then turned to board member positions, and all in attendance agreed to continue in their positions. Derek Bartolome indicated he would agree to become Region treasurer following the AYSO Expo, if no one else volunteered for the position. In addition, Dinny To agreed to become the Region webmaster. Rod Robinson also indicated that Kortni Chase is still interested in becoming Region Secretary. Spring Season & Sportsmanship Coordinator remain open positions.

- **Marketing Update**

Board Member Lissette Bartolome then provided an update on the Region's Marketing plan and needs moving forward. It was agreed to purchase more 5' x 10' registration banners to be placed throughout the City. The main color should be the Regions royal blue, light blue, black and white. The board also agreed to have window decals and license plate frames made for give-a-ways during registration. Following Chairman Connelly's indication that lawn signs should not be utilized based on his discussions with the City, wherein they indicated they have a crew drive around the City every day, removing, and disposing of said signs, the board agreed not to purchase lawn signs. In addition, the board agreed that a list of schools in the City needs to be prepared in order to make sure all schools are covered for marketing.

A review of the food trucks this past season revealed that we do not have the numbers to support such a program yet. It was also brought to light that Board & Brews still needs it shirts and sponsor plaque. Chairman Connelly indicated he would follow through on these items. The board also voted unanimously to have the Region join the Laguna Niguel Chamber of Commerce.

For the upcoming 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, special give-a-ways will be suggested by Lissette Bartolome and approved by the board. Chairman Connelly indicated he had already ordered Region Specific soccer balls for the upcoming season.

- **All-Star Play-off Format**

Chairman Connelly then asked for a vote on the board's preference for the All-Star tournament play-off format. After a short discussion, it was agreed by unanimous vote that the tournaments should have four (4) semi-finalist and a final. Chairman Connelly noted the vote and indicated he would inform Area 11L of the Region's decision.

- **Volunteer Appreciation Event**

Next, the date for the volunteer appreciation event was discussed, as well as give-a-ways and raffle items. The board agreed to have the event on February 10, 2018 for adults only. Board member Lissette Bartolome volunteered to put together the prize packages and coordinate with Chairman Connelly, who agreed to coordinate the food and beverage for the event.

- **OCSC Tickets**

Whether or not to renew the Region's season tickets with the Orange County Soccer Club were then discussed. Following the discussion, the board unanimously agreed to purchase four (4) season tickets in Section 2 or 7, with a preference for seats higher-up. Chairman Connelly indicated he would notify OCSC representative Ray Ferarri of the board's decision and purchase the season tickets.

- **Spring 2018 Core Season Update**

Chairman Connelly then provided updated registration numbers for the upcoming Spring Season, and informed the board that 6U and 5U will be combined. In addition, the board considered the option of making Spring season a 5 v. 5 season, with pop-up goals, and no referees. Following robust discussion, it was agreed to table a vote on the concept to the next board meeting. The board also discussed the possibility of moving Spring season soccer games to Sundays. All were in favor of the idea, but Chairman Connelly indicated that the other Regions in the Area were opposed to the concept. It was agreed that Rod Robinson would raise the issue at the next Area board meeting on January 22, 2018.

- **45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fall Season**

The board agreed that the Region will have a meet the coach day, an opening ceremony day, and prepare special give-away items, as well as look to gain public attention through social and traditional media. It was also agreed that the opening day program will include team photos, short scrimmage and a carnival. Chairman Connelly then indicated that each board member must come to the next board meeting ready and willing to take charge of one aspect of these events and others. Finally, the issue of registration fee's for this upcoming season was discussed. After a prolonged and passionate discussion, it was agreed that the fees would be \$125 for early bird, \$175 for regular, and \$200 for late registration, with a special 45% discount for each level, which represents the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Region 41 in Laguna Niguel.

Chairman Connelly also agreed to speak with Score Sports regarding anniversary uniforms and discount for our Region. Chairman Connelly also indicated that the next board meeting in February would be dedicated to planning for the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary season.

- **Adjournment**

Chairman Connelly asked if there was any other business. None was raised. Chairman Connelly adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Chris Connelly

Chris Connelly, Regional Commissioner

November 5, 2017

Date