



West-Mont United

Soccer Association

Character · Sportsmanship · Teamwork



Purpose: West-Mont United Board Meeting – General Meeting

Date: April 17, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Clubhouse

Board Members Present: Glenn Richardson, Dave Santos, Jim Daniels, Kim Rohn

Trustees Present: Brett Illig, Beth Higgins

Employees & Members: Steve Sawyer, Michael Oplinger, JJ Sands, John Cerminara, Harvey Pitkapassi, Renee Troxel-Parker, Mark Fonkam, Antonia Fonkam, Amanda Verman, Ross Popko, Angelo Polo, Brian Royds, Mark Cross, JP Demarco, Hope Bodenschatz, Susan Perkaski, Bill Maule

Recorded by: Michael Oplinger

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME	FOLLOW UP (person responsible)
Review of Minutes			
Reading and approval of the previous meeting minutes			
President			
Call to Order	Glenn calls meeting to order and introduces board members, welcomes others to volunteer for board positions		
New Business			

<p>Program Updates - Steve Sawyer</p>	<p>Program Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Numbers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IM numbers are similar year to year ○ Travel tryout numbers are up from last year • Recent Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jeff Cup- 2012G and 2013G won, 2012B and 2013B were finalists ○ E64 standings- 3 teams in 1st, 2 in second place • Staff Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Daniel Clitnovici- had a great impact on club, accepted a D1 head coaching offer ○ Megan Geldernick will join us full time moving forward. ○ Next year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Megan- U15 + Boys and Girls ▪ Corey- U8-U14 Boys ▪ Chris - U8-U14 Girls ▪ Jesse - Futures Academy ○ New Hires for Next Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Paulo Ferreira ▪ Will Chipoco ▪ Blake Hornbuckle ▪ Jen Todd ▪ Christian Wuertz ▪ Manny Tavoc • Upcoming Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summer Select ○ WPSL Women's Team - college aged women ○ U23 Men's Team ○ Summer Camps • Upcoming Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tryouts next week ○ IM All Star Game- May 5 ○ Senior Appreciation Night- May 6 ○ IM Fun Day- June 1 ○ Club Festival - June 8 ○ Golf Outing- June 13 ○ Res Camp - July 18 to 20 ○ Team Camp Boys - July 28 to 30 ○ Team Camp Boys - July 31 to Aug 2 ○ BAH Aug 16-18 and 23-25 ○ IM Opening Day- September 7 		
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General Business- Glenn Richardson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation district is reviewing plan After they approve, we can show plan to membership After that, we can solicit financing and bids 		
Operations- Michael Oplinger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AEDs are installed at two locations on property, accessible 24/7 		
Fundraising- Jim Daniels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club Festival June 8 – searching for food trucks and any vendors. 		
Q&A	Q&A		
	Q: What is the availability of Far Post?	Try to move as many games as possible. Prioritize the older teams and Cup games	
	Q: What is the thought process behind one coach having both Blue and Gold?	A: So the coach has a broader age group as a whole. In the future, they will both be on the same team. We want the same level of development for everyone.	
	Q: Parents were told that Blue and Gold teams would have opportunity to mix and it hasn't happened. Both 2015 are good and could challenge each other better than teams from outside the club.	Some of it is scheduling issues. We would need another coach available. One of the benefits of Zone 1 Supplemental is that kids are grouped together. We would like to create opportunities for kids to train together.	
	Q: What is the thought process with the age groups on Summer Select? Some kids are moving up to 11v11 but playing 9v9 in the summer	It's mostly about numbers and grouping them in the best way possible. Differences of opinion about when to switch field size.	
	Q: Why are tryouts late compared to other clubs?	Integrity is one of our core values. Tryouts should be in May. Clubs push them earlier and earlier. We are trying to combat the problem. It hurts in some ways. But we also get kids who do not make other teams. We still have two months left in the season and tryouts can be disruptive. Some teams didn't start until November and then they have tryouts early. It disrupts State Cups, etc. EPYSA doesn't have any	

		mandates about tryout dates. Also, not all clubs answer to EPYSA.		
	Q: Are we looking into moving up into some of the better leagues?	<p>We're always looking to move up into the best possible competition. Our E64 division was not what we hoped it would be. Some of the replacement clubs have not had teams to the level we expected. Florida event was good and high level. The consistency of the Northeast division is the issue, which is unique to this division.</p> <p>We have had conversations about other options. RL is the most obvious. Felt like RL was a lower ceiling than E64.</p> <p>Worst case scenario for next year is better than this year. We would retain E64 status but play National League Conference, which is higher level than we play at. Having good conversations with GA leadership and will find out their decision soon. Next year, optimistic that we can join RL or GA.</p>		
	Q: What does boys side look like as far as better leagues?	Boys have different options. Also the Boys E64 division is solidified so it's hard to join that. More of our boys teams will play National League next year to try to prove our ability and level. We need to make good longterm decisions but are definitely looking to challenge the boys.		
	Q: Practices for next year- will it be boys/girls nights or Zones?	This year's schedule was ok but the issue is age groups use the same amount of field space . We will switch back to boys and girls nights next year.		
	Q: Would more promotion of travel games here at home be helpful in showing people what travel looks like? Maybe they would come to watch?	<p>We would like to advertise upcoming home games. We need to implement it with social media and website. We are required for E64 games but can do it more for other games.</p> <p>If we expand the travel buddy coach program, hopefully the relationship develops and teams support each other.</p>		

	Q: Do we have information session for parents interested in travel?	We had some information sessions last week, split by zone, where we go over what is entailed in the travel program.		
	Q: Practices have been canceled due to weather- can we adjust based on who has important games coming up?	We do consider it but things are case by case. Decisions are made in concert with directors.		
	Q: Have we thought of having a volunteer committee?	Looking into creating committees for different aspects.		
Adjournment				
	General Meeting adjourned at 8:47			
Next Meeting				
	May 15 at 7pm			