

MINUTES

TUCSON METRO SOCCER LEAGUE BOARD MEETING

March 13, 2024

Attendees: Vasilis (Bill) Andriopoulos, Marty Tagg, Belayneh (Bee) Tafesse, Pete Wendler, Diego Morales, Adam Roth, Eddie Betterton, Homayoon (Homa) Karimi

Absences: Jonathan Pearlman

Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

Routine Business (AGENDA):

- I. The minutes of February meeting were motioned for approval by Marty and Homa seconded, everyone agreed.

- II. **Financial Report** – Homa provided a brief financial report.
 - Homa would like the invoices to be sent to him and Connie directly.
 - Transaction fee of \$2283 from Wells Fargo on February 8th is an unknown expense, and Homa and Connie are looking into it.
 - Total assets in February are \$104,085.30 with \$4508.12 in PayPal and \$99,577.18 in Wells Fargo.

- III. **D&R** – 1 red card and 1 non-red card incident reviewed.

- IV. **Old Business**
 - 1) Turf Tank (Paint-machine)
 - No updated information. Bill saw Larry a few times and Larry says he will have time to talk about it later.

 - 2) IRS
 - No updates on the letter received from the IRS requesting payment. Bill sent the letter to David and he said it is normal for it to take so long.

 - 3) Chapman Sponsorship for 2024
 - Adam sent an email to Dominic, but he got an “out of office” email. Will follow up again soon with another email and phone call.

 - 4) Website Issue
 - Diego says his IT guy is willing to take on the task of updating or creating a new TMSL website and will set up a meeting between him and Eddie. Bill talked to his two IT friends in Florida, and they will look for options. Emma will talk to her IT friends too, and we hope to have few options soon.

5) Playoffs

- People are complaining about how the playoffs are being handled through a blind draw. The tournament committee never decided in time, so Bill and Marty made the decision to do a draw.
- Adam says that the draw is not an issue but instead by giving the teams “byes” through the draw it is unfair. He suggests in the future to do the draw before team stats are finalized or to have the playoffs based on standings. This year to make it fairer we should give the top teams the byes and then draw for the remaining teams.
- Marty says we should either do a draw as we already agreed to for the byes and who plays the 5th and 6th teams, or a standard tournament based on standings with no draw involved.
- Bee recommended we give the top 2 teams the bye but do a blind draw for who 3rd and 4th place teams play.
- Adam proposes to vote for **option 1**: a full draw, **option 2**: a partial draw where 3rd and 4th place draw for 5th and 6th while 1st and 2nd get the bye, **option 3**: a standard format based on seeding with 1st and 2nd place teams getting byes, with 3rd playing 6th and 4th playing 5th.
 - Jonathan’s vote was provided over email for option 3
 - Option 1 had 1 vote, Option 2 had 1 vote, and Option 3 had 5 votes and was approved as the format.

V. New Business

1. Leopard FC (Check)

- The Leopards manager wrote a check for \$1800 for the second half of the season and stopped payment on it.
- The check was not deposited for a month.
- The Leopards received numerous red cards, played an illegal player and the board sanctioned them. At one point they had 6 red carded players at the same time. Both managers were suspended along with 5-6 players, and Leopards didn’t show up for their final 2 games without notification to the league.
- They played 6 games in the second half of the season, and a board member recommended we pro-rate and demand payment for the games they played.
- The Leopards manager was suspended for playing an illegal player and served his suspension, and someone paid the \$100 fine on March 12th so he could be reinstated on the O50 team he plays for. This would normally make him eligible to play, but the board agrees that should not alleviate his stop payment on the \$1800 check. Bill will mark the previous suspension paid and add a new suspension under Acts Detrimental to Soccer to be handled separately. A board member recommended we tell the Leopards manager he owes \$900 based on the games already played.
- Homa says he will talk to the Leopards manager and explain the situation and find out how to resolve it. Marty recommended that he and Bill not make the call because of their current involvement with the issue.

- Pete says that whoever pays through PayPal can easily reverse the payment and the money won't go through and that needs to be monitored closely. Homa will check and see if there's a way to get notified in PayPal for cancelled payments.

2. Yellow Card (Sanctions)

- Bill doesn't believe an ejection for three yellow cards in a season should be considered a red card since in the past it was three yellow cards resulting in suspension.
- Marty said the Bylaws have this as a Level 1 red card. If someone want to change this, they can put forward a motion for a vote to change the Bylaws, but the results of the vote would only go into effect next season.
- Marty- Two teams have 25 and 26 yellow cards right now. The yellow cards need consequences, so three yellow cards in a season should equal a red card and not be handled differently from any red card.
- Bill believes yellow cards shouldn't be as serious as red cards. Three yellow cards should be handled differently: 3 yellows cards = 1 game suspension and \$25 fine, 6 yellows cards = 2 games and \$50 fine, 9 yellow cards = 3 games and \$75 fine, etc.
- Marty stressed that the point of the current system is to deter players from getting yellow and red cards, so our current system is the best option. Other leagues use a point system for cards, which is a good deterrent, but we agreed to stick with suspensions and fines.
- The group decided to table the issue until the next meeting.

3. TMSL-PO Box

- Bill thinks the league needs a P.O. box to get bank statements, letters from the IRS, or checks since they currently go to the previous president's address.
- The group agrees. Bill will check prices for a small P.O. box at the post office and provide the prices at the next meeting.

4. New Computer

- The old computer the league bought died and Bill lost the files. He bought a new computer and with the programs it was around \$940. Numerous board members recommended processes to recover the files.

5. Summer 2024 Season

- Bill thinks we need to start the season early by the last two weeks of May otherwise it will go into August. The first game would start May 21 with 10 games and the fall season would start August 21.
- Marty says that the announcement on season dates needs to be posted on the website tomorrow so captains can notify their teams (for those teams where Sunday will be their last game). The final announcement is below.

TMSL Summer 2024 Registration

Team Registration deadline: Friday 5/10 (The Shop hours 4-6pm) 3130 E Fort Lowell Rd (Must have 11 players registered)

Divisions: Open, D1, D2, O40, O50, O60

If not enough teams register for division, we may combine divisions

Player registration fee: \$50

Expected start date: 5/21

Season duration: 10 games (dependent on fields and referees availability)

Games days & times: Tues or Thurs, 6:30pm or 8:15pm

Games will be at Kino complex or city/county fields

For help setting up a new team or if you have any questions, contact a board member or email tmslsoccer@gmail.com

VI. Adjournment. Homa motioned to end the meeting and Adam seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of March 2024.

By Emma Peet

Vasilis Andriopoulos
President

The next meeting of the Tucson Metro Soccer League Board of Directors will be in person at The Shop and/or virtual on Wednesday, April 10th at 6:30 pm.