



EMERALD CITY FOOTBALL CLUB

Emerald City FC Regular Board Meeting

October 12th, 2009

Sand Point Education Center, Seattle Washington

In attendance: Joe Picciano, Ruth Nicholson, Jonathan Fischer, Tor Jernudd, VP of Membership Jeanne Suleiman, Coaches Representative Tai Po (arrived late due to training conflict), Dan Barsher, Player Rep Chris Perkins, Monique Keranen, Business Manager Mea Fischelis, Coaching Director Bobby Howe, Assistant Coaching Director Jon Matsushita (arrived late), Michele Thornquist.

Excused: Player Rep Angela Fischer, Coaches Rep David Smith (on the occasion of his 30th birthday)

Meeting was called to order by Joe Picciano at 7:10pm.

Agenda: RN introduced the agenda and distributed supporting materials.

Election Results / Officer Elections: MF reported that (re-)election results had been posted on the club website immediately following the successful conclusion of the recent election. Joe Picciano, Ruth Nicholson, Tor Jernudd, Dan Barsher, Monique Keranen, and Jonathan Fischer were elected to “general” positions. David Smith and Tai Po were elected as Coaches Representatives. Chris Perkins and Angela Fischer were elected as Player’s Representatives. Jeanne Suleiman was elected VP of Membership.

Tor Jernudd motions that Joe Picciano be elected as President of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. JF 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (JP).

Tor Jernudd motions that Jonathan Fischer be elected as Treasurer of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. MK 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (JF).



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Dan Barsher motions that Tor Jernudd be elected as Secretary of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. JF 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (TJ).

Tor Jernudd motions that Ruth Nicholson be elected as Executive Vice-President of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. DB 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (RN).

Tor Jernudd motions that Dan Barsher be elected as Volunteer Coordinator (At-Large Member) of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. RN 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (DB).

Tor Jernudd motions that Monique Keranen be elected as SYSA Commissioner of the Emerald City FC Board of Directors. DB 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (MK).

Tor Jernudd motions that the ECFC board of director's accept Ruth Nicholson's offer to serve on the ECFC board until the Annual General Meeting in 2010. DB 2nds. Approved 6 yes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (RN).

Ruth Nicholson motions that Monique Keranen and Tor Jernudd shall also be designated to serve on the ECFC board of directors until the Annual General Meeting in 2010, hence ensuring that intention of the ECFC electorate in regard to the election cycle be re-established. JP 2nds. Approved: 5 yes, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (TJ and MK)

Consequently, Joe Picciano, Dan Barsher and Jonathan Fischer will serve on the ECFC Board of Directors until their terms expire at the Annual General Meeting in 2011.

Coaches Rep Tai Po arrives.

WEBSITE / INTRODUCTION OF GUEST: JP introduces parent volunteer Michele Thornquist who has agreed to help with the club website and public relations. After a brief overview of Mea and Michele's plans for improvements, including keeping the content more "fresh" and



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celebrating the accomplishments of our players, the board thanks Michele for volunteering and she departs.

Minutes of Prior Meetings: JF motions to approve September 14th Meeting Minutes, with 2 attachments.. DB 2nds. Approved 8 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Player Rep Report: CP reports that he has spoken to several players on one older boy's teams who have expressed concerns regarding team chemistry and performance. Coaching Director Bobby Howe indicated that he was aware of the issues on the team in question and had also spoken to several parents on the team and the team parent rep. Bobby had observed the team in question, both at practice and at games and had followed up with the team coach with guidance and suggestions. In addition the addition of an assistant coach to the team who would complement the skills of the head coach was being pursued.

Chris was thanked for his engagement on this matter and the board was reminded of the role of player, coach and parent reps in promptly identifying areas of concern and bringing them to the attention of the appropriate person.

President Joe Picciano suggested that player reps be encouraged to take a more proactive role outside of the boardroom itself, spending more of their available volunteer time engaged with players and working on club communications. He suggested that perhaps the player reps could attend actual meetings either quarterly or perhaps on an alternating basis. This suggestion was well received.

Assistant Coaching Director Jon Matsushita arrives 745pm

Sounders Night Business Manager MF reminded that board that ECFC Sounders night will be held on October 24^t.



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ECFC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY Seattle United President Bret MacPherson sent an email to an ECFC team earlier in the month on behalf of Seattle United, which served no ECFC club or team related purpose, hence violating Emerald City FC email communications policy. In the email he didn't properly identify himself as "President, Seattle United" in accordance with WYS communications rules. He also failed to properly advise Ruth Nicholson in accordance with their prior agreement that he notify RN in advance of any Seattle United communications directed towards the ECFC membership. Ruth contacted Mr MacPherson and discussed the matter with him.

This email served as the basis for discussion regarding the ECFC policy and an appropriate response to recurring violations of ECFC and WYS communications rules by Seattle United board members who also are Emerald City FC parents.

After discussion the board agreed that:

- 1) A reminder regarding ECFC and WYS communications and email policy would be appropriate
- 2) Grievances should be filed when WYS communications policies are violated.
- 3) Our SYSA commissioner should keep the SYSA board of commissioners informed regarding these grievances.
- 4) A letter be sent to the Seattle United board of directors clearly stating Emerald City FC's expectation that ECFC and WYS rules be respected.

Business Manager reported that the master club contact list was now complete and would be shared as necessary and appropriate with club volunteers.



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Planning for 2010/11: RN led a discussion regarding the timeline for planning of the coming season.

Coaching Director Report BH reported that the PDL committee had met with both WYS and US Club Soccer and had reviewed various proposals in regard to the future affiliation and organization of the PDL. The dominant themes in the discussions were: a) the degree of autonomy and self governance enjoyed by the PDL, a precondition for the ability to quickly make changes to meet player development goals and b) appropriate standards for affiliation with or participation in the highest level youth leagues in Washington State.

Most recently a revised proposal had been received from WYS that incorporated a “dual affiliation” of PDL/Premier clubs with both their local associations and directly with WYS. The PDL was meeting to discuss it this coming Wednesday. However, it is not 100% clear that there is complete agreement at the “Oversight Committee” level of the WYS regarding the proposed reorganization plans given the changes that are contemplated at the district and association levels. Bobby will keep the board advised of developments as they occur, and is cognizant of the need to clarify plans for spring 2010 so that ECFC can plan appropriately.

President’s Report: JP reported that:

- 1) A letter is being sent to WYS to confirm that there are no residual issues now that the ECFC audit and (re)-elections have been successfully completed.
- 2) ECFC Treasurer JF has sent a letter to WYS treasurer GM recapping the audit and addressing GM’s remaining questions.
- 3) JP is following up with WYS regarding the Anderson Report grievance.
- 4) JP has met with some parent volunteers well qualified to assist with a “right to exist” grievance intended to roll back the SYSA’s



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- envisioned restrictions on ECFC's future right to participate in Washington youth soccer.
- 5) JP continues to actively soliciting skilled volunteers to tackle specific projects. His ideas include someone to coordinate a series of speakers and another to coordinate club social events.
 - 6) JP intends to review the ECFC bylaws together with the Implementation Committee.

Business Manager Report: MF reported that:

- 1) She has been working on improving our registration materials / player contract in order to have them ready for next season.
- 2) That the ECFC office lease ends in June of 2010 and is unlikely to be renewed so we should be exploring other options.
- 3) A College night was held on Oct 11th and was attended by about 40 players and/or parents.
- 4) That a request had been received to use club logo as part of team fundraiser. There were no objections to the proposed use by one team for a scarf with ECFC logo.
- 5) The same team will be running a 50/50 fundraising raffle at the Sounders night and is working on getting the required permits.
- 6) A club meeting should be planned to communicate ECFC club plans for the 2010/11 season.

SYSA Commissioner Report: MK reported on the following two points:

- 1) The UW injury prevention study group gave an interim update at the last SYSA meeting but it was too early for any recommendations.
- 2) Steve from Shorelake announced that his club would be hosting the U-10 Turkeyshoot Tournament this coming Thanksgiving.



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Steve has requested the SYSA U-10 coaches email list from Bob Sigley, the SYSA registrar.

VP of Membership Report: JS reported that she met with a group of managers, travel coordinators and treasurers from U15 to U18 ECFC teams and has also sent the same group an online survey in regard to ECFC travel policies. Her work is still in progress but she did indicate that there is a perceived need for more clearly defined policies and an ability to share information and best practices.

JS departs after giving her report due to the late hour.

Treasurer Report: JF reported that last year's uniform billing issues with Sporthaus Schmetzer appear to have been resolved. An ECFC staff meeting will occur next week. There will be a loss this fiscal year, because of higher than normal professional fees and possibly a deficit in the financial aid budget. He presents updated financial and profit/loss statements for the current fiscal year.

DB made a motion to approve an additional \$4,000 for additional audit expenses that were incurred as a direct result of the Coluccio report. TJ 2nds. Approved: 7 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

VC Report: DB reported that the fundraising committee was ready to launch several campaigns with board approval. The board encouraged DB and the committee to proceed with plans for a fundraising event in early 2010, the Café D'Arte coffee fundraiser, and Brown Bear Car Wash fundraiser. All money raised will go to the ECFC financial aid fund.

Assistant Coaching Director Report: Jon Matsushita reported that the Friday "play days" are going well, although there are consistently more female players in attendance. He also reported that he was looking forward to seeing the new Seattle United "look" after hearing that they had distributed jackets to their clinic coaches the prior week. He also reported that several well qualified coaches had contacted him, interested in coaching for Emerald City FC in 2010/2011.



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Coaching Director Report: Bobby reported that the first half of the fall season has gone very smoothly and he was pleased with our players' progress to date. He noted that the f92w team had petitioned the WYS to remain in P1 this coming year and that a decision was pending. At this point there has not yet been a resolution of the scheduling conflict between the proposed Challenge Cup dates and the proposed PDL spring season.

Coaches Rep Report: TP reported that DS is working on coach travel reimbursement matrix. She also noted a particularly noteworthy game this past weekend when the m92g team defeated their arch-rivals Crossfire by the score of 5-4.

TP motions to adjourn the meeting at 10:13pm. DB 2nds. Approved: 7 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.



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Monday, October 12th 2009