

**LEHIGH VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE  
GENERAL LEAGUE MEETING  
Northampton Community College  
August 13, 2013  
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:** Rich Mitstifer 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 June 11, 2013 minutes were read and unanimously approved.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Gus Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

Not present.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Rob Rooney

Rob reported that next year's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League will be held on Jun. 7 and 8, 2014. Rob also recognized the Lehigh Valley United 93 (E-PA) team that won the 78th McGuire Cup Under-19 Boys National Championship. The team, coached by Greg Ramos, beat Chicago Fire Academy (IL) in front of a live FOX Soccer television audience.

#### **VP OF OPERATIONS REPORT**

Greg Ramos (Lehigh Valley United FC)

Not present.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Rich stated that he had performance bond refund checks for teams for the Fall '12 and Spring '13 seasons and that he would hand them out after the meeting. He further stated that if a club is not getting a refund check, then it is because they owe money to the league. In addition, a number of clubs owe money to the league due to the fact that their bonds were fully drawn down. The primary reason for this

is due to the number of PS-1 changes the league processes for some of the smaller clubs for secondary players and adds/drops. In addition, some clubs did not post a Spring '13 season bond or used their balance from the Fall '12 bond to pay for their Spring '13 season entrance fees.

Rich noted that clubs are not allowed to use a positive balance in their Fall bond account to offset Spring season entrance fees. Clubs can use any such excess toward their Spring bond but should not deduct from the season entrance fee. Rob will send out reminders over the next few weeks to delinquent clubs, and he will also make a push to start collecting the Fall season entrance amounts and bond.

The combined bank balances at July 31, 2013, were \$111,400 compared to \$118,400 at July 31, 2012, an approximate \$7,000 difference due partially to lower tournament revenue, lower Spring season participation and a \$1,000 lag in July deposits compared to last year. In addition, the amounts reflect the fact that the league operated at a loss last year.

Since the June meeting, Rich wrote checks for payroll expenses, paid the remaining tournament expenses, which are now 100% paid, paid the referee assignor the Spring assignment fee, issued \$4,469 worth of performance bond refunds to clubs and paid referees \$722 for Spring forfeits.

Rob reminded clubs to print out the Fall '13 season entrance form and not to use the Saturday morning email summaries because the form includes the applicable bond amounts of \$50 per team up to a maximum of \$400. Clubs should make payments based on the amounts showing as due on the Fall '13 season entrance form and include the form with their payment. In addition, teams should not submit individual checks for payment of season entrance fees; clubs should send a single check for their teams.

## **GAMES COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

### **Girls/Boys Game's Commissioner and League Scheduler**

Bob Eaton

Bob reported that the scheduling for the Fall '13 season is in process but, as usual, it has been a start and stop process due to the fact that, among other glitches, one club forgot to enter teams.

There are 192 teams entered in LVYSL for the Fall '13 season compare to 197 for last year's Fall season. Each team will be scheduled to play 8 to 10 games, and the season will start on the weekend of Sept. 7 and end on the weekend of Nov. 17; there will be no league games on Columbus Day weekend (Oct. 12 and 13). Games times will be at 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, 12:30 pm, 2 pm and 4 pm on Saturdays and 12 pm, 2 pm and 4 pm on Sundays.

Ten clubs will self-schedule but they need to schedule the games using the game times referred to above on the days selected by Bob as part of the overall schedule. Bob will send out the self-scheduling template by Aug. 17 and it must be returned to him by 8 am on Aug. 22. Fall schedules will be posted not later than Aug. 31 and potentially sooner by Aug. 25 or 26.

Rob asked clubs to remind coaches to review the Rules of Play in order to understand the acceptable reasons for requesting to reschedule a game. 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 the requesting team's roster size and the number of the 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. Work or game conflicts are not valid reasons for rescheduling a game because teams should have assistant coaches and any carded coach can substitute for a head coach during a game.

Rob also reminded clubs that any reschedule request for a Sunday should be for games to be played before 12:30 pm or after 3 pm.

Lastly, Bob reported that approximately 98% of the schedule accommodation requests were taken into consideration when he prepared the Fall schedule.

### **REGISTRARS' REPORT**

Kris Campbell (Parkland Area Soccer Club)

Kathy Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

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

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Manuela Tufano (FC Pocono)

Kathy informed the member clubs of the following dates:

- Aug. 19 - Sept. 1 - LVYSL moratorium; no changes can be made to rosters during that time;
- Aug. 31 –Unapproved PS-1 changes will be deleted and coaches will have to resubmit them on or after Sept. 2; and
- Sept. 6 - LVYSL roster freeze begins through the end of the season. Only emergencies and coaching changes will be allowed after Sept. 6.

Kathy further reported that any extra teams (i.e., teams without players or unapproved teams) in the EPYSA database will be deleted. Right now there are more than the 192 teams associated with LVYSL in the EPYSA database.

Rich stated that some clubs are adding U15+ teams in the EPYSA database for the Fall season. This is allowed as long as the teams are approved; but if they are not approved due to lack of paperwork, then the team will be deleted and those players that are in the system as belonging to that team will go into the transfer pool. Teams have to be careful because when they try to reconstitute their teams for the Winter or Spring they may run into problems as they are only allowed to have five transfer players.

Kathy reminded clubs that the seasonal year runs from Aug. to July of the following year. Every Fall team in 2013 is in their first seasonal year and must pay the full fee even if the team played during the past Spring season, which was part of the prior year seasonal year.

Rich confirmed that secondary players must first be approved by their primary team prior to them being added as secondary players. The registrars will work with clubs to add secondary players during the LVYSL moratorium, but close coordination is required.

### **EPYSA**

Wim Roset

Wim reported that intramural registration with EPYSA was down for this year probably due to Fall baseball and lacrosse. It was noted that Lower Macungie was part of the Northern Valley Soccer League and that may have impacted the numbers. As a result, there may a fee increase next year. Wim asked clubs to consider nominating a Young Referee of the Year for EPYSA (must be 19 years of age or younger).

Wim also asked clubs for any feedback regarding the lower numbers, and a discussion ensued. Some clubs expressed confusion and concern regarding the changes to the coaching license requirements and the constant changing of license denominations.

## REFEREE ASSIGNOR'S REPORT

Hal Grahn

Hal reiterated clubs that coaches should do their job and let referees do theirs; coach's don't referee and referees doesn't coach during games; use game reporting to indicate referee shortcomings – don't challenge referees at games. Youth referees are especially at risk for improper behavior so teams are reminded to control their coaches and parents and to be respectful and not address officials, especially youth officials, with officiating issues. Coaches should report any issues directly to Hal through the game reports, and Hal addresses all comments directly with the officials (and with coaches when they request a call back or a response).

Hal reminded clubs to communicate with coaches the following procedures:

- Prepare materials pre-game (i.e., stamped line-ups with numbers);
- Have passes ready, including passes for coaches (if referee doesn't check passes, please inform Rob and Hal);
- Ensure that nets, corner flags, fields, referee fees, etc. are in order prior to the start of the game; and
- Maintain order by having players and coaches on one sideline and everyone else on the other side of the field.

Referee fees have increased for the Fall '13 season as set forth below, and you can link to the new fee schedule from the Fall '13 season portion of the LVYSL website. This fee schedule takes effect on Sept. 1, 2013. Please note that referee fees are set by the State Referee Association not by EPYSA or LVYSL.

### 2013/14 League and Cups Fees

	R	AR	AR	Total
U9/10	\$33	\$19	\$19	\$71
U11/12	\$42	\$30	\$30	\$102
U13/14	\$48	\$34	\$34	\$116
U15/16	\$56	\$38	\$38	\$132
U17/19	\$62	\$44	\$44	\$150

In LVYSL league play, U13 and above, use a 3 person crew and U12 and below use a one person crew.

Hal reminded clubs that in the event a game is cancelled due to weather, he must be notified by telephone (not email) at least two and preferably three hours prior to the game. All cancellations for whatever reason should be called in to Hal.. 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).

Hal also stated that individual coaches cannot change the field location for a game without going through the rescheduling process. Teams can't send a parent to a field to redirect a referee if a game location change has not been approved.

Rob asked clubs to help in identifying egregious coaching behavior by reporting really bad behavior in the game reports.

Finally, Hal stated that there are no new referee classes planned but that he has over 90 new referees coming on board for the Fall season.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**GOOD OF THE GAME**

None.

**NEXT LEAGUE MEETING**

Tuesday, November 12, 2013  
7:30 PM  
Northampton Community College

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There being no other business, at 8:32 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Paul Bento  
Secretary

**Annex A**

1	Abington Soccer Club
2	Back Mountain Youth Soccer Association
3	Bethlehem Soccer Club
4	Carbon United Soccer Club
5	Catasauqua Youth Soccer Association
6	Enco United
7	F.C. Elite
8	F.C. Freedom
9	F.C. Pocono
10	Keystone Athletic
11	Lower Macungie Youth Soccer Association
12	Nazareth Soccer Club
13	Northwestern Soccer Club
14	Palisades Soccer Club
15	Parkland Area Soccer Club
16	Saucon Valley Soccer Club
17	South Parkland Youth Association
18	Southern Lehigh Soccer League
19	Tri-Boro Soccer Club
20	West End Soccer League