

**LEHIGH VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
GENERAL LEAGUE MEETING
Northampton Community College
March 12, 2013
7:30 PM**

Exec. Director: Robert Rooney

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Call to Order: Gus Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

Roll Call: Clubs are fined for non-attendance based on the sign-in sheet. A list of clubs attending this meeting is attached as **Annex A**.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

As a first order of business, the November 13, 2012 minutes were read and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Greg Imming (Philadelphia Union)

Gus introduced Greg Imming from the Philadelphia Union who spoke for a few minutes regarding the Philadelphia Union soccer club and provided the handout attached as **Annex B**. Kevin indicated that the purpose of his brief presentation was to introduce himself and the Philadelphia Union to member clubs and to provide an opportunity for member clubs to ask questions about youth soccer partnership programs. This is part of the Union's marketing initiative to have direct contact with clubs, and Greg is one of several Union employees assigned to act as a liaison to each LVYSL club as indicated on the handout. At the close of the presentation, Greg gave out a number of tickets to the Union's Mar. 16 home game.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

Gus opened the meeting by noting that the Spring 2013 season is the first one where there are no high school soccer conflicts. He expected that LVYSL would see an increase in the number of older age group teams for the Spring season, but that has not been the case. The number of older age group teams is down from previous years as follows:

	2013	2012	2011
Girls	16	25 (Fall)	27 (Fall)
Boys	13	18	22

Gus asked the members what they were seeing at their clubs with the older age groups, and a discussion ensued.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rob Rooney

Rob reported that the 34th Annual Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League Tournament will be held at the Lehigh County fields on Jun. 8 and 9, 2013. He further stated that the registration process was off to a good start due to a discount of \$50 for teams that register and pay prior to Mar. 15. Currently, there are 18 teams registered versus four at this point in time last year.

Details regarding the tournament are available at <http://www.lehighvalleytournament.com>. The tournament registration fee is \$450 for teams playing small-sided and \$525 for teams playing large-sided. Teams are guaranteed a minimum of three games, and the deadline for registration is Apr. 30.

Rob reminded clubs that games will start the weekend of Apr. 6 and 7 and teams/coaches are reminded to review the Rules of Play in order to understand the acceptable reasons for requesting a reschedule. As a reminder, requests for schedule changes are allowed for the following reasons:

- State Cup Match Conflict.
- Soccer Tournament Conflict.
- Loss of Field – Due to closure or unplayable conditions.
- Cancelled match due to weather related conditions.

In addition, an ODP conflict will be considered. As an EPYSA function and program that LVYSL encourages for all league players, ODP conflicts will be considered based on requesting team's roster size and number of requesting team's players involved. (See Rules of Play, Section II,H,4).

Any requests not falling within one of the authorized reasons will be denied.

Rob further reminded clubs/coaches to advise the league and the referee assignor of State Cup conflicts as soon as they become aware of them. Do not reschedule games within the 10-day window as there is a \$25 for a reschedule date that is less than 10 days out. The league's software allows a member club to reschedule inside the normal 10-day window, but that will result in a \$25 fine if approved.

Rob reported that the LVYSL Fall 2012 short season weekend (Round Robin) was held during the weekend of Nov. 17 and 18 at the Lehigh County fields, and eight teams (U15 and above) participated. Each team played three games, which is the minimum number of games required to be scheduled in an EPYSA sanctioned league to qualify for State Cup.

VP OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Greg Ramos (Lehigh Valley United FC)

Present – no report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

The bank balances at the end of Feb., 2013, were \$85,751 compared to \$95,324 at the end of Feb., 2012, a \$9,473 difference due to the fact that Feb. deposits were running at about \$2,500 less than last year and taking into account an overall operating loss of \$8,642.72 in 2012.

Since the November meeting, Rich wrote checks for payroll expenses, the 2012 settlement and true-up for the referee assignor, forfeit fees owed to referees, the annual contribution to the Lehigh Valley Soccer Scholarship Fund (\$1,000), and accountant fees for tax returns and annual review of financial reports

(approx. \$2,245). There are outstanding payments of \$125 still due to the accountants for the filing of Form 990's and \$318 to the tournament logo provider.

Rich stated that LVYSL's revenues for 2012 were down by \$29,623.90 from 2011. This is the result of approximately \$17,500 less in tournament revenue and approximately \$10,000 less in regular season revenue due to the decline in older age group teams.

LVYSL Total	2012	2011
Revenues	\$ 148,605.18	\$ 178,229.08
Expenses	157,247.90	173,830.73
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$ (8,642.72)	\$ 4,398.35

This resulted in a net loss of \$8,642.72 for 2012.

GAMES COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Girls/Boys game's commissioner and League Scheduler

Bob Eaton

Bob stated that the scheduling process was underway and that there were 201 teams registered. Many teams are requesting no play dates, and Bob will try to accommodate as many requests as possible. Saturday games will be primarily for U13 and below and Sunday games will be primarily for U14 and above. Each team will have either six, seven or eight games in the Spring depending on the number of teams in their division.

Bob further stated that games will start the weekend of Apr. 6 and 7 and end on the weekend of Jun. 1 and 2. Ten clubs have requested self-scheduling and the home dates for the clubs that selected self-scheduling should be available by Mar. 17. He expects to have schedules published one week prior to the start of the season.

REGISTRARS' REPORT

Kris Campbell (Parkland Area Soccer Club) - Not present.

Kathy Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

Gina Keys (Lehigh Valley United SC) - Not present.

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Manuela Tufano (FC Pocono) - Not present.

Kathy informed the member clubs of the following dates:

- Mar. 15 - LVYSL roster freeze;
- Mar. 18 - no pending PS-1's; all changes approved;
- Apr. 30 - club registrar's meeting at 7 p.m. at NAAC; and
- May 20 - roster freeze ends.

Kathy further reported the following information for the 2013/14 season from the EPYSA annual registrar's meeting:

- All club volunteers will be subject to a mandatory background check. It will cost \$4 and will be charged to the club.
- All clubs need to appoint a Risk Management Coordinator as part of the registration process.
- EPYSA adopted the Act 101 Concussion policy; for details see **Annex C**.
- The EPYSA registration system will keep players photos on line for two years.

Rich reminded clubs that the LVYSL roster freeze is different from the State Cup roster freeze of Mar. 15, the date by which Cup teams must be approved.

In response to a question, Kathy and Rich both indicated that clubs that are transitioning new registrars mid-year should contact their assigned league registrars for advice and assistance.

EPYSA

Wim Roset.

Wim reported on the EPYSA workshop and weekend activities. He noted that two local coaches and one local player received awards at the EPYSA awards banquet.

- Travel Coach of the Year: Greg Ramos, Lehigh Valley United
- Girls Recreation Coach of the Year: Mike Rose, Parkland Area SC
- Union League of Philadelphia Good Citizenship Award: Mackenzie Bento, Bethlehem SC

At the business meeting, the following new EPYSA officers and members of the Executive Board were elected:

- Jim Kuntz, President;
- Michael Finnegan, Vice President, Travel;
- John Lenart, Vice President, Recreation; and
- Nicole Posillico Epps, Treasurer.

REFEREE ASSIGNOR'S REPORT

Hal Grah

Not present.

Gus reminded clubs to call the referee assignor immediately if a game was to be cancelled due to weather conditions. In response to a question, Gus confirmed that teams must call, and they can leave a message. The Rules of Play provide as follows:

The home team coach or club official may postpone an individual game because of weather or poor field conditions. If a game is to be postponed by the home team coach or club official, the decision must be made at least two hours prior to game time and he or she must call the referee assignor to cancel the game a minimum two hours prior to game time. Please check the website for current referee assignor contact information. (See Rules of Play, Section II,1,2).

The referee also has the discretion to declare a field unplayable. In the event the referee declares the field unplayable prior to the beginning of the match, the home team shall pay the referee their portion of the appropriate fee. (See Rules of Play, Section II,1,3).

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Park Power – Sponsorship Opportunity. Stephen from Park Power spoke to the members about a fundraising opportunity at the club level. He left a folder full of information, a copy of which is attached as **Annex D.**

GOOD OF THE GAME

FC Sonic. Mr. Garcia received correspondence from FC LVU Sonic's Dave Weitzman, who is looking to work more closely with LVYSL and to obtain league and member club support for the FC LVU Sonic franchise. Information regarding FC LVU Sonic will be posted on the LVYSL website.

NEXT LEAGUE MEETING

Tuesday, June 11, 2013
7:30 PM
Northampton Community College

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There being no other business, at 8:30 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Paul Bento
Secretary

Annex A

1	Allentown Youth Soccer Club
2	Bethlehem Soccer Club
3	Carbon United Soccer Club
4	Catasauqua Youth Soccer Association
5	Enco United
6	F.C. Elite
7	F.C. Freedom
8	Keystone Athletic
9	F.C. Pocono
10	Kutztown Soccer Club
11	Lehigh Valley United FC
12	Lehigh Valley Magic Soccer Club
13	Northampton Soccer Club
14	Northwestern Soccer Club
15	Palisades Soccer Club
16	Saucon Valley Soccer Club
17	St. Joseph's Soccer Club
18	St. Thomas More Soccer Club
19	South Parkland Youth Association
20	Southern Lehigh Soccer League
21	Tri-Boro Soccer Club
22	Valley Soccer Club
23	West End Soccer League
24	Wind Gap Area Athletic Association