

Mesa Soccer Club Board Meeting Minutes

Aug 13, 2006

Chuck Myers, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

Secretary's Report - Joan LaRose

The June minutes were submitted and approved. The current MSC Contact List was distributed and attendees were asked to make any additions or changes.

President's Report- Chuck Myers

Chuck indicated that the monthly MSC meeting time will now be 6:30 PM instead of 7 PM. Chuck discussed the MSC current tax status and timeline. The most efficient way is to begin with a new Fed tax id and related non-profit status. Steve Parker is currently handling the process to get the new Fed tax id. Chuck presented a draft of the MSC welcome letter that will be distributed to parents after Labor Day. Jerry will have MSC decals made to go with it. Opening Ceremonies can't be held at Mountain View HS football field on Sept. 9th because of their track renovation. David Cruz will look at the feasibility of moving it to somewhere else for Sept. 16th and distribute details. In other business, Jim Thames will become MSC Director of Coaching. Also, Shawn Kirkpatrick discussed implementation of coaching agreements for all other coaches.

Treasurer's Report – Jerry Hunt

Jerry reported balances in the accounts. Steve Parker was not in attendance so the budget to actual report for the 2005 -06 year will be given at the September meeting.

Uniforms – Jerry needs at least a week for a team order. There is a bag of sample uniforms that teams can borrow for players to try on to determine sizes. Jerry is still working on the optional uniform package and will have it tomorrow for those younger teams.

Registration fees - Jim Thames presented a pro-rated fees schedule for players joining MSC after the beginning of the season and it was approved with slight modification.

Team formation - Jim Thames

Jim reviewed status of teams and coaching staff. There is an opening for a U-10 coach because Boon Campbell relocated to California and Jim has someone under consideration.

Fields- Jim Thames

Jim has distributed a tentative practice schedule and will finalize it after receiving coaches' feedback. Right now, we have a field available on Wednesday nights at Quail Run to be used for make-up games. The city of Mesa will have a couple of Saturdays where fields are not available for regular VYSL games. So you will have to reschedule if you have a home game one of those weekends. Hohokam needs goal nets to be set up so we will have to coordinate their use. Coaches need to put the correct home field for their teams on the VYSL website. U9/U10 teams – Hohokam field #3, U11 through U13 – Hohokam field #6, and U14 through U17 – Hohokam field #2

A Summer Skills after Action Report was given by Jim Thames. Also, we definitely need to change the name to avoid confusion with Skills Assessments.

Referee Training – Any MSC players or family members who have attended referee training and want to be scheduled can contact Jay at Jayw@cox.net.

Jim will present at the September meeting a proposal for coaches to be reimbursed for their license training. Assistant coach discounts will be on a team by team basis this year.

Patriots Cup –

Steve Parker has done some preliminary work in the areas of fields and scheduling ideas. Chuck Myers will head up the tournament and we are going to utilize the committee approach more. It is important that we increase the number of volunteers and we will enforce the policy of 4 hours per player being required. The goal is to develop into a higher-rated tournament and increase net revenue. The venues are Quail Run, Red Mountain and possibly Cap Basin or Power Ranch. We need field marshals for each venue and some committee chairs. Jim Thames and Shawn Kirkpatrick will coordinate team recruiting and David Cruz and Chuck Myers will coordinate Sponsorship. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, Aug 29th at 7 PM at ICE.

MSC Master Calendar Review – Shawn Kirkpatrick

Shawn went over the Master Calendar and reviewed status on upcoming dates in the Calendar of Events

New Business:

Hosting 3 v 3 Live tournament is a possibility in January. Discussion suggested that May would be better. David Cruz will work on this event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Submitted by Joan LaRose
MSC Secretary

MSC Skills Assessment May 2006 after Action Report 4 June 2006

1. Timing of Skill Assessments - The first session did not start until 16 May and went 17 May, 20 May (Saturday) and 23 May (Tuesday at Red Mountain) for four sessions. I believe we need to start a little earlier and break the tryouts into two different parts. The U11 through U8 tryouts can begin in late April. There could be some conflicts with coaches still in state cup with other teams, but maybe they could practice at the later times and the tryouts could be held at Quail Run Monday through Thursday the last week or last two weeks in April. Then there will be fewer conflicts for coaches coaching two teams and more coaches to help with the assessments. Subsequently this would allow more coaches to be available with the older teams and more flexibility to schedule them in May. We stayed away from high school graduation, but there were other activities at the end of school year including finals that limit participation that late in May. Teams should be prepared to continue tryouts later at a different location and time should the need arise.
2. Advertisement – We sent out 44,000 flyers but I do not feel we got near the numbers we needed to have the best selection process. A number of teams are still looking for players and just did not have the numbers of players show up. This continues to be a big stumbling block for the club. We need to find a way to break into the AYSO block of players and start to bring in numbers of these players. It is my opinion that few of the players that attended the skills assessments did so strictly from the flyers that were sent out. I would like to thank Sonic and David Cruz for the money and effort given to get those flyers out.
3. Developmental League – We did get more numbers of younger players. Two years ago there were 3 girls in the U10 and below. I believe we are able to field a U9 and U10 boy's teams and U10 girls and possibly a U9 girl's team to a large extent due to the efforts of David Cruz and the ability to bring players in from the Developmental League. This was one of the bright spots in the whole skills assessment but we would like to have had a lot more.
4. Administration – The help from Joan and all the volunteers was great especially under the wind and weather conditions on the first two days and the heat on Saturday. I feel we need to review if there is a better way to handle the paper work. Perhaps the coaches should have an administrative assistant at the field to keep track of the player's attendance and check on correct birthdates, etc. There were several players that ended up at the wrong fields and were redirected at some point. Handling players playing up needs to be worked out a little better between the coaches. I feel we let players know sooner this year as to whether they had the aptitude to be on a team, but also know there were some problems with email addresses and possibly several that were notified later. If we could find a way to make sure the email addresses are all in capital letters or something to insure they are correct this can help the coaches get information out. Much better than last year but it will always have to be watched carefully.
5. Several coaches who we had planned on coaching multiple teams for MSC and who left at the last minute caused considerable problems with scheduling teams and in one case

caused us to change three coaches on the girls side and two on the boys side half way through tryouts. This created lots of confusion for both the players and coaches in keeping track of the players and sorting out which players were really on the teams. Under the circumstances, I believe all the coaches did a pretty good job.

6. Assistant coaches for a number of teams stepped in and helped out with other teams and my two sons Brian and Jimmy also helped out.
7. The real winners seemed to be the coaches and assistant coaches that went out and found players from AYSO or other teams that were looking for a new home. Sean Kelly brought in a whole group of different girls from AYSO for a 95 girls white team. I know others were out looking and brought in some good players as well.
8. Facilities – Red Mountain was good and the number of fields (5) considering the number of teams worked out good for the weeknights. We were only allowed the use of 2 fields on Saturday at Quail Run and that forced the longer day but did force any coaches to be scheduled twice.
9. Cost and uniforms – Cost seemed to not be a factor and the T-shirts worked out great again. Thanks Jerry.
10. Non-Sunday Players – There needs to be a place on the master form of players attending sessions that identifies a non-Sunday player.
11. Summer Skills Assessment flyers – These were available and were handed out and the opportunity to sign up at Skills Assessments was made available.
12. We need to find out where the players get the information (already on teams, flyers, friends, etc) to come to Skills Assessment.
13. Apparently a few of the parents were confused and believed Skills Assessment had to do with Summer Skills verses tryouts. Placement on the web site and perhaps some type of wording might help to clarify this.

Overall the skills assessment had some pains due to several coaches being scheduled at the same time. Although we had some assistant coaches and volunteers step in, this was not the case when the fields and times were originally scheduled but occurred as a result of several coaches leaving at the last minute and several coaches deciding they wanted to coach three teams. The skills assessment timing needs to be moved up and start with the U8 through U11 in the last part of April. There needs to be some better way to get to the AYSO group and bring in players interested in learning the game better. I can not believe that most of the flyers made it home to the parents.

Jim Thames
Head Coach Mesa Soccer Club
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