

AYSO Board Meeting Minutes – 5/12/25

8628 Utica Avenue, Suite 800

Rancho Cucamonga, CA

CALL TO ORDER: 6.03 pm

PRESENT: Nancy Cooper, Richard Arnold, Joey Catuara, Mark Cummings, Kevin Harris, Jeff Gaines, Mike Gassner, Charlie Kinsey, Kelly Marich, Thomas McNabb, Ivan Monso, Rosalind Morton, Lisa Owens, Louis Palafox, Rich Pietrasz, Ari Ruiz, Michael Rybarczyk, Marilyn Santana, Lisa Smith, Terri Smith, Pat Smith, Dorian Valdez, Arnulfo Vivas, DJ Yoder, Kristine Yoder.

PRESENTATIONS: none

APPROVALS:

The minutes for the April 8, 2025 board meeting were approved on motion by Joey Catuara, seconded by Ari Ruiz without opposition.

The region financials for the month of April 2025 were approved on motion Ari Ruiz, seconded by Joey Catuara without opposition. The proposed Regin budget for fiscal year 2025-26 was approved on motion by Lisa Smith, seconded by Mike Rybarczyk without opposition.

Travel teams: Terri Smith is working on approving all of the travel team budgets for May.

Adult League: Ari reported the spring league is going well, with high registration, and one more week. Summer registration is open and begins on June 7 for 10 weeks. Time to change from 4-6 pm to 5-7 pm due to heat. He thanked those who covered last Saturday in his absence, Arnulfo Vivas, Ralph Ganoa, Pat Smith.

REPORTS:

COACH: Mark reported that pool play is going well, yellow cards are down with only 2-4 for players each week; however, there were still a few coach send offs for dissent every other week or so. We need more field monitoring especially at Beryl park. ECP seems to run itself with upper coaches and refs. Thank you Louis P for opening. Finals are on May 17, 2025. The coach incentive gear was all distributed to 13 coaches, with the rest of the 30 qualifying taking the early sign up in the practice scheduler. Nancy suggested an incentive that would not cost anything to give coaches the choice of picking their uniform color for Fall.

REFEREE: Joey reported that coverage has been good. He begs and the referees respond. He is optimistic for good coverage for Finals games. He assigns the CR but will allow referees to do the AR on their own games if necessary for coverage to avoid club linesmen.

REGISTRATION: Kristine reported Fall registration is open, numbers now are low but it is early and should pick up once school is out.

UNIFORMS: Ari and Jeff reported they are using Zeeni, working on uniform colors and styles as there will be 4 new styles from Zeeni. Keeping all black shorts but mixing up the sock colors with similar color jerseys to help the referees. Duplicate colors are still an issue with the larger divisions. They will try grip socks for upper divisions. Joey suggested the game scheduler can create 2 different flights in the larger divisions so we divide the color duplications in games.

EXTRA: Mike reported that teams have been formed and the tryout numbers were high at over 300 players trying out. He thanked DJ for all his help in organizing the tryouts. We should know if there will be a 16U division hopefully by mid June. Jeff indicated he will not do the Rage or Flames were anymore so coaches will need to handle it.

SELECT: Pat said the season is going well with few issues, however there is an issue with one coach not playing all his players at least half game. He spoke to him after verifying this allegation at the last tournament. Further action may need to be taken with the inclusion of the RC as our Select guidelines do not actually cover such discipline. Pat wants to review any Area guidelines before taking further action. Some tournaments have sent coach letters and video on the new Referee abuse policy (RAP).

SPARKS: Mike and Marilyn indicate there is one week left. Pizza and trophies will be on May 16 and they need 6 referees to center the final scrimmages as well as help to hand out the trophies and pizza. Nancy will order the pizza to be delivered in two shifts as in fall. Trophies are already in the lockup.

EPIC: Spring is finished and the first spring went well with lots of positive feedback.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT: Dorian indicated lots of response, but lower than expected numbers from those who signed up. Challenger coaches were great, but we need more involvement from our Region coaches. He will make more effort to reach out for Fall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joey indicated he has gift cards for Red Robbin to give out for the 10U and 12U at the finals. He has 500 if anyone wants one let him know.

Jeff indicates we lose ECP this weekend and Beryl at end of May so he will contact landscaper to end mowing.

NEW BUSINESS:

GUIDELINE CHANGES: Based on the attendance and the size of the board there was no quorum to vote on changes. It was decided to discuss the proposals then send them out for an email vote of the entire board. Joey will put together the language proposals.

First, proposal was to add a code of conduct to the Select section. We had to remove a player from a team and we don't have anything in the rule about this. It was discussed to require coaches to have parents and players sign the code of conduct. Pat will send copy to Joey to include link and a link to the National harassment policy as well.

Second, proposal was to include in the Extra and Select rules the requirement for coaches to give back to the region. Extra has to get referee points to qualify to move on to their playoffs, but Select can't do that. Pat is to come up with a proposal and send it to Joey. Possibly to add a requirement to help monitor fields on off tournament weekends.

Third, proposal was regarding allowing Core teams to scrimmage other teams. This issue came up with some coaches wanting to use open fields and have lights turned on to accommodate them. It was decided to allow for scrimmages in the 16/19 divisions and to allow lights. For lower divisions not to publicize this but if coaches share field space and want to use their joint area they can scrimmage during set practices. No Region equipment to be used for this. It was considered that if they want lights to charge the teams \$30 hour.

Fourth, proposal was to decide to either allow or not allow payment plans or scholarships for Travel team. We had a few payment plans for Extra and it was not a good experience. So no payment plans in future. As to scholarships, it was decide Joey will put together language to allow them on a case by case basis and for the money to come from either the team or the Flames memorial fund.

Fifth, proposal to set hard start to Select practices and what is allowed. Decision to set Jan 2 as the first day Select teams can practice, no conditioning allowed in December as teams took advantage of this and violated the no practice rule. For uppers, they can participate in the Region winter pickup league to condition. If players are still in high school CIF or area play in January they cannot participate with Select teams until finished. It was discussed adding a consequence for violations of suspension to removal as coach.

Sixth, the new RAP was discussed to add it to the guidelines. We are still waiting for guidance from NBOD as to implementation and education. We expect increased requests for Due Process (DP) hearings. Joey proposed that the DP committees cannot reduce the punishment imposed by the RC any less than 50%, i.e. from 6 games to no less than 3.

It was discussed to add the RAP to apply to field monitor & volunteers as Fourth officials. This was not popular, but it was suggested to specifically include them in the current section of MISCONDUCT along with referees.

Seventh, appropriate coach attire was discussed due to complaints received by some regarding too tight pants or sagging pants. It was discussed that this could open us to unwanted interpretations of appropriateness. It was agreed to table this to next meeting to see what national comes up with as they are supposedly working on such a policy.

Nancy brought up the need to possibly have non-voting members designated to avoid tonight's quorum issue.

OPEN FORUM: Terri Smith announced that long time player and her daughter, Barbara is graduating on May 17 from Cal State University, San Bernardino with her BS in Kinesiology and Physical Therapy. Congratulations were given.

Ivan suggested using the new "Respect" armbands for referees to wear. Green for adults and white for youths. The idea of this was positive, especially for youth referees. He is to get us pricing for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:24 pm

June meeting date TBD, possibly late June to avoid the July meeting.