## Shaler Soccer Club

Annual General Meeting - 11/28/21 – 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Call to Order - Nick Druga, Club President

Attendees: Nick Druga, Jim Marsula, Julie McDermott, Kate Koch, Courtney Bianchi, Amanda Fine, Amy Proie, Carly Kohler, Chris Lynch, JG Wiles, Stacie Slater, Kim Rios, Jim Spagnolo

Agenda Corum - 12

* More volunteers this year – weathered the COVID impact
* Members more than other years – for all the headaches
* All the efforts of the (non-paid) volunteers made it happen

Motion to accept minutes from previous meeting – Jim 1st Amanda 2nd – all in favor – motion carried

**Reading of annual reports**

Treasurer – Comfortable to maintain costs

Stacie – Submitted a note due to being called away – read by Nick – send along

* Maintain fees - $85/$130
* Concession stands – Sign up genius worked out well – and committed to being there
* Sponsorship – dip in sponsorship – pinch of
* Fundraisers – huge help for us with the dip in sponsorship

Permits – Harold

* Use mostly township fields – access to most field – only sports sponsored by the township – baseball, softball, and soccer
* School fields have been extremely difficult for use Since COVID – right now unattainable
* Other spaces – got some other spots – St. Mary’s, St. Bonaventure – etc contacts for the new person – Harold will be retiring from the board – still in Shaler, not going far and a change is coming, and he will introduce anyone to the contacts

Registrar – Kim Rios

* Took a hit in Spring – due to not having a season
* Has picked up since – our traditional fall season is lower – U14 typically tail off since their school season is the fall
* Have had great numbers with COVID happening – lots of great participation with
* Create registration forms – not the friendliest software and takes some time to do each age group and season.
* We have cutoffs for team building (Jim and Amanda) and uniform ordering – Reasons that we try to be strict with the deadlines
* For this upcoming year – Black Friday special 1 day special to get everything jump started to allow us to get a jump on the uniforms as well
* Team building and registration is fun, but is stressful with little kids and coaching and team colors
* Uniform ordering – ultimate goal is to only order uniforms when kids need them
* Seasons run fall to spring – keep trying to allow for the ordering of uniforms only when kids need it
* Colors are always an issue – color for boys and picking colors to align

Administrators

Courtney – good year, tougher this year to schedule games

* A lot more moving games this season than previous
* Coaching clearances
* Jr. Referee program – REF all the U8 games and paid $10 per game
* Scheduling for both games and Referees
* Really like

Julie

* In house program –
* New training guides for the U4-U6 –
  + U5-U6 the same
  + U4 a little different due to parent/child
  + U8 – a step forward
  + Good feedback from the coaches since most have said that they never have played soccer
  + Hardest part is that we always need more volunteers for coaches
  + Coaches clearances – with the younger ages we have a lot of new coaches but they are good for multiple years
  + U8 is more “legit” when the jr. refs are there
  + Spring is a harder season
  + Opportunity is that they use jr. referees and continue on to the Referee program
  + Must be 2 years older than the game that you Ref
  + Talked with the a Referee – the games that they like to referee – rain! Because the parents are as close to the field
  + Parents are breaking the game – there are felony cases from PA West due to assaults, weapons
  + We don’t have the issue with Shaler and don’t plan to have issues here and we will not tolerate the antics
  + We need to make sure we keep the kids safe and feel comfortable on the field
  + #1 reason for ref decline is abuse – parents/spectators
  + Referees are few and far between that explain the issues to work with and have the kids learn
  + Continue to grow the Jr. Ref program and continue to move toward referees
* TOPS
  + Nick – chairperson for PAWest – Shaler planned to be the model
  + A lot of focus and doubled down on the program
  + 4 coaches and buddies (13YO or over)
  + Sessions from 10:30-11:00
  + Opportunity to get on the field with same U4-U6 programs and equipment
  + We have enough players to split
  + Cruisers and speedsters –
    - Speedsters – physically at the same level, but need some additional support
    - Cruisers – not necessarily at the same speed which need more support working at the skills
  + TOPS festival – at the PAWest Open – small-sided team
  + Robert Morris and Riverhounds participating and getting involvement
  + Only on Saturdays
* PDC Details – Headed by Inhouse VP
  + Takes the place of a director of coaching
  + Trying to make sure all our players get quality training and make sure that coaches that may not have the background/experience in soccer a solid foundation
  + Referred to earlier
  + Reflecting on the feedback that was given and continue to develop programs
  + Winter Futsal – 2 6 week session programs (Dec-Jan) and (Feb-Mar) U6, U8, U10
  + Potentially open up programs to different ages
  + Will continue to look for PDC members to grow the knowledge and the club moving forward
  + Got both positive and negative feedback
  + PDC member at large? – not being added. The largest misstep in clubs and not separating the players and development and administration of the club
    - Everything shifts away and going to highest development
    - Continue to be separate
* Unfinished Business – No unfinished business has been identified
* Reports of the President and Vice President

Jim – Recreational

* + Numbers have been good
  + Focus have been on making some more competitive teams
  + Some moved to D5
  + Division 6 – not super competitive
  + U10 – has D6.5 – stepping stone between the program
  + Division 5 – is more intune with middle school level
  + Division 4 – ultra competitive for community – teams are normally super loaded with competitive players (D1,D2,D3- Classic Club teams)
  + Division 5 teams we have had a record of .500
  + If we have enough players rated high enough and coaches willing to put together the team
  + Challenges – a lot of times the competitive kids are the coaches kids
  + U10 – ICL are division 6 – there aren’t very many clubs that play the higher level
    - Typically, most U10 are ICL are Saturdays
  + Player evaluations
    - Work in progress – used to be A-D, but moved to series of components based on a series 1-5 rating, we increased to 1-10 this season
    - Player evaluations should be in a bell curve – a few above and below, but the vast majority should be in the middle/average range
    - Encouraging coaches to get together to compare apples to apples to provide a more realistic evaluation of players
    - In past, some evalautions have not been realistic
  + Fields –
    - Building back relationship with school fields
    - As our numbers grow, the field space diminishes
    - When we had really high numbers – what fields were used?
      * Had access to half of Scott avenue field (elementary school field)
      * Easily put 2 teams on at a time
      * Used to be able to get 1 if not 2 upper Anderson school field
      * The issue was more solved –
      * There are more athletic teams accessing the fields – spring typically
      * School teams get precedent
      * If a school team
    - Fied field – too easy to sneak on and then people private field
      * Could talk to the township about getting the field
      * Issue with the drive in and locking
    - U10 fields – Fawcett field – it is a swamp
      * Line 2 fields – could put 3 fields
      * Putting in an actual restrooms there
      * May put a cramp on the parking area
      * Used to play games there, but the field is not very good
      * The field is great for games, but parking is tough
    - U12
      * Fall – Glenshaw Valley (Only fall)
      * Spring – Denny – wear patterns so we rotate the fields to eliminate ware
      * Denny is great location wise, - drains well – some swampy areas, but can avoid
    - Nice thing about Jim’s job – when we get to this level, the teams are larger and we have coaches.
      * Easier to get coaches
      * Clearances in place
    - Millvale field – not conducive to soccer, but baseball is being played there
    - Spring is where we need more space
    - We have priority over non-township sponsored teams, but baseball gets priority

Developmental – Amanda

* + Increase of kids means increase of coaches need
  + Amanda focuses on bringing in coaches
  + Good to have coaches in Team manager, but some folks turned it off
  + Julie planned to take over as VP
  + Good with the PDC helping with the guides to outline coaching
  + Concession stand – the sign-up genius
  + Commissioners needed – easy job, if you don’t want to coach, you can be a commissioner
  + Work closely with Julie and Kim
  + Worked with COVID again this fall – Amanda is defacto medical person
  + Only at Denny field with developmental
  + Been very successful getting more people involved
* VPs attest to the financials
  + Jim and Amanda attest and emailed and squared away
  + Keep the fees the same with an early bird
  + Upkeep on the field done by the club? Line painting and parking spaces – need to ask sometimes, multiple times

President- Nick Druga

* + Season End Survey Results
    - Moving front loading – asking for coaches to open sign ups for the teams that we have available
    - Taking the survey out this year from Survey Monkey – due to costs increasing
    - The coaches survey’s are being ignored
    - Season ending score is 80 NPS – how likely you are to promote the club
    - Highest number yet
    - Reaffirms that we have folks that complain, but that we are still providing value
    - Introduced coaching guides – that impacted the overall scores based on the change
    - Would do season ending survey
    - Things are moving in the right direction
  + Vision 2022
    - Started in 2020 – and 2020 was less than ideal
    - Vision 2022 is the next level to get to the summit
    - Focus on principles – Fun, Development, Competition and community
    - Fun
      * Fun erupt out of every SSC activity
      * If it isn’t fun, why are we doing it?
    - Development
      * Continue to ensure PDC working on/off the field with the coaches
      * Give the opportunity to work with the coaches
      * PDC members available to work with age groups
      * Continue to use coaching guides
    - Competition
      * Build the teams to be in the appropriate division to be successful
      * Kids be with their friends, have fun and not get blown out
    - Community
      * Be the example for all other youth sports
      * Food drive for food insecure in Shaler and worked with the NH community food bank
      * Supported impacts to community – floods, fires, etc.
      * Kids ideas on the table and be engaged
  + Lots of hours spent behind the scenes to get back to playing and keep playing
  + Past spring was more difficult with the mask mandates and difficult to go through
  + This past season has been easier to regulate (fall) with COVID policy
  + Lots of time was spent on COVID and not on the ones that we want
  + Hit a small plateau – but in 2022 get back to improving/growing the club
  + COVID has taken time and 2022 can be the year that we take it back to growing the club

New Business

* + Motions
    - All available on [www.shalersoccerclub.com](http://www.shalersoccerclub.com)
    - Motion to accept – Kim, Amanda
    - Open for discussion –
    - Vote : all in favor of bylaws, no neighs
    - All accepted
  + Executive Board
    - Nominating committee – affirm executive board members
    - Nominations from the floor: None
    - Motion to accept – Amanda, Kim
    - Discussion – none
    - All in favor
    - All accepted
  + Members at large
    - More in project based – some roles that will be specific, but more controlled at the E-board level to spread the
    - Amy – Mathieu in the organization for 2 years – Social media, communications, excel – talking to parents
    - Carly Kohler – U10/U6 – Luke and Keith – 1st year, Fundraising, communications, send details, any help needed
    - JG Wiles – U12 (Cameron) – coached last spring, this fall – computer details, reports, spreadsheets
    - Chris Lynch – U10 (Colin), U6 (twins girls) – enjoyed time here and what work goes into it, and help out where needed
    - double duty coaches identified
    - Jim Spagnolo – part of the club for 3 years (u10 Lily) love the club, never played soccer, but love it and want to help with the permits and work with
    - Amanda Fine – been here 3 years, U12 (Noah), U8(Lucy) moving to U10
    - Courtney Bianchi – U14 (Aven), Lil Kickers (Jaxson) – will be signing up soon – recreational scheduling
  + Ted Lasso – About soccer and kindness – which americans don’t know
  + Any other comments? None
  + Motion – Kim, Kate
    - Aye, unanimous
    - Motion is accepted
  + New Exec board will meet and will receive communication
* Special thank you
  + Harold Schmidt – 7 years – member at large, former VP
  + Stacie Schmidt – 3 years – treasurer, former Member at Large
  + Aime Harrison – 1 year
* Adjournment
  + Harold – 1st, Julie
  + Motion Accepted