

GRFC Board Meeting Minutes 5-20-10 (7:00 – 9:00)

Attending: Kaelen Aramaki, Jeff Hemmen, Todd Johnson, Kyle Janders and Richard Turner, Jeff Childs, Leighton O'Brien.

Introductions of the current board:

2009-10 Review: Had 31 teams last year. The club in 2008 was ranked 18th in the PDL. 2009 we are now in 12th place in the PDL. Had 80 players in our golf tournament and 210 attendees at the Auction. 2nd annual Winter Classic was the 3rd largest tournament in the state. It was ranked the 2nd most competitive tournament in the State last year. This is amazing for a tournament in its 2nd year.

Started the volunteer plan to feed into the Scholarship program. This was very successful in both involvement in volunteering and in raising money for scholarships. We raised over \$12,000 in scholarships. Jeff Hemmen and Sherri Hanson were critical in making this happen.

2010-11:

33 teams this year. We are continuing to grow. We are continuing to bring in fantastic coaches. We have a tremendous relationship with Starfire. We are now the largest club with Starfire and the relationship is good. We have started a new club payment plan this year. The plan was to help out the teams as well as follow leadership and guidance of state as to how to lower the opportunity for embezzlement. We have hired a bookkeeper, information has been incredibly transparent. Theresa has done a good job protecting our money.

Explain Invoices:

Invoices have been sent to everyone who is currently in our system except those who just went through TCB this last week. They may not reflect payments you have already made. We are still working out the quirks and getting everyone and everything entered into our system. If you have made a payment, don't worry. It will be reflected in your next invoice. If you haven't made your payment yet, you need to do so now. The invoices also reflect that payments are 16 to 30 days late. Payments are due on the 15th, so if you have not paid, you are now 5 days late. This is just a matter of us working out how we want the invoices to look. Give us time and we will work out all the glitches.

Registration:

All teams are open. All players have to register. They have already paid the registration fee, but they need to register to be on the club roster. We can't get teams their roster until all players have registered. **You must have a complete, signed roster in order to play in all tournaments.**

Leighton O'Brien:

Kick-off club training. The first 3 of the 9 trainings this year is happening this upcoming weekend.

The summer tournaments are starting up. The first training after every tournament is a day off. If your tournament runs through Monday and you are a Monday/Wednesday training, you will have Wednesday off.

Tournaments are club based this year. The effort is to create a good “Club atmosphere.” We can watch and support our other teams as we go to these tournaments.

Tryouts were great this year. We had great volunteers and the pinnies made switching players from teams and fields seamless.

Have you had a recap of tryouts as a club?

Not yet. We have received e-mails and intend to do this. Some of the feedback we received last year was that we did not communicate with the kids that had or had not made the team. This resulted in how we listed numbers on the website.

How are we attracting younger players? How are we advertising to attract younger kids?

We are working with the associations to attract kids. We are unable to market outside of our association because of state guidelines. We have hired Keith and are trying to attract through his Junior Academies. Many of the board members are on the GRJSA board and are trying to incorporate inviting these rec association kids into our program.

Can we list that we still need players on the website? Yes, we will be doing this. We will also be calling the rec club presidents to see if there are any kids that can be sent this way. We are still a small association. We have 2,200 members. Seattle has 13,000, eastside has 8,000. Typically the younger ages are pulling from their own association so the younger teams are smaller based on our smaller association.

PDL/RCL:

The state wanted to bring the PDL back under the state umbrella. They then created the Regional Club Subcommittee. This group functions to help make this transition a good one on all levels. The state has embraced the majority of what the PDL has done, eg keeping the level of competition high, utilize the thoughts and leadership of the PDL Directors to keep the level of play at the highest level. This is being done on each level, the premier, select and rec level so that they overall soccer experience in Washington State is seamless.

This fall the PDL will integrate into the state for the fall season. Everything will stay the same. PDL directors will still be placing teams at levels of play. It will look the same as the PDL this fall.

Phase one – we roll back under the state, will fees changes? No... the fees are guaranteed to not change this first year. It appears that this will not change in the future as well.

State league is played a 10 games schedule? Will we continue to have a 14 games schedule as we have in the PDL? I don't know. I would assume that nothing is changing this fall.

The state is realizing that the state cup schedule is messing up the clubs. They are working on this and hopefully the schedule will work much better this coming year.

Practice Schedule:

We will be moving teams to grass fields prior to Rainier Challenge (since this is a grass tournament). The times will remain the same, only the field will change.

We are also working with Starfire to get the times we would really want. We are working on getting standard times. **All teams are required to take 2 weeks off during the summer. Kyle needs to know when all teams are taking their weeks are off during the summer so that he can build this into the schedule.** We would like to open up fields for friendlies. We would build this around time off.

U15/girls and boys teams: Boys have had time off since March, they add a third practice in for some of the time they have taken off during the high school season. Kyle will be sending out the practice field schedule to all the managers. Please be sure to look at this schedule to verify which field your team will be practicing on and communicate this to your teams.

We especially don't want the younger kids being dropped off and left at the wrong field. Text messages an hour before training might be good if you are on a different field.

Team websites are very valuable. The field assignments can be placed on the website and everyone will know well ahead of time when practice field locations will change.

The younger ages we are trying to get on grass at Starfire. For the 00's we are working with Highlands Soccer Club to try to share the fields at Honeydew for games. The grass there is gorgeous. They have completely redone the fields. Starfire has committed to opening up the fields lined for the Mod teams and allowing us to utilize them.

Are there opportunities to practice at Lindberg or Liberty? No. Not at this point.

Collection of team contact information needs to happen: Uniform coordinator, Manager, Treasurer, Webmaster, travel coord., etc.

Tournaments:

With Rainier Challenge we have a deal with them to have all the teams register and sign up as mail registration by check. We will then send one check from the club. We are working to do the same thing with Crossfire

Women's Sounders are playing the Vancouver Whitecaps on June 25th. Everyone is invited to come. This is a fundraising opportunity for the kids. The tickets are \$10. We would be able to purchase them for \$5. We sell them for \$10 and the money raised goes towards the selling player's accounts.

July 17th is GRFC Sounders night. There may be tickets still available. Tami Boydston is our Sounders Rep. You can find her contact information in the about us link at Greaterrentonfc.org for more information about this game.

Jeff Frank is our Facebook and Twitter Rep. Go check it out. The goal was to have Leighton have a Twitter account. He'll announce Women's Night, camps, fun GRFC events.

Are you considering putting score updates on twitter? That would be great – do you want to volunteer to run that?

Nuun has been a great sponsor of ours. A lot of you saw them at your TCB night. We are now putting a link on our website where you can buy Nuun and a portion of the sales will be donated to the club. Click on the logo and it will take you to an order opportunity. If you order 9 tubes it's free delivery, otherwise it's around \$5 to ship. You can buy it for less than you buy it at the store. GRFC gets a rebate for every tube ordered.

Elections:

We have 7 board positions available for the night.

This group has been awesome to work with this last year.

Treasurer: Kaelen nominated and accepted with trepidation.

Registrar: Rich nominated and accepted after asking if anyone else wants it.

Members at Large: Jeff Childs nominated and accepted.

VP Development: Kyle nominated and accepted.

VP Operations: Jeff Hemmen nominated and accepted.

President: Todd Johnson nominated and accepted.

Secretary: Denise Wagner nominated and accepted.

All positions were voted in by the attending membership

We have 2 dates available for volunteering for parking. Please contact Jeff Hemmen if you would like to get your volunteer hours completed on one of these weekend shifts.