

LEHIGH VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE  
GENERAL MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2016  
NCACC RM 292 at

Bill Ross called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.

Membership signed in by way of sign in sheet. March general meeting minutes were read and will be approved at the next general meeting. Membership meeting minutes are posted to the league website.

**President's report:**

Bill reported that the tournament was a success and they enjoyed good weather.

Bill also reported on the registration changes announced by EPYS.

- Field and roster sizes
- New heading rules effective 8/1/16
  - Unintentional heading at younger age groups will not be called and there will be no penalty
  - Intentional heading at younger age groups will result in an indirect free kick
  - Teams should look for an e-mail regarding the heading rules update
- 9v9 – a single referee will be assigned and the membership voted to allow teams to mutually agree and request a three man crew as desired
- Spectator side line behavior was discussed and Bill suggested a increasing penalty system be instituted to help mitigate negative spectator behaviors
  - Bill will research other area league policies
  - Currently the recommendation is a three strike policy
    - Warn with a \$250 fine
    - 3 game suspension with \$500 fine
    - Ejection and banned from field of play and surrounding area indefinitely
  - Spectator ejections are subject but not limited to the following offenses
    - Foul language
    - Derogatory or demeaning remarks directed to players / coaches / opposing spectators
    - Encouraging harm to a player by an opponent
    - Excessive dissent to the referee
  - An appeal process may be available regarding the fine however the suspension / ejection will stand
  - Spectators must remain out of sight and sound of the field of play when they are ejected
  - Any abusive spectator not associated with a team may be subject to removal by police. Police may be called by either of the teams to protect their players and their families from unknown spectators
  - Clubs and the league should look into a Spectator Code of Conduct
  - Any spectator fine monies will be donated to a local charity
- League announced launch of social media for LVYSL. Please encourage families to read notices and follow league events. Links are posted to the LVYSL website

**Executive Director report:**

Tournament had overall good feedback

**VP of Operations report:**

Shayne let membership know that summer camp offerings are posted to the league website.

- Shayne requested that any club doing supplemental training please send him a message regarding the training
- Shayne mentioned the potential for player clinics and training during the off season; as well as coach workshops especially directed at player warm ups

The league membership was notified that there is an area of the website dedicated to teams looking for players. Please use it to your advantage.

**Treasurer report:**

Rich reported that the current league balance as of May 31<sup>st</sup> is \$119,302 compared to 2015 same date \$124,304.

Rich reported regular expenses and invoices; bank statements were available for review

Rich requests that clubs pay the full fee for Fall 2017 entry and any club owed a 2015-16 refund will receive the refund at the August meeting.

**Games Commissioner report:**

Rob reports that the league is planning to propose a by-law change eliminating the games commissioner positions from the LV Executive Board as he has fulfilled the games commissioner duties for the last several years due to vacancies.

In August a by-law amendment will have its first reading.

Rob reminds clubs that it is their responsibility to maintain their own club director on the LVYSL website. All officers and club officials should be updated with current personnel and contact information for proper communication.

Rob stated that season entry e-mails will go out Wednesday. Please read them carefully and follow instructions / deadlines.

Rob also stated clubs can carry teams forward in the LVYSL website entry area rather than re-entering them each year. Please have one person from your club do the season entry for all teams of that club and submit one check per club for team entry

Teams should plan ahead when determining their four dates off. Please do not request all Saturday or all Sunday games this is not possible. Any team requesting this game schedule should expect fewer home games if they state an unavailable field as a reason.

Clubs should review league reschedule request policy with their coaches.

Season entry will remain open until July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Referee Assignor report:**

Hal requests that clubs do not front load the beginning of the season due to the fact he is competing with college and high school for referees.

Hal announced he has 120 new referees and 100 of them are youth referees. He reminds coaches not to harass youth officials and if teams have feedback for a youth official that they communicate that feedback to Hal directly.

If you plan pre-season scrimmages please let Hal know so he can schedule three man crew referees to your games at a severely reduced rate to give new officials some experience.

Hal concluded with the hope that we all have a fun and a good season!

League Registrar:

Rich reminded clubs to have coaches associate with their own club when doing their RMA in 2016-17.

Kathy reminded clubs that their RG1 is due by July 15<sup>th</sup>. All RMA must be completed prior to building a team in the new 2016-17 travel database.

Any team with a pre-season tournament should submit registration materials to the league registrars two weeks prior to the tournament registration deadline.

Kathy will send an e-mail regarding league registrar changes. Please look for it.

Old Business:

Reminder that Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer is not using "EPYS" rather than the original EPYSA when referring to the state association. Please make note and remind your members to use the new brand name.

New Business:

- 1) New club petition to join the league was put before the membership and was voted in unanimously. Forks Twsp Soccer Club met all the requirements for new clubs joining the league and will enter a 2007 (U10)B and 2004 (U13)B team in the Fall 2016 season.
- 2) Election of LVYSL Board members – the current board sought re-election, with the exception of Gina Ramos – registrar). The membership voted unanimously to retain the current LVYSL board as offered. Bill Ross, President; Shayne Stone, VP of Operations; Ken Steenback, Secretary; Rich Mitstifer, Treasurer; Kathy Garcia, Rich Mitstifer, Manuela Tufano and Kris Campbell as league registrars.

Good of the Game:

Top Soccer program for ages 9-16 is held every Saturday at Lehigh County Sports Field #3 in the Fall and Spring seasons for children with Special Needs. This is a great opportunity for youth soccer players to give back to the community, as well as adult volunteers all of whom are welcome to participate as volunteers.

USA is playing in COPA America cup – support your national team by watching the games.

Several area clubs competed in Cup games and won their divisions. They were:

Lehigh Valley United Elite '97 – U18 Boys NCS Champions  
Keystone Grifos '98 -U17 Girls President's Cup Champions  
Northwestern Tigers '03 – U12 Boys President's Cup Champions

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the secretary,

Kathy Garcia