

**LEHIGH VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
GENERAL LEAGUE MEETING
Northampton Community College
March 13, 2012
7:30 PM**

Exec. Director: Robert Rooney

E-mail: info@lvysl.org

League Tel.: (484) 319-7881

League Address: PO Box 273, Parker Ford, PA 19457

League Web Site: <http://www.lvysl.org>

State Office; Tel.: "EPYSA", 4070 Butler Pike, Suite 100, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462; (800) 562-7485

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Call to Order: Gus Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:32 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 8, 2011 minutes were read and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Kevin Ahern (Philadelphia Union)

Gus introduced Kevin Ahern 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 Kevin is one of several Union employees assigned to act as a liaison to each LVYSL club as indicated on the handout. The Union plays their home opener on Sunday, Mar. 18 and plays a full schedule of 18 home games. At the close of the presentation, Kevin gave out a Union Jersey and scarf.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

Gus stated that he attended the EPYSA workshop last weekend, including Sunday's EPYSA annual general meeting. He reported on some items from the AGM, including the following: there has been an increase in the number of travel soccer players registered with EPYSA; over 1,500 players attended ODP tryouts; there is an emphasis on concussion management (look for information on the EPYSA website); clubs can request that EPYSA perform background checks free of charge by completing the RMA process; and there are scholarships available to EPYSA registered players, including the Charlotte Moran scholarship for female players and the Union League of Philadelphia's Good Citizenship Award for high school juniors (increasing to 21 scholarships in 2013). Member clubs should become familiar with scholarship rules and ask coaches to submit nominations for worthy candidates.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rob Rooney

Rob indicated that the 33rd Annual Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League Tournament will be held on June 9 and 10 at various fields around the area. The application is now available at the tournament website, www.lehighvalleytournament.com. The event is open to boys and girls teams from U9 to U19. The application deadline is May 1. For more information, please visit the website or contact the league at info@lvysl.org.

The games will be played primarily at the Lehigh County fields and possibly some adjacent sites. He stated that as a result of LVYSL being able to use all of the Lehigh County fields for the tournament (6 full sided; 3 small sided), the fields located at Wehr's Dam (4 full sided; and 1 possible small sided), and the field at Haynes Mill (1 large sided), it was decided to not use the higher cost Lehigh University fields for the tournament.

Rob also stated that a Grade 8 referee class is being held at Northampton Area Community College on the following dates and times: April 17 and 18, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and April 24 and 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Candidates must attend all sessions. For more information or to register for the course, clubs can contact Bill Danish at bmyslref@ptd.net or (610) 767-9195.

In addition, South Parkland is hosting two coaching courses at Lone Lane Fields – 30 Lone Lane, Allentown, PA:

1. NSCAA Junior Level V Diploma course on March 16-17. The Junior Level V Diploma is a 13-hour course designed for the coach working with players 11 to 18 years of age. An emphasis is placed on learning to work with the developing player within both an individual and team concept.
2. NSCAA Youth Level II Diploma course on March 17. The Youth Level II Diploma is a five-hour course directed toward the person newly involved in coaching soccer. It is designed to help coaches working with players in the 5- to 10-year age range. Special emphasis is placed on understanding the physiological and psychological differences of coaching children.

VP OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Greg Ramos (Lehigh Valley United FC)

Greg commented that DeSales University would also be holding a NSCAA Level V Diploma course on the DeSales campus on June 8 and 9. Later on in the meeting, Greg also reminded clubs that the minimum age for participating in a coaching course is 16 years of age, and that young players should be encouraged to take these courses as part of their continuing soccer development.

There are a number of local semi-pro teams playing the area, including FC Sonic (competing in the US Open Cup – the Lamar Hunt Cup), Pocono Snow and Reading United (a PDL team that has five former players currently playing in the MLS). Members should check the club's websites for schedules and other important information.

Greg also indicated that seedings for the State Cup are published and participating teams should have received notifications. Greg also emphasized that concussions are getting greater scrutiny and clubs should educate themselves on what they should be doing and what others are doing. He also offered that OAO in Allentown would probably be receptive to working with clubs on this issue. Finally, Greg commended John Madeira from the Parkland Soccer Club for being named EPYSA's Competitive Girls Coach of the Year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Rich reported that in addition to regularly scheduled payroll of approximately \$1,950 every two weeks for the Executive Director and Office Manager, he paid the following expenses:

- Fall referee fees for forfeits – approx. \$350;
- Lehigh County field rental fees for Round Robin - \$510;
- Accountant/CPA fees for tax return filings, BCO and financial statements - \$2,140;
- Referee Assignor true-up for Fall 2011 - \$3,939;
- Donation to Lehigh Valley Scholar Athlete - \$1,050;
- Crown Trophy for Fall 2011 medals - \$687; and
- East Penn PC for website graphics fees - \$125;
- DAS Inc. for the outdoor tournament logo design - \$300; and
- Accountant fees of \$95 for the 1099's and 1096.

There are no other outstanding invoices at this point in time.

The bank balances at February 29, 2012 were \$95,324 compared to \$77,586 at February 28, 2011. The difference of almost \$18,000 is due to some timing differences in collections and payments. For example, last year the league paid \$2,500 in January to EPYSA for PS-1 changes and Round Robin registration, but has not yet paid those amounts this year. With respect to deposits, Rob made an \$11,000 partial deposit in the first two months of the current year for Spring 2012 registration while last year only \$550 was deposited during the first two months of the year. All in all, we are running about \$4,738 over last year's totals when the timing considerations are taken into account. This number coincides with a preliminary surplus of approximately \$4,400 reported for calendar year 2011.

Additionally, we still owe approximately \$2,000 to the league scheduler for Fall 2011 scheduling services which have not yet been invoiced.

GAMES COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Girls/Boys game's commissioner and League Scheduler

Bob Eaton

Bob stated that the scheduling process is underway, and that he will publish the schedules not later than the weekend of Mar. 24/25. There are 190 teams in 27 divisions, and each team will play a 6, 7 or 8 game schedule. Divisional placements are finalized and there were a few teams (but not many) that had to move divisions in order to better balance the divisions and facilitate scheduling.

Games will start the weekend of March 31/April 1. Game slots for Saturdays will be at 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 3 pm and 5 pm. Game slots for Sunday (primarily for U15 and above) will be at 12:30 pm, 3 pm, 5:30 pm and 10 am (as needed). There are no league games scheduled for Easter weekend and, after discussion, it was also agreed that no league games will be scheduled on Memorial Day weekend.

Bob sent emails to the seven clubs that requested self-scheduling and asked them to return their schedules not later than 9 a.m. on Saturday. One or two member clubs indicated that they did not receive the email regarding self-scheduling and were under the impression that they would have the ability to self-schedule because they did it in the Fall. After some discussion, Gus indicated that these teams should check with Bob after the meeting to determine if their request can be accommodated at this point in time.

Rob reminded member clubs to review the Rules of Play in order to understand the acceptable reasons for requesting a reschedule. As a reminder, requests for schedule changes once the season begins will be 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.

REGISTRARS' REPORT

Gina Keys (Lehigh Valley United SC) - Not present.
 Kathy Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)
 Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Kathy reminded clubs of the following dates:

Sun, Mar 25	All Teams in Approved status no pending PS1
Sun, Apr 01	LVYSL Roster Freeze starts
Mon, May 21	LVYSL Roster Freeze ends

There is also a 3/15 roster freeze for teams that are playing in the State Cup.

In addition, given the return to the Youth Leagues (now called GroupNet Solutions) registration system, there will be a club registrars' meeting this year sometime in April – 4/3, 4/10 or 4/17 depending on room availability. GroupNet Solutions will attempt to roll over the player data from GotSoccer.

Rich also reminded clubs not to wait until Sunday, March 25 to provide the paperwork to their club registrar as that will be too late.

EPYSA

Wim Roset

Wim also reported on a few items from the AGM, including:

- Matthew Kleinhenz (Lehigh Valley United SC) was among the recipients of the Union League of Philadelphia's Good Citizenship Award, and John Madeira from the Parkland Soccer Club received the Competitive Girls Coach of the Year.
- EPYSA will stop using GotSoccer as the registration vendor starting with the Fall registration and return to Youth Leagues – now called GroupNet Solutions. A survey by EPYSA registrar Donna Outt indicated that 80-90% of leagues/clubs wanted to go back to GroupNet Solutions.
- Bob McDade emphasized that clubs should be wary of any racism and report it if it occurs and discussed the growing emphasis on concussion testing and prevention.

REFEREE ASSIGNOR'S REPORT

Hal Grahn

Not present.

Rob reminded member clubs that they must telephone Hal in the event of weather related cancellations at least two hours prior to game time.

OLD BUSINESS

3-person referee system for U13. Gus brought up for vote going to a 3-person referee system at the U-13 level for the Fall.

A question was raised as to the additional cost, and Gus responded that based on an 8-10 game season, this would add approximately \$256 – \$320 in costs per season. In response to another question regarding whether there were enough referees, Gus indicated that Hal thought that it would not be a problem, especially given that both boys and girls will be playing high school soccer in the Fall so there will not be as many older divisions playing.

After discussion, the members voted and approved going to a 3-person referee system at the U-13 level for the Fall.

Fall Medals. Rob indicated that he still had Fall medals for St. Joe's, Back Mountain and LV Magic.

NEW BUSINESS

Registrars. Kathy indicated that Diane Moxness was stepping down as a registrar and that the league would need to replace her, and perhaps even add more registrars.

Upper 90. Gus stated that Upper 90, a team from Luzerne County, would be applying to join the league and a vote would be taken at the June meeting.

June LVYSL Board Elections. Gus reminded member clubs that there would be elections in June for all positions:

LVYSL Position
President
VP Operations
VP Finance
Treasurer & Registrar
Secretary
Boys Game Commissioner
Girls Games Commissioner and League Scheduler
Small-side Games Commissioner
Registrar
Registrar
Registrar

League Outreach Meeting. Gus stated that at the June member meeting he wanted to set aside 30-45 minutes to solicit feedback on league improvement. Specifically, he wants members clubs to come with ideas of where the league can do more/less/better in the areas of scheduling, registration, tournament, communication and other services that LVYSL provides to member clubs.

A member club questioned a rescheduling fine of \$25 for a reschedule that was requested (but approved) inside the normal 10-day window, and Gus stated that this was the type of issue on which he is requesting member club feedback at the June meeting.

GOOD OF THE GAME

Gus exalted in the USA men's national team recent victory over Italy, and encouraged players to watch not only national team games but also other soccer games in order to further their understanding of the game.

NEXT LEAGUE MEETING

Tuesday, June 12, 2012
7:30 PM
Northampton Community College


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There being no other business, at 8:38 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Paul Bento
Secretary

Annex A

1	Abington 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	Lehigh Valley United SC
10	Nazareth Soccer Club
11	Northwestern Soccer Club
12	Palisades Soccer Club
13	Parkland Area Soccer Club
14	Quakertown Soccer Club
15	St. Thomas More Soccer Club
16	South Parkland Youth Association
17	Southern Lehigh Soccer League
18	Tri-Boro Soccer Club
19	Valley Soccer Club
20	Wind Gap Area Athletic Association



2012 Home Schedule

Sun, March 18 @ 4:00 PM	Colorado Rapids	Sun, July 29 @ 7:00 PM	NE Revolution
Sat, March 31 @ 4:00 PM	Vancouver Whitecaps	Sun, August 12 @ 7:00 PM	Chicago Fire
Sat, April 14 @ 3:30 PM	Columbus Crew	Fri, August 24 @ 7:30 PM	Real Salt Lake
Sat, April 28 @ 7:00 PM	San Jose Earthquakes	Wed, August 29 @ 8:00 PM	Columbus Crew
Sun, May 13 @ 1:30 PM	New York Red Bulls	Thurs, September 20 @ 8:00 PM	D.C. United
Sat, June 16 @ 7:00 PM	D.C. United	Sun, September 23 @ 4:00 PM	Houston Dynamo
Sat, June 23 @ 7:00 PM	Sporting Kansas City	Sat, October 6 @ 7:00 PM	NE Revolution
Sun, July 8 @ 4:00 PM	Toronto FC	Sat, October 27 @ 1:30 PM	New York Red Bulls
Sat, July 14 @ 7:00 PM	Montreal Impact		

Philadelphia Union Group Tickets
BRING YOUR GROUP OUT TO PPL PARK

<p>GROUP TICKET PRICES</p> <p>MIDFIELD - \$45 SIDELINE - \$35 CORNER- \$25 ENDLINE- \$20</p>	<p>GROUP TICKET BENEFITS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Groups of 15 or more will receive a \$5 discount off the individual ticket price and avoid per ticket fees. •Groups of 30 or more will have their group's name displayed in lights on the stadium video board. •Ask about special fundraising opportunities for your group!
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For more information, please call 1-877-21-UNION



PHILADELPHIA UNION YOUTH SOCCER CLUB PARTNERSHIP

LEVEL 1 (Limited To 8 Clubs):

- Twenty (20) Sideline Season Tickets
- Fifty (50) Sideline Level group tickets at a preferred youth soccer price of \$30 (Face Value is \$40) to be used during the 2012 regular season
- Club name recognized as a Youth Soccer Partner in our Free Kick Magazine, on the video board during every MLS regular season home game, and on philadelphiaunion.com
- Your club jersey will be on display in PPL Park
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Clinic at Philadelphia Union's facility
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Chalk Talk prior to kickoff at select matches (Space is limited)
- Raffle Pack (Jersey, Scarf, Ball, Pennant)
- Eleven (11) players (11 and younger) from your club will be able to escort the Philadelphia Union players onto the field during pre-game ceremonies at TWO (2) Union home matches.
 - Your players will receive replica Philadelphia Union uniforms for the event
- Two (2) 90 minute player appearances
- One (1) clinic at your clubs fields for your players or coaches
- One (1) appearance at an event of your choice by the Philadelphia Union Mobile Tour (based on availability). The Mobile Tour includes interactive inflatables, the Union Mobile, Union give-aways and promotional material!

PRICE: \$11,245

LEVEL 2 (Limited To 18 Clubs):

- Ten (10) Sideline Season Tickets
- Fifty-five (55) Sideline Level group tickets at a preferred youth soccer price of \$30 (Face Value is \$40) to be used during the 2012 regular season
- Club name recognized as a Youth Soccer Partner in our Free Kick Magazine, on the video board during every MLS regular season home game, and on philadelphiaunion.com
- Your club jersey will be on display in PPL Park
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Clinic at Philadelphia Union's facility
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Chalk Talk prior to kickoff at select matches (Space is Limited)
- Raffle Pack (Jersey, Scarf, Ball, Pennant)
- Eleven (11) players (U11 and younger) from your club will be able to escort the visiting teams players onto the field during pre-game ceremonies
 - Your players will receive replica Philadelphia Union uniforms for the event
- One (1) 90 minute player appearance
- One (1) appearance at an event of your choice by the Philadelphia Union Mobile Tour (based on availability). The Mobile Tour includes interactive inflatables, the Union Mobile, Union give-aways and promotional material!

PRICE: \$7,615

LEVEL 3 (Limited To 36 Clubs):

- Four (4) Sideline Season Tickets
- Fifty-five (55) Endline Level group tickets at a preferred youth soccer price of \$20 (Face Value is \$25) to be used during the 2012 regular season
- Club name recognized as a Youth Soccer Partner in our Free Kick Magazine, on the video board during every MLS regular season home game, and on philadelphiaunion.com
- Your club jersey will be on display in Union Field at Chester
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Clinic at Philadelphia Union's training facility
- Your coaches will be invited to a Coaches Chalk Talk prior to kickoff at select matches (Space is Limited)
- Six (6) Ball Kid spots at one Philadelphia Union match (14 and older)
 - First 18 clubs get choice of available matches based on availability (first come first served)
- One (1) appearance at an event of your choice by the Philadelphia Union Mobile Tour (based on availability). The Mobile Tour includes interactive inflatables, the Union Mobile, Union give-aways and promotional material!

PRICE: \$3,501

LEVEL 4:

- Four (4) Season Tickets (Level of your choice)
- Club name recognized as a Youth Soccer Partner on the video board during every MLS regular season home game and on philadelphiaunion.com
- One (1) appearance at an event of your choice by the Philadelphia Union Mobile Tour (based on availability). The Mobile Tour includes interactive inflatables, the Union Mobile, Union give-aways and promotional material!
- First opportunity for any available in-game experience

Philadelphia Union
2301 Seaport Drive
Switch House Suite 500
Chester, PA 19013

P. 610.497.1657
F. 610.497.3309

philadelphiaunion.com



Club	Contact	Phone #	Email
Abington SC	Alex Carrington	610-497-8796	acarrington@philadelphiaunion.com
Alantown YSC	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
Back Mountain Youth SA	Dedrick Jackson	610-497-6404	djackson@philadelphiaunion.com
Berks Ajax	Dedrick Jackson	610-497-6404	djackson@philadelphiaunion.com
Bethlehem SC	Alex Carrington	610-497-8796	acarrington@philadelphiaunion.com
Bethlehem Township	Alex Carrington	610-497-8796	acarrington@philadelphiaunion.com
Big Spring Youth SA	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Blackdiamond Girls SC (Lackawanna)	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Carbon United SC	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Catawauque Youth SA	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Deep Run Valley	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
Eastern Northampton County SC	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Eastern Pike Soccer	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
FC Elite	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
FC Lehigh	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
FC Pocono	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
FC Premier	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Keystone Athletic	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Kutztown SC	Alex Carrington	610-497-8796	acarrington@philadelphiaunion.com
Lehigh Valley Magic	Anthony Cardillo	610-497-8934	acardillo@philadelphiaunion.com
Lehigh Valley United FC	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Lower Dauphin SA	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Lower Macungie Youth Association	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
Lower Southampton AA	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Nazareth SC	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
NE Bradford	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
Northampton Soccer Club	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Northeastern Youth Sports Assn	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Northwestern Youth AA	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
PA Classics	Anthony Cardillo	610-497-8934	acardillo@philadelphiaunion.com
PA Rush	Dedrick Jackson	610-497-6404	djackson@philadelphiaunion.com
Palisades Youth SA	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
Parkland Area SC	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
Pennridge Yellowjackets SA	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Pocono Mountain Youth	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Quakertown SC	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
Salisbury Youth Assn. Soccer	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Saucon Valley SL	Jason Freedman	610-497-6304	jfreedman@philadelphiaunion.com
State Belt	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
South Parkland Youth	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
Southern Lehigh SL	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
St. Thomas More SC	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Stroudsburg United	Greg Imming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
Tri Boro SC	Alan Avidar	610-497-6210	aavidar@philadelphiaunion.com
Ukrainian Nationals	Dedrick Jackson	610-497-6404	djackson@philadelphiaunion.com

Valey SC (05 - Upper Bucks)	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
West End SL	Greg Jiming	610-497-8933	gimming@philadelphiaunion.com
West-Mont United SA	Nico Abelenda	610-497-6211	nabelenda@philadelphiaunion.com
Western Lehigh United	Alex Carrington	610-497-8796	acarrington@philadelphiaunion.com
Wind Gap Area AA	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com
Wilson Junior SC	Kevin Ahern	610-497-6152	kahern@philadelphiaunion.com