Shaler Soccer Club

Annual General Meeting

11/08/2023 – 6:30PM – 8:00 PM

Shaler Township Building – In Person

AGENDA

* Call to Order – 6:30 PM
	+ WELCOME! We are glad you are here!
	+ Nick Druga – Club president
	+ Reflections for the year
		- Without question, these are the most people that we have at the meeting, we have Quorum
		- On many different fronts – we have had the most folks registered
		- It shows and it is reflective
		- We’ve had more wins and more goals the past 2 seasons than we have ever had
		- What we do – the people that are present – it matters what we do
* Motion to Accept of the Minutes of the last General Meeting
	+ Motion: Joshua Dadeboe, 2nd Amy Proie
	+ Motion accepted -
* Reading of Annual Reports
	+ Treasurer
		- This has been a great year, continues to be a great year
		- With the change in interest rates – we have not gotten much over the year, this year we have gotten about $3K this year
		- Uniforms and referee fees are paid
		- Costs will stay the same – it has been 3 years that we have been able to maintain our registration cost
		- Investments
			* Parking lot striping/maintenance
			* Replaced old equipment
			* Increasing supply of soccer ball, nets due to increased registration
			* Cleaning service at Denny to keep the restrooms clean
			* Display refrigerator – been delivered 2x and has been broken 2x
			* Any questions on the budget? None
	+ Registrar
		- Our numbers have been amazing!
		- We try to keep our kids coming back through the different things we do
		- Main seasons – Fall and Spring
			* Also offered UGKA Keeper training – Fall, Spring, Summer
			* Summer pick up
			* Complete Moves
			* Winter Bootcamp style training (U13 and up)
			* Winter InHouse Futsal (U8-U12)
			* Plum Classic
				+ 6 Teams registered this fall
			* Fox Chapel Moonlight Madness (U10)
			* PA West Open Tournament
				+ 3 Teams registered
				+ 2 of the boys teams came home champions
			* Winter FUTSAL season
				+ PISA
				+ Marx sports time tournaments (Elizabeth)
		- Travel and Intercommunity Leagues
			* Overall Reflections
			* Age groups have winning seasons and some don’t have winning seasons
			* Don’t want to see staggeringly high win rates – we want to see healthy competition
			* The level of training – a lot more has gone into the training (academy style)
			* The last piece – as we continue to mature across not only SSC but PA West
				+ We will see team building exercises that put more “like” teams together
				+ Classic Bell Shape – Teams on both ends getting what they need as well as the ones in the middle
			* VP Inhouse – Ben
				+ Went well – Parent involvement has been great
				+ Last few weekends of the season, the concession stand was closed
				+ It was a great time for Halloween
				+ Had some cold and rainy days – overall we had some really great days
				+ Comment: Could we get more parents to RSVP that they will be at the games?

As we continue to talk through organization and instruction- we want commissioners to be laser focused on getting folks

* + - * TOPS soccer
				+ Shaler continues to be the showcase
				+ Seneca Valley and Deer Lakes have come in to see how we run our program to be buddies
				+ We continue to build out our
				+ We are going to be offering a winter program for TOPSoccer – Thursdays on Jan/Feb to be a buddy (13 or older)
				+ TOPS registration will be out by the end of this week
				+ Typically, we host North Hills, Fox Chapel and Pine Richland to have more people in Shaler participate
				+ If we have the new bylaws accepted – we will have a director of TOPSoccer into the organizational structure
				+ Flyer for TOPSoccer
			* Parent Involvement
				+ 301 families – almost 700 kids total
				+ 253 Checks destroyed
				+ 48 not doing the volunteer hours

Most are TOPS, Travel

4th season – coach

1 of 4 for 4 teams – coaches

Coaches are always welcome to jump into the season midway through- absolutely (enter the process at any time)

Encourage the parents – reach out or have them reach out!

Must have 2 cleared coaches at every field

* + - * + Made substantial progress
				+ Some folks make it as a donation due to interest or time, the end of the season really had the volunteering fall off
				+ About half of the slots were w
				+ 578 out of 819 that slots were filled – we want to make sure that there are a lot of opportunities
				+ 48 of the no completions included only folks completed the season
				+ Coaches were required – would be offended that that I had to turn in a check. Re: Coaches were quitting
				+ Was offended – for a half second – and then understood what is takes to have the kids on the field (2 coaches required, etc.)
				+ We don’t know people that are volunteering for coaching and if we don’t get a “commitment” and I just don’t’ show up, there will be a team that won’t be able to play
				+ Have coaches that have volunteered and then don’t do clearances

There is a little bit of work involved – but you are good for 5 years

* + - * + Have discussed pros/cons – trying to figure out how make it most fair and still make sure that folks are there
				+ Understand the feeling – you are seen and heard
				+ Kicking around – only opening the registration for the number of kids that we have coaches to support
				+ Usually the coaches have a kid that coaches – earn my money back
				+ Affinity is the largest issue with clearances – scheduling games is 30 minutes
				+ Level the playing field – keep all the checks until the end based on the feedback we have received
				+ Coaches – Clearances/safe sport – knew what he was getting into – did you have a number that didn’t do the clearances

1 – yes we absolutely have it

2 – For years, we would do 2 coaches meeting

New to Coaches – this season we would walk you through the steps, XYZ

Coaches meeting – this is how many coaches we have

If you haven’t done the process, how many folks are overwhelmed?

82 coaches: 11 out of 82 are new – 5 backed out after they got their clearances

Get the

* + - * + Spring Fling – want to have a spring fling for the U8 kids

This would be fun for the kids to have a spring fling tournament

U8boys/U8 girls and kick it up a notch with community involvement (VOLUNTEERS!)

Working through getting an email out to the parents to form a parent committee who like to work on events to help/support for registration, sponsorship, set-up/clean-up etc.

Look to have it in May – not the Pittsburgh Marathon weekend – will be during the normal time – play more games – 3 games per team

If we have a big U8 Group – then yes, if we don’t we can invite community teams

Don’t have to be in person – can do over zoom and meet to put together

If we don’t get enough volunteers – we don’t have it

If we get enough volunteers – we will have a GREAT event

Something what the U8s will never forget

* Unfinished Business
* Reports of the President and Vice Presidents
* New Business
	+ Voting on Bylaw and Constitutional Amendments
	+ Election of Executive Board
* Adjournment

Call to Order – Nick Druga – 6:30PM – Have quorum

Presentation of and motion to accept the Minutes of the last General Meeting

Reading of the annual Reports (Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Administrators, TOPSoccer, PDC)

* Treasurer
* Secretary role
	+ Registration campaigns
	+ Social Media
	+ Weekly Communication letters
	+ Fields meeting with the township – gotten fields back
	+ Increased indoor spaces and sitting in a better place permit-wise
	+ As we continue to grow, it will be our challenge to stay in touch with the club with the right messages
	+ Talked with township commissioner about more space behind Denny
		- Township manager is retiring at the end of this year, new going in at the beginning of this year
* Registrar
* Administrators’ Report – Courtney Bianchi (travel), Jess Destefano (in house)
	+ Courtney
		- Really good season
		- More difficult than COVID
		- Game Schedules came out later than normal
			* This season we had a couple of weeks that we had a couple games 9v9 and 11v11 sometimes we had to put multiple games at Glenshaw valley
			* Ref scheduler wants to have 2 games in a row at Glenshaw valley (not waste their refs time)
			* Separate 11 v 11 and 9 v 9 in the spring due to not having Glenshaw valley.
			* Try to limit wear pattern – alignment
			* Field conditions have been better condition
		- Referee scheduling
	+ Jess – not here tonight
		- The in-House program
		- Some coaches walked away during the season, which is hard once the ratios are set
		- Had the same amount of parent engagement with double the kids
* TOPSoccer
	+ By far Nick’s favorite team to coach out of four
	+ Buddies – one from Shaler, North Hills and North Allegheny that are there weekly
		- The kids are there for their TOPS player
		- Rewarding for them and the players
	+ There are a lot of kids that would benefit
	+ Great partnerships – Blackhawk, Norwin,
	+ Talk with all presidents about the
	+ Nice TOPSoccer Shaler SC flag – coming soon for that program
	+ Getting captains arm bands for the buddies
		- Distinguish them
		- Connect them
	+ If you want to get involved, Nick would be glad to give you more information
	+ 12/3, 9AM – 12PM (10 kids will be there)– TOPS soccer from Western PA – close to 50 kids coming for a 1 day festival
* Unfinished Business
	+ No Unfinished Business identified
* Reports of the President and Vice Presidents
	+ VP Travel – Julie McDermott
		- Any further reflections – big thing that we added this year – added age group commissioners
		- Will continue to utilize that as a role
		- Coaches – we need you and we appreciate you, especially those that continue to come back
	+ VP In House – Ben Sheets
		- All good
	+ Attestation to the budget
		- VP attest to the audit of the budget
		- Steve: Yes
		- Julie: Yes
	+ President
		- Vision 2024 –
			* Fun
				+ Want to make sure that everything that we are doing is fun for the kids
				+ Have to leave the field with a smile on their face
				+ Continue to ask for the support from the coaches – loading into affinity
			* Development
				+ Really would like us to continue to enhance our coaching education
				+ The club will reimburse ¼ of the cost of grassroots – 9v9 – get a quarter back each season – to pay off over the 4 seasons

2 hours online and 2 hours on the field

Housed on USYS

If we have a big enough group to do it, we could host a training session

Fox Chapel, Plum, New Kensington have hosted in the past

* + - * + We don’t have a lot of coaches that go through that training
				+ Can’t make it a requirement – but if you are with the club long enough, you would benefit from the training
				+ Had Coach Erik – UGKA – to coach the coaches for goal keeping to give everyone a head start
				+ PA West started a coaching in the community

Can come in and do the workshop here

How much more effective would we be if we focus on that earlier?

Continue to bring in

* + - * Competition
				+ Adapt the team building to align with the North Division of PA West
				+ Tried different team building to place players to build
				+ We know what we have – and do that in good faith – but not every other team followed suit
				+ PA West continues to work to align team correctly and we will do the same in Shaler
			* Community
				+ Want to have community events
				+ Invite first responders
				+ Food drives through the season
				+ Get the soccer club together not necessarily for soccer
				+ Keeping the community and the players/families engaged and together

You don’t know what will be missed when that family or player leaves

* New Business
	+ Re-write of bylaws to align to 501(c) 3 classification
		- Have the proposed the new bylaws
		- Rewrote the bylaws to align currently 501 (c) 4
			* This allows for donating/supporting a politician
			* Getting 501(c)3 means we would be tax exempt and operate as a charity
		- The tweaking of the current bylaws
		- Main changes – Currently - 6 executive board members and 7 members at large
			* Board of Directors – 12 member – 5 executive members
			* Positions after this main – is 2 year terms – have cleaner handoffs
			* What we have seen – December is great – January would suck! Half of the board is new and the other half would be burned out
			* Lots of agitation
			* Overall, the plan would be that the President/VP would be leave at the same time
		- Motion: Ben Sheets, Second Dave Repko
		- Vote: Motion accepted Unanimously
	+ Description of the organization chart (shown below)
	+ Notable mentions:
		- U8 Jr Referee Assigner – should be someone there
		- ICL is so critical from a developmental perspective and is influential in whether or not the player remains with Soccer or may move away from the game
		- Travel – community/scheduler (commissioners should have a lot of input into those schedules – due to heartache and headaches we have had
		- Home games schedule them logically
		- Are all commissioners needed – not every season potentially
			* JV/Varsity for the spring so it does not conflict with the season
		- As president, it is a problem with the naming convention – Middle School, JV, Varsity – moving it away from U14/U16, etc.
		- Secretary:
		- Registrar: Risk Management – not alone in validating risk
		- Treasurer: Fundraising and Concession Stand
		- Meeting Frequency –
			* The officers – Pres, VP, Secretary, Registrar, Treasurer meet monthly
				+ Officers keep in touch with their directors – text chain, meeting at least once per month
				+ Trickle down – Ad Hoc, text, at the field can we catch up
			* There will not be a meeting every month
			* Quarterly meetings will be held with all board and directors
			* AGM will have everyone involved
			* Coaches under the commissioners – talk to the commissioners
			* Who does what?
	+ Nominations
* Nominating Committee Chair's Report – Kate Koch, Jess Jackson, Holly Levin
	+ Executive Board –
		- Nick Druga - President
		- Kim Rios – VP
		- Holly Levin – Registrar
		- Kate Koch – Secretary
		- Joshua Dadeboe – Treasurer
	+ Voting Directors –
		- In House – Tiff Johnson
		- TOPSoccer – Kirk Howard
		- ICL – Jim Marsula
		- Travel – Julie McDermott
		- Parent Engagement – Theo Nelson
		- Risk Management – Jordan Snead
		- Fundraising – Nate Cushion
		- Motion to accept the nominations of the 23-24 Motion: Steve 2nd: Ben
			* Discussion of terms
			* All in favor
			* Opposed
			* Abstention:
	+ Non-Voting Positions
		- InHouse Commissioner Coordinator – Jess Johnson
		- U4 Commissioner – Alyssa Falarski
		- ICL Girls Coordinator – Steve Dedrick
		- Travel/ICL Game Scheduler – Courtney Bianchi
		- Parent Committee – Carly Kohler
	+ Nominations from the floor –
		- Amy Proie – Parent Committee
* Closing thought – We have come a long way over a short period of years
	+ We have a better relationship with the school
	+ We have more teams going to tournaments/futsal/summer/winter
	+ All we can do is create the opportunities
	+ Really hopeful that we can do that, looking at the people in the room
	+ Thank you for coming and participating
* Thank you – Ben Sheets
	+ Thank you – went 0-60 and kept his feet under him
	+ Thank you for the passion and
	+ Anything that was needed – you were there
	+ Thank you for your time and dedication
	+ Everything is very much appreciated
* Motion for Adjournment – Ben/ Kim