

WEST-MONT UNITED BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: December 9, 2025

Time: 6PM (7PM General Meeting)

IN ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Pat Welch, Tim Belmont, Dave Santos, Jim Daniels, Hanna Roberts

Trustees:

Employees: Steve Sawyer, Michael Oplinger

Members: Ann Fletcher, Amy Guay, Mark Cross, Alison Dooley, Greg Dooley, Chris Berg, John Canale, Rasheem Pearson, Steven Fisher, Lianne Stevens, Greg Silverman, Brittany Troutman, Kristin Wallace, Greg Beese, Jenn Beese

GENERAL MEETING:

Began at 7:49

Pat introduces. Board members discussed discrepancy between posted by-laws and previous elections. In December 2024, President, Facilities, Technical Director were elected. Election will be held tonight based on by-laws posted on website. The decision in the board executive meeting was that the posted bylaws are to be followed and therefore the election of 2024 will be invalid. President, Registrar, Facility and Technical Director will be up for election tonight.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August General Meeting – Approval motion- JD, 2nd – TB. All in favor – PW, HR, DS

Treasurer's Report- Tim Belmont

- Introduction of himself
- Club is in strong position and has been for a while

PROGRAM UPDATES – STEVE SAWYER

- Intramural
 - Positive Fall Satori Survey results
 - Evaluating uniform suppliers
 - Spring Registration open – early bird discount ends 12/15, registration closes 2/28
- Travel
 - U8-12 currently off, U15+ ramped up 11/3
 - New Age Group training was a success
 - U8-U14 Satori survey running

- Winter schedule begins 1/5
- U15+ ECNL RL teams will be training with CoreFit one night per week
- Camps
 - DTP Winter 1 – sold out
 - SSD Winter 1 – 4 spots left
 - SSD Winter 2 begins 1/6
 - MLK Day camp now open
 - Finalizing summer camp schedule
- Tournaments
 - Fall Rec Fest canceled
 - Fall Finale
 - Girls: 32 (2024: 32)
 - Boys: 38 (2024: 40)
 - WM top teams did not participate
 - Most outside teams ever
- Other programs
 - Discovery Program – New
 - Summer Select TBA soon
 - Futures Academy – Spring
 - Boys – sold out, Girls- 20 so far
- Travel Results
 - ECNL RL Fall Season
 - Boys – 2013B – 4-3-0 : 4th place, 2012B, 2-5-0, 6th place
 - Girls: 2015G – 6-0-2, 1st place; 2014G- 2-3-3, 5th , 2013G – 1-4-3, 7th; 2012-0-6-2, 8th
 - ECNL RL Virginia Showcase
 - Boys: 2009 – 2-0-1, 7th of 54; 2007 – 2-1-0, 21st of 66
 - Girls: 2009 – 2-0-1, 7th of 53
 - Bethesda Premier Cup
 - Boys: 2011 – 1st place, 2010 – 3rd place
 - Girls: 2011 – 2nd place, 2010 – 3rd place
 - Other Results
 - 2016 Boys – 1st place in Acela First Division
 - Fall Finale – Champions: 16G Gold; Finalists: 17B Gold, 16B Gold, 13B Gold, 15G Gold, 13G Gold
 - EDP Fall Classic – 2014G Pre ECNL – 3rd place
- Other Updates
 - Philly Sports Raffle- \$7500 +
 - Beef & Beer: \$6000 +
 - Trunk or Treat- huge success
 - New Coaches: Shamus Matthews, Jodi Clugston, Lucas De Sa, Johnny Knutsen, Brandon Duke
 - Hosting US Soccer Coaching Courses
 - December: Grassroots 7v7 and 9v9
 - January/February: D License
 - March : Coach for Community
 - New Partnerships
 - Ember + Ale
 - Kyle Rodden Photography
 - Field improvement work done at the end of the fall season
- Upcoming Calendar
 - December 10/11- Holiday Merch Sale
 - December 15: IM Early Bird Discount Ends

- December 17: Zone 1 Holiday Party
- January 5: Travel Training resumes
- February 28: IM Registration Deadline
- April 11: IM Opening Day
- June 11: Golf Outing – Tentative
- June 12: 50th Anniversary Banquet
- June 13: Club Festival and 3v3 tournament

GENERAL BUSINESS – PAT WELCH

- Employees were offered health care for the first time this year
 - We are in the process of renewing that coverage
- Land Development Plan
 - Last year’s announcement of township approval was largely ceremonial
 - Reality there was still a lot of boxes to check
 - Completed the stormwater management piece within the last few months
 - Also spent months discussing with water and sewer
 - We do not yet have approval on sewer from township as usage is still being debated
 - There is a checklist of 10 items to complete

FACILITIES UPDATE – PAT WELCH

Included above

OPERATIONS UPDATE – MICHAEL OPLINGER

- Blue Tree has completed sod work on 6 fields
- Winter league scheduling is completed and will be released soon

TECHNICAL UPDATE – PHIL GRIFFITHS

- N/A

REGISTRATION UPDATE – HANNA ROBERTS

- Registration for high school teams is complete
- Winter CLS registration is completed.

MARKETING AND EVENTS – JIM DANIELS

- Merchandise sale Wednesday and Thursday
- Reach out if interested in volunteering

Q & A

Q: What's the plan for the CoreFit training? Agility, weightlifting?

A: We have the ability to adjust the program based on our calendar and needs. It will be a hybrid of weightlifting, recovery, yoga, agility, etc.

Q: What will happen with new trapped players when the age group changes?

A: Every case will be evaluated on case by case basis, particularly for the kids on the middle school/high school line.

Q: Will the age groups for travel and intramural be the same now?

A: Yes

Q: It seems like our tournament schedule is fall heavy.

A: Matching level of team and tournament is the most important factor. Spring season gets full with state cups. There are fewer tournaments available in the spring.

Q: Summer Select is often full of existing travel teams. Any thoughts to extending the regular travel season?

A: The challenge is getting commitment in the summer. Our teams are welcome to do additional events on their own. Finding the right events in the summer is very challenging.

Q: What was the thought process in staying in Baltimore Mania after years of consistent poor feedback?

A: Much of the decision is based in a level-fit. Teams in the past were not a good fit.

Q: Is there a land development plan timeline?

A: A few of the pieces of the checklist will take a few months. We need to seek financing and bids from contractors. Next fall is the earliest we could potentially build, given the list still to complete. It will then take a lot of coordination between programs given the front half of the complex will likely be closed.

Q: The report from August was similar to what was given today. It doesn't feel transparent. Membership may be able to help move it along.

A: The township approval was ceremonial. Our plan is not officially approved now. We'd be happy to share the checklist.

Q: You mentioned the building, what about the fields?

A: Turf piece is designed and basically approved. There are ancillary pieces as part of the land development plan such as the parking lot adjustment, etc.

Q: Does the building hold up everything?

A: No, we've talked about phasing the project. We do not need the building, bathrooms, etc. Right away. We can get by with portable toilets as we do now. The intent is to build the fields first. Then the building will be Phase 2.

Q: Do we have high level bids? Have we sought financing?

A: No, no bids yet. The number estimated is 4 million. That's the whole project, including building. There are other factors that need to be completed- upgrading to 3-phase power, etc. Project is almost at the point where you can line up the financial pieces that need to be in place to complete the project. Then you can break it into the chunks.

Q: On the finance side, is there commitment from the club to not raise rates to pay for it?

A: Rates will not skyrocket. There is money saved via not renting off-site space. We finance most of it. But we will need a delta for unknown expenses with the turf fields. There are facilities costs like workers, snow plows, etc. We have to be mindful of raising rates so it's something we constantly look at.

Q: How long of a term would a loan be for something this big?

A: You could do 10 years, you could do bonding, you can get corporate sponsorships, etc.

Q: As a new Gold parent, I'd like to see more investment in Gold teams. It's challenging for kids to make the jump to Blue from Gold. What else can we offer them?

A: That's one of our biggest challenges year to year. You see the varying levels of commitment. In the past, we have given older Gold teams the equivalent of Blue teams. We're constantly adjusting this. Always looking for other ways to bridge that gap.

Q: What's the plan to get intramural more engaged in the club? I'm the only one here. There is the sense that intramural is second rate.

A: This is another challenge. There is an investment gap and being involved. We're open to ideas. We're passionate about getting more people invested in intramural.

ELECTIONS

Candidate Introductions and Speeches

Registrar:

- Hanna Roberts – running unopposed, reelected

Technical Director:

- Kristin Wallace
 - Interested to have more transparency from the board. I haven't seen a risk management report. I think that holds everyone accountable. I have been a lawyer for 25 years overseeing audits and risk. I have 2 kids in the club and have experience at every level of travel and intramural. I can bring that perspective.
 - Q for Kristin- historically the technical director board member has a soccer background. Do you have that?
 - No, only as a parent
 - It seems like the position in the past has been more risk management and less soccer knowledge.

Facilities Director:

- Dave Santos
 - Been with the club a long time. Coached intramural and travel. Son played for a long time – intramural and travel. Always been involved as a team manager. I volunteered to help with Finance. Then became a trustee and did registrar for 5 years. Then stepped down from registrar as the leagues got more complicated. Facilities position opened up and I've been around for a long time and know what needs to be done.
- Steve Fisher
 - Facilities manager at Merck, previously at Excelon. Currently managing a \$65 million project at Merck. Have been a facilities manager for 21 years. I grew up here and played at Spring Ford. Coached at Spring Ford High School and Middle School. Have coached intramurals at West-Mont. Currently coach school and AAU basketball. Served on athletic boards for Norristown. I feel my experience is valuable to help push the club forward to get the best facilities here. I feel I can bring a new perspective on how to manage that.

President:

- Greg Beese

- 3 kids in the club. We've been part of the club for 10 years. We have enjoyed seeing WM grow. CEO of IT management company in Colleegeville- consistent growth year over year. We've focused on putting together the right teams and processes to allow people to succeed. IT is about the people and the process at the club level as well. The club has brought in good people as coaches and directors. I'm hearing from families that there are transparency issues within the club. I feel there are things we can handle differently. I was previously on the board and was involved in land development. I feel that with your support we could continue that project without missing a beat. We'd like to see our kids enjoy that field.
- Q: What position did you have before and why did you leave?
 - I was VP and left because there were false accusations against me by the board. For the land development program, we needed an engineer and I recommended an engineer. We needed an excavation company that I suggested. I offered to abstain from voting to prevent conflicts. This was the early stages of plan. This was 2021- 4 years later we still don't have bids. I was challenged in these meetings that I would receive kickbacks from these companies. I was trying to help the club and find good contractors. Anyone who stands up to Glenn and Pat seems to get pushed out.
 - Q: Did Anthony from Gorski work for you?
 - A: Yes and I disclosed this. I filled out the conflict of interest forms.
 - PW: There were more and more conflicts that got disclosed. Why did you resign?
 - GB: I was removed from the board and found out through the FC Delco president that I was no longer a West-Mont board member.
- Glenn Richardson
 - Absent due to illness

Tellers: Chris Berg and John Canale

Results:

President – Greg Beese – 7 total votes cast

Facilities- Steve Fisher - 8 total votes cast

Technical - Kristin Wallace – 8 total votes cast

Registrar – Hanna Roberts – 8 total votes cast

ADJOURNMENT: Pat publicly thanks Glenn and Dave for their service

General Meeting ended at 10:11

BOARD MEETING:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES – SAWYER

- IM Uniform Supplier
 - Offers from Protime and Challenger
- TurfTank

- Upgrade robot in spring for \$1700
 - Motion- JD. Second- DS. In Favor – PW, HR, TB
- BlueTree contract
 - \$154,900 in 2026 and will add clause based on turf field creation – Motion JD, 2nd DS
 - In favor – PW, HR, TB
- Expense Allocations
 - Steve, Kris, Tim have been working to allocate salary and facility expenses across programs

OPERATIONS UPDATE – MICHAEL OPLINGER

- **Facilities**
- Winterizing
 - Lance is largely through his list of winterizing tasks
 - Will continue to work on it over the next few weeks
- Blue Tree
 - Blue Tree completed sod work on fields before Thanksgiving
 - Our contract expires 12/31/2025
 - Looking for a decision on this
- Turf Tank
 - Looking for decision on this. Details previously sent via email
- Café
 - Hood was professionally cleaned a few weeks ago
 - Repairman came to look at the ice machine, recommends getting a new one
 - He could try to fix existing machine but would be guessing at which parts to replace; parts are expensive.
 - Rick/Mike are looking into options, smaller than the one we currently have. Our current unit stores 500lbs of ice, which we never use all of.
- **Travel**
- Training schedule for the remainder of year is on Playmetrics
- All open tournament registrations are completed
- Winter league registration and scheduling is completed.
 - **Other Events**
- **Staff holiday party next Tuesday**

NEXT MEETING

January 2026