

## HSC Minutes

### February 9, 2014 meeting

**Attendees:** Rika Stevenson, Peter Foley, Karl Schwiegerhausen, Chuck Wilkey, Mike Lawton, Keith Bilafer, Allyson Hendriks, Andrew Thomas

Carl Beckett, Steve Stecyk arrived approximately at 7:30 pm.

- The meeting convened at 7:07 pm in the Congregational Church
- Minutes from January meeting were approved by unanimous board vote
- **The following Action Items came out of the discussion**
  - Allyson: verify placement of the new player in BU12.
  - All: check minutes to determine if Board ratified keeper policy. Initial findings indicated that it did not.
  - Steve S: confirm whether Alex at Challenger is coming back
  - Allyson: alert coordinators to distribute rosters in advance one week (February 23)
  - Allyson: will come up with proposed timeframe for when we need field clarity
  - Unassigned: fields need fertilizer—follow up with parks and rec

### General Meeting Minutes

- There was a discussion of the goalkeeper for U18
  - The board discussed the balance between having one primary goalkeeper vs balanced play for the 3 keepers on the team
  - The board agreed that this should be approached within the current framework of the club handbook
- **BU16/18 update**
  - 36 kids total
  - After a lot of work, there are enough kids for a U16 team this year
  - 13 Juniors and Seniors, balance sophomores
  - 5 kids need to be moved up to U18
  - 6 U16 teams in league overall
  - No more registrations will be accepted for these age groups
  - The club will hold tryouts for final 5 U18 slots
  - The board will provide assistance on tryouts

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- The last person registered will not get a slot on a team
- Coaching - Peter W, Dan D, Malcolm Carley for U16
- U18 is looking for coaches. Contact Karl with ideas.
- **GU14**
  - 16 girls, one not paid. Two more that are interested in playing "at leisure"
- **GU18**
  - 17 players today, no keeper yet.
  - The club is following up on potential interest from a keeper in Clinton
- **BU14**
  - 30 kids
  - Will hold tryouts to divide them
- **BU12**
  - Requested moving A team to MTOC2
  - Open position on goalie slot. Evaluating new player as an option.
  - Currently 11/14/13 kids from A/B/C
  - Discussion of whether to move a keeper up from B team
  - Registration will remain open.
- **BU10**
  - Roughly the same numbers as last season-- registration down by 2 overall
  - A few kids not coming back, some new kids
- **GU10**
  - No update
- **In-town U6/7/8**
  - Numbers tracking okay, on pace for same area as fall 2013, roughly 150-160 overall
- **GU12**
  - Considering some movement across A and B teams
  - The challenge of balancing team size and trying to avoid moving a player down was discussed
  - Current thinking is to keep this as-is
- **Challenger update**
  - Spring contract has been received

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- No rate increase rates this year
- Coaches - Tom is coming back, Nieve is likely coming back
- **Player development**
  - Steve Stecyk attended recent soccer conference, focused the visit on Rec team development
  - **Conference Takeaways**
    - Club doing a lot right
    - Joint practices
    - Suggested emphasis on “Kicking is Not Soccer” approach, a draft of which was distributed. This emphasizes the importance of dribbling skills development. We’ll introduce this at the coaches meeting, scheduled in March
  - Will change tone of upcoming coaches meeting since all coaches are coming back
  - F course was provided in January. It went well-- 5 Harvard coaches attended. 20 total. Feedback was great.
  - Fitchburg offering one in March, one day
  - March 8 is deadline for rosters being finalized (all items finalized on website).
- **Fields update**
  - 11 v 11 nets - unknown - no update
  - Field assignment question - when will assignments for practice times be available?
- **Equipment update**
  - Will likely incur more expense for the season
  - Went from 4 to 6 teams U14 and older
  - The board discussed the recommendation to have kids bring their own balls.
  - Will likely need more pinneys
- **Finances**
  - Budget - updated through 2013
  - Provide feedback if you haven't
  - Looking like we're running close, slight deficit
  - Discussion on fee raise for 2014 fall
  - The board discussed whether fees should be raised more in alignment with NVYSL costs – which are currently very disproportionate, e.g. U18 ~\$600, U10 ~ \$125
  - The board will discuss this further in upcoming meetings

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- **League meeting update**

- Changes in U10 on goalkeeping - goalkeepers can punt past halfway
- Proposed bylaw change - paid coaches can be 4th non-rostered coach on the sidelines
- League voted to cover costs of Bromfield for coaching clinic

- **Board Goals**

- The board discussed solidifying its goals for 2014
- The following suggestions were made:
  - Update Constitution, Handbook
  - Ratify keeper policy
  - Update/clean up website
  - Populate/maintain Google documents folder
  - Keep the player evaluation sheet up to date
  - Find a secretary
  - Resolve cash with HAA
  - Decide on fee increase by April
  - Use Quickbooks to run finances
  - Maintain participation levels
  - Develop a plan for fields maintenance

- **Assorted items**

- Discussion of number of roster changes allowed in MTOC - 3 changes (4 rosters). Roster freeze around Memorial Day.
- Sportswear site in development. Targeting a draft site by March.
- Board members should make an effort to be at games, really helpful to understand club issues