Fort Collins Soccer Club
Board of Directors Meeting
April 20, 2026

Attendance:

P	Mark Adams, President	P	Bret Meldrum, Vice President
P	Neil Johnson, Secretary	P	Chad Clark, Treasurer
P	Nick Whitworth, Director	P	Fred Long, Director
P*	Josh Kuethe, Director	P*	Sean Tomlinson, Director
E	Hailey Kepler, Director		
P	David Thomas, Executive Dir.		Dave Shaffer, Staff
P	Brenda Hampson, Staff		

*Phone

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Nick moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Bret seconded; the minutes were approved.

<u>Board Action Items:</u>

- New Programming:
  - U11 and U12 boys and girls, Academy and gold teams, will participate in the pre-ECNL beginning fall 2026. The platform will provide an additional 7 games across the year. Academy teams will play in Tier 1, with gold teams playing in Tier 2. This will supplement the CSA league. The pre-ECNL includes other top teams from across the state. Additional costs for the platform have been included in the new budget.
  - U13 – U19 boys and girls gold teams will compete in National 1 (N1). A new platform that US Club, ECNL and CSA are jointly organizing. These games will be in addition to the CSA league and will be played as events during the season. The costs are built into the new budget.
  - Discussion regarding how to navigate what our members are interested in. What level, what platform. How do we ask, what do we ask?
- Budget Presentation – David
  - Traditionally the budget has been presented in May for approval and the fee structure has been presented in April for approval. David presented the proposed budget for 2026/27 in April for approval.
  - The budget is developed based on:
    - Historical actuals and trends
    - Known costs and variable costs
    - Participation projections
    - Fees are aligned with expenses
  - Key Changes
    - New Platforms
    - Growth in costs for referees, fields and coaching
    - Staff / coach investment
  - Fee Philosophy: balance, align fees, remain competitive, scholarship
  - What drives fee changes: inflation, required costs and strategic investment
  - Fee Summary (increases):
    - Adult +$5
    - Rec +5 - $10
    - PDL + ~5%
    - Competitive +~5% (+ $150 - $200 for players in the new platforms)
  - Fee increases will cover: program expenses, coaches, referees, teams, players
  - Support Services: staff compensation, insurance & admin, operations, misc expenses reduced
  - Expense Philosophy: invest in player experience, avoid cuts, prioritize coaches
  - Bottom line: Balance budget, strategic investment maintained, fees aligned with expenses
  - Chad moved to approve the proposed fee structure as presented, Neil seconded, motion carries.
  - Bret moved to approve the proposed budget for 2026/27 as presented, Fred seconded, motion carries.
- Capital Campaign status:
  - Committee continues to meet every other week.
  - David and Brenda continue to meet with Zim every other week.

<u>Staff Reports</u>:
<u>Executive Director – David Thomas:</u>

- Covered

<u>Technical Director - Dave Shaffer</u>: (Dave was absent – David reported)

- Tryouts are coming – will begin early May and continue all month.
- Dealing with challenges related to the age group changes.
- Spring season is well underway.
- Post season: Several teams are expected to earn spots in the ECNL RL Regional event in June. U13 and U14 boys are girls have already earned a spot. A couple of other teams are also still in the running.

<u>Director, Member Services – Brenda Hampson</u>

- The club will host an online auction in early May to raise funds for the scholarship program. Details will go out shortly.

<u>President's Report – Mark Adams:</u>

- No repot

<u>Vice President's Report – Bret Meldrum:</u>

- No report

<u>Treasurer – Chad Clark:</u>

- Covered

<u>Secretary – Neil Johnson:</u>

- No report

<u>Executive Committee – Mark Adams:</u>

- Covered

<u>Financial Management Committee – Chad Clark:</u>

- Covered

<u>Competition Committee – Fred Long:</u>

- The committee discussed messaging about grade reconfiguration
- The committee is exploring universal standards for level and age groups

<u>Grants/Development Committee – Bret Meldrum:</u>

- Covered

<u>Soccer Complex Committee – Nick Whitworth:</u>

- Water update – the drought is making turf management a challenge this spring. There are valve box and line issues that staff is working on. The infrastructure is aging and will need to be addressed ultimately. Relying on well water continues to be a concern.

<u>Board Election Committee – Neil Johnson:</u>

- No report

<u>Customer Focus Committee – Hailey Kepler:</u>

- No report

<u>Future Agenda Items:</u>

- Capital Campaign
- Platforms

Nick moved to adjourn the meeting and Chad seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil Johnson
Secretary