

4/23/19 NEP BOD Meeting Minutes

Meeting starts at 10:38am

Present BOD Members: Liz Lima (Select), Brian Ainscough (Boston Bolts), Jason Braga (NEFC), Paul Turner (FCUSA), Adam Scott (LFC), Peter Bradley (GPS), Ian Burgess (Seacoast)

Also in attendance: Gabrielle Ehrlich and Jeff Perry (Financials), Brian Woodland (BOD By-law Committee - Aztec), Nick Rugnetta (Scorpions), Evan Burokas (Scorpions), Kelsey Mahoney (Minutes),

4/23/19 Agenda Items:

1. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
2. By-Law: presentation of recommendations
3. Membership Criteria and Rule Changes: presentation and recommendations
4. Budget Preparation for July 1st-June 30th: discussion and update

Additional Items

1. Tryouts: discussion on interpretations and guidelines for NEP clubs
2. NPL: 2019-2020 season boys and girl

Motions Moved

1. 4.23.19 Meeting Minutes ratified after corrections (outlined below) made
2. Fiscal year to be July 1st-June 30th
3. By-Law Updates ratified
4. Membership Criteria Edits ratified
5. Legal address moved to Franklin & Brown Walpole business address of Gabrielle & Jeff

Next Meeting: TBD after reviewing Sean's schedule

Agenda Items:

Next Year's Budget

1. Approval of 4.3.19 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Agenda Item 1, Item "a", line "i" correction: BOD assumes NPL is part of the NEP.
 - b. Agenda Item 7, Item "b", line "i" correction: motion moved that all U23 teams have to be from NEP clubs
 - c. Corrections agreed upon, motion moved to approve 4.23.19 Meeting Minutes, seconded, majority in favor (Peter Bradley abstained)
2. By-Law: Presentation and Recommendations
 - a. All instances where the By-Laws state the 3 board members have been changed to 7
 - i. Previously 2 BOD members could meet and change the direction of the club
 - b. Article II Section 3 concern over the language "30-day notice says member is NOT following below criteria"
 - c. Article II Section 4
 - i. removed the need to replace DOC in 30 days
 - ii. doesn't need to be DOC, can be designated member

- iii. doesn't need to go to BOD; Sean Carey has to be made aware who the designated representative will be
 - d. Article II Section 5
 - i. BOD majority vote on game/league day policies
 - e. Article III Section 4 removed
 - f. Article III Section 5 Annual General Meeting (AGM) first Wednesday in March
 - i. 24 members can vote on any BOD role whose term is up
 - ii. There is no limit to the number of terms one BOD member can have
 - g. Article IV
 - i. Officers elected at Annual General Meeting
 - 1. Officer nominations discussed prior to AGM
 - ii. Section 4: To remove an officer needs a supermajority
 - h. Article VIII
 - i. By-Law amendments changed to require supermajority
 - i. Non-Profit Organizational Standards for BOD to follow
 - i. Ever member club is encouraged to attend and participate in BOD meetings as every member has an equal say in the discussion, however, only 7 BOD can vote on an issue (if BOD determines the issue must be voted on by BOD, not the members)
 - ii. Members put forth recommendations to BOD for board to vote on
 - 1. BOD present to enhance the league
 - 2. Members should vote on issues concerning a league rule change
 - iii. Technical Committee meets and then presents ideas to either BOD or the members
 - iv. BOD can call in to vote but a proxy cannot be used to vote as BOD do not represent their clubs in BOD votes
 - 1. 24 member votes can be made with a proxy
 - j. After 4.23.19 BOD meeting, an additional meeting will be held with all 24 members to inform the league of the changes
 - i. In the past members did not know how things operated or how decisions were made
 - k. Motion moved, seconded, and all in favor to accept changes to By-Laws discussed (**and as outline by NEP Bylaw Update doc**)
- 3. Membership Criteria and Rule Changes
 - a. DOC has to have a minimum USSF B License (no equivalent)
 - i. For current members to meet criteria, must be enrolled in course within a year and B License obtained within 2 years
 - 1. For new members DOC or Technical Director must have B License at time of application
 - b. Grassroots Licenses
 - i. Anyone coaching 7v7, 9v9, 11v11 should have the online course that corresponds to that level
 - c. Licensing Course
 - i. League should: rent facility, determine optimal dates to maximize participation, potentially regionalize the course and hold twice a year
 - ii. Two targets:
 - 1. Full Time Coaches: mornings during the week are good

- iii. Can the league provide club stipend for licensing? – To be discussed at BOD budget meeting
 - iv. Look to obtain Licensing Instructors in-house
 - d. Social Media Standards
 - i. Basic operational standards by supporting the league
 - e. Currently Sean Carey has been monitoring Facility, Operational, Structure, and Uniform Standards
 - i. He can now go to the BOD if there is a major issue
 - ii. New Officer positions to be discussed at next BOD budget meeting
 - iii. Currently the League Director is not able to make BOD meetings. Meetings need to be marked in advance to accommodate this
 - f. Technical Committee
 - i. Sean knows who the past Technical Group members were that was formed in November
 - g. New Member Fee
 - i. Currently there is a slight issue in the league with clubs paying fees on time, usually resolved within a couple months. Everyone will be held to a time schedule. Performance bond will be required for new teams
 - h. Current Standards
 - i. Question raised that NEP games cannot be changed for another non-league game
 - 1. No objections
 - ii. Question raised that the NEP is not preventing players from playing in NEP if in another league
 - iii. Need to maintain standards due to growth of the league
 - 1. Referees – stretched thin
 - 2. More teams, more coaches – licensing support and pathways
 - iv. DOC Seminar to announce what the standards for next year will be
 - v. Club Summit for NEP clubs
 - 1. Invite DOCs and Admins
 - i. Exhibit A
 - i. Club definition: U9-U18 teams and in at least 1 gender
 - 1. What does this do to clubs that are not NEP members currently participating?
 - j. Provide a 2-year grace period to current NEP clubs
 - i. This will raise the bar slightly but not crush the current clubs
 - k. Partner Clubs
 - i. Can either stay with the partner club they are affiliated with or they can apply to NEP on their own
 - 1. Anyone who fits the criteria has the right to apply to NEP
 - l. Document needed to track
 - m. Motion moved, seconded, and all in favor to accept the changes noted
 - i. Current Member Criteria – reviewed during the meeting
 - ii. New Member Criteria
 - n. Discussion for NPL team/clubs to carry a higher standard – agreed, but tabled for future meeting
 - i. NPL application Criteria
- 4. Budget Preparation

- a. Motion moved, seconded, and majority approved to change the fiscal year to be July 1st- June 30th
 - b. Motion moved, seconded, and all in favor to move the league's address to Gabrielle's Walpole address
 - c. Budget Reports to now be sent to Jason Braga and anyone else the BOD deems necessary
 - d. Financial team will meet with Sean Carey within the next 2-3 weeks
 - i. Budget meeting with Sean Carey present to follow
 - e. Jason to give proposals to the BOD next meeting on possible options to give money to
 - f. Profit and Loss Report Shared
 - i. Does not factor in referee fees nor some club league fees owed
5. Additional Items
- a. Tryouts
 - i. 4.3.19 Minutes note that the motion was passed that a club cannot have Tryouts before June if NEP member
 - ii. Discussion was to agree that all NEP tryouts will be in the first 2 weeks of June, younger ages first, then older.
 - 1. If there are deviations, BOD will meet to discuss how to address the issue
 - iii. Nick Rugnetta (Scorpions) agreed via Gentleman's agreement that they would change current Tryout language advertising to "ID Clinics"
 - 1. CFC was another member club identified as offering tryouts and member of board to follow up
 - iv. Current rules were set 5-6 years ago
 - 1. NEP clubs are now in other leagues as well as NEP
 - a. CFC also is having tryouts in May, should have been addressed along with Scorpions
 - v. Winter Tryouts voted by 24 members as acceptable in November
 - 1. "for non-NEP member players" language must be present on advertising
 - b. NPL
 - i. NPL was not originally under NEP. NEP now runs the NPL
 - ii. 2019-2020 NPL Feedback has not been sent to clubs from Sean Carey / Martyn Emery after he collected the feedback from the members
 - 1. Jason Braga will reach out to Sean to ensure this feedback gets sent out
 - iii. Technical Committee should be formed to present to BOD

Motion to end meeting at 12:54pm seconded and majority passed