

Mid Michigan Men's Soccer League  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2006  
7:00 PM LISA, Lansing

**Attendees:**

- Jerry Fulcher (Over 30 VP, Williamston over 40 Coach)
- Craig Thiel (New Williamston Over 30 Coach)
- Matt Williams (League Secretary)
- Ken Seelman (League Treasure, Grand Saints Over 30 Coach)
- Alex Voneye (representing Okemos over 40 team)
- Matt Hagan (Open VP, Open Coach)
- Brian Williams (Ballsy Over 30 Coach)
- Jerry Hitchingham (Owosso Over 40 Coach)
- Rick Helson (representing Dewitt Over 40 team)
- Younes Ishradi (Dewitt Over 30 Coach)
- Josh Coty (New Arsenal Over 30 Coach)
- Phil Getzen (Owosso Over 40 Coach)
- Bob LaFrance (Arsenal Open Coach)
- Stephen Kolb (Barcelona Open Coach)
- Austin Long (CCFC Over 40 Representative)
- Representative for Marcel Lenz (Bayern Open Coach)

**1) Issues from this Past Season**

- a) Open
  - 1) There were field issues with the Hope Complex and the Open league would like to move over to the East Lansing Soccer Complex. The open league played only 8 games with a 2 game playoff. Fields were sometimes switched without notifying the coaches.
  - 2) The league would like to go to 12 games. Wednesday night at 6:30 worked ok.
- b) Over 30
  - 1) Players were not happy with the North field and would prefer to play on the south fields. If we had to play on the north field the East/West direction was better. Jerry explained that the complex wanted to rest the other two south fields
  - 2) There were some problems with teams switching to other fields without permission. It was indicated that we cannot do this or we may lose our privilege to play at the East Lansing Soccer Complex. Play on the field you are assigned to.
  - 3) There was \$120 left over from field fees. This was deposited in the leagues checking account. Okemos requested a refund as they will not be playing in the over 30 league next year. The refund would be \$13.33.
- c) Over 40
  - 1) Would like more games. It was discussed that Mike Yassine was going to work on trying to get some games earlier in the year at other locations. Rick Helson indicated that he had discussed this with Meridian Township and they were open to the idea. Owosso would like to not have any 6:00 games as they have a long way to travel.
  - 2) Our league was not invited to the State over 40 tournament.

**2) Returning Teams**

- a) Open-Rotties, Barcelona, Bayham, Arsenal said yes others not present
- b) Over 30- Williamston, Grand Saints, Dewitt, Arsenal said yes, Okemos said no, others not present. Jerry Hitchingham indicated that there may be interest in an Owosso over 30 team.
- c) Over 40- Williamston, Okemos, Dewitt said yes, others not present

### 3) Registration Issues

- a) Make sure you get your information in on time and make sure everything is complete. An updated roster must be submitted with each player change.
- b) Some problems with drivers licenses not being legible. Please go through and update the bad ones. Driver's licenses were returned to the teams that were present.
- c) If you are playing in more than one division, the player ID number is the same for both divisions.
- d) MSA may be changing their format for submitting player \$20 player fees. We will find out at their winter meeting. There were some meeting minutes that they did not want a bunch of separate checks from our league. They never contacted us directly about this issue.
- e) VP's should send out notice on due dates for next season. This should be done some time in January so teams can start preparing and gathering information.

### 4) Treasurers report

- a) Current balance is \$2179, this includes \$600 in deposits from 3 teams in the over 30 league that will be carried over until next year. All other deposits were returned.
- b) It was decided that the league should continue to charge \$5 per player. In the future this money could be used to purchase some game balls, reimburse officers for their time, and possibly make donations for field improvements.
- c) There was discussion on updating the leagues tax-exempt status. This was done this past year by John Wolenberg but it was late in the season. We need to get the forms from John and see if someone else in the league can handle this.

### 5) Secretary's Report

- a) Matt needs \$60 to pay for the 2007 web site fee. Ken gave him a check at the meeting.
- b) Suggestions for the website
  - 1) Allow players interested in joining the league to be able post their name, email and age group on the website.
  - 2) Make coaches emails more accessible on the website to assist new players in looking for a team.
- c) Game Reports need to be typed, all players must have a number listed on the game report. Hand written reports are not acceptable. Game reports need to be reviewed by the managers before they are signed.
- d) There was a problem with the winning coaches not emailing their scores and card to the league secretary. It was suggested that a reminder email be sent to all coaches 2 or 3 games into the season.

### 6) Other Issues

- a) VP's need to notify GLASRA, ASAP when games are cancelled by the complex. Are we obligated to pay for the refs if they are not notified of a game being cancelled? The league is under the impression that the referees are only paid if the game starts.
- b) Players are not allowed to switch team unless they receive an updated card from the league registrar. There is also a 5-day waiting period.
- c) There was a discussion on whether we should charge a small team membership fee that is returned if the team shows up for the meeting? The thought was that this would improve participation at the meetings. This was voted down.
- d) The referees did not do a good job of checking in players before the game. Some were very lax. If players showed up late they should be checked in at half time. Matt indicated that he brought this up at the GLASRA meeting.
- e) There was discussion on who should represent the league at the State Cup Tournament. The following format was decided on and will be added to the bylaws.
  - 1) The first representative would be the regular season league champ.
  - 2) The 2<sup>nd</sup> representative would be the tournament winner.
  - 3) If there were more representatives they would be the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> place regular season finishers.
- f) League Tournament- it was discussed that teams often lose interest if they lose their first game and end up forfeiting subsequent games. It was decided that maybe the

tournament should be a single elimination tournament. Loosing teams could play the following weeks in a combined team all-star format.

- g) Fines for red cards- there was discussion on whether there should be fines associated with red cards. It was decided that the game suspension penalties appear to be sufficient and fines are not needed.
- h) There was a discussion on having scrimmages with other leagues. Matt will search the web to see what other leagues may be out there.
- i) Hans Morgan had sent a request asking if it would be possible for his Olivet Women's college team to participate in the over 30 league. He indicated that they would not be able to play the entire season as their fall season would start in August some time. Other issues would be that the Women's team would have to register with MSA as the rest of the team members do. This would include a \$20 MSA player fee, driver's license etc.

It was decided that some of the team may be willing to play Olivet as a friendly especially if there were an odd number of teams. Currently it looks like the over 30 league will have an even number of teams. In this case the friendlies would have to be played on another day. The other suggestion would be to have the Olivet team play in the over 40 league if there were an odd number of teams. The over 40 league ended in mid August although we would like to extend the season.

## **7) There were no other recommendations for changes to the by-laws**

## **8) Election of officers**

- a) President- no volunteers, vacant position
- b) Open VP – Matt Hagan
- c) 30 + VP- Jerry Fulcher
- d) 40+ VP – Mike Yassine
- e) Treasurer- Ken Seelman
- f) Secretary- Matt Williams
- g) Registrar- no volunteers, vacant position

## **9) Meeting adjourned**