

Central Alberta Soccer Association
SPRING MEETING MINUTES (Draft-Not ratified)

Virtual
April 6, 2022

PRESENT:

Bashaw Soccer Club- Michelle Hilderman, **Bentley Minor Soccer** – Juanita Bender, Michelle Luntz
Blackfalds Minor Soccer – Wayne Murphy, **Camrose & District Soccer** – Amanda Boateng, **CA Men's League**- Andrew Vanderburg
Clive Soccer Club : Angela Gessleman, **Lacombe Soccer Club** : Todd Green
Penhold Minor Soccer – Diana Clarke, Chelsey Anderson, **Ponoka Minor Soccer** – Matt McArthur
Rimbey Minor Soccer – Laurel Barton **Spruce View Minor Soccer** – Rolf vonBentham,
Stettler Minor Soccer- C.J. Oprea, Melissa Robbins, **Sylvan Lake Blizzard**- Brandyn Leveque, **Wetaskiwin Soccer Club** : Tad Kircher

EXECUTIVE-STAFF:

1st Vice President, Technical Director – Lonny Behm

2nd Vice President, Technical Team – Jon Mulder

Secretary, Technical Team – Les Sherrer

Executive Director – Tammy Olson

ABSENT:

Innisfail Minor Soccer, Rocky Knights, SC Central
Tracy Everett - President
Darla Preston- Treasurer
Philip Ignacio - DRA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:02

Roll Call taken – 14 of 16 Current Members Present

1. **Review of Technical Meeting Minutes (23-Feb-2022)**
 - a. Business Pending – No
 - b. Minutes of Board Meeting accepted as presented. No Errors or Omissions. All in favour.

2. **CASA Technical U11 and U9 Presentation – Lonny Behm / Les Sherrer (CASA Technical Team)**
 - a. U11 Tier III, Tier IV, and Zones
 - Similar structure to U11 Tier IV
 - Possible Rural ChallengeGoals
 - To create a more competitive stream
 - To encourage player retention for all organizations
 - To help Tier IV stay viable and competitive
 - Encourage like minded players to play and grow together
 - Allow for a better balance between communities
 - Will encourage a light travel schedule (Zones)
 - Need to hear from the Communities before finalizing full structure

Discussion held:

Positive comments regarding this plan were stated by several communities.

- A good plan for this age group, because of the substantial number of teams, will allow teams of equal skill to play against each other.
- As this is a rebuilding year U13 does not seem a priority, with two years without a League for a majority of players
- An excellent opportunity for the more developed players to play and train together. Also creates a better path for the less developed players to play against equals. Allows everyone to grow at their pace.

Concerns / Solutions

- Why U11 and not U13? Considering the substantial number of teams in the U11 Boys Division currently, this becomes a viable option. Starting to build our Tier III at this age group should assist in then building it at the next age group for the following season. Hopefully more players will be retained if they feel they are playing at a level and against teams at their ability level. This will allow all players to grow and be competitive at the appropriate skill level. U13 Boys only have two

communities with more than one team. Starting at U11 will hopefully create a larger group at U13 in future years to make that option viable.

- Canada Soccer has U11 at Learn to Train, why would we create Tiers at this age Group? That is true, but the Cities we lose our players to and are in competition with, start at a higher level of competition at U9 – starting with Development teams.
- Is there adequate time to evaluate these teams? CASA Technical Team Member will attend evaluations. In the past CASA has offered a Pre-Season Mini Tournament to evaluate teams for Tiers. It was a successful process, but the membership decided to discontinue after one season. This could be looked at again for the future.
- Is there likely to be movement between years, if a team is determined to be in the wrong division, after a couple of weeks of the schedule? This is certainly a scenario that can be looked at. Readjusting divisions, if warranted. CASA rules allow for this.
- Reason: Creating pathways within CASA for our players, so that we do not lose them to the cities. The Boy's Division is too large, to be manageable as one group. Demand from players /parents.

CASA Technical Team suggests if communities have 2 or 3 teams, they create one Tier III team.

b. U9 Leagues

- Offering communities with low team numbers, an opportunity to play against others
- Low travel commitment
- Small communities will continue with competing against those of comparable size
- Larger communities can compete with others for development. Rosters for these groups do not be Set in advance. There are no scores or standings, therefore allowing players to get an opportunity Throughout the season.
- Gives players more options, to try something more.
- Can create travel teams from your community House League
- CASA work with scheduling the games for all levels in the Program

3. **CASA Spring Leagues**

Registrations throughout the District are looking very positive.

Divisions

- U11 Boys (16 confirmed) and Girls (6 confirmed)
- U13 Boys (11 confirmed) and Girls (5 confirmed)
- U15 Boys (7 teams) and Girls – the U15 Girl's League is a concern, as there only two teams currently. CASA is looking to find the best solution for this group.
- U17-U19 Boys (4 teams) and Girls (3 teams)

League Dates – May 9 – June 30, 2022

Provincial Qualifier and U11 CASA Challenge Tournament – June 24-26, 2022

Player ID Cards – Process being put in place

4. **Technical Update**

- New Technical Director – Lonny Behm. Jason Blake has been hired by Alberta Soccer as their Technical Director, so has had to leave us. We wish him good luck. Congratulations to Lonny.
- Lonny is working with his Technical Team, Les Sherrer and Jon Mulder building programs for Coaches and players.
- Lonny along with his team will be reaching out to Each individual Club President or Technical Lead. The goal is to discover what your Clubs wants, and needs are. CASA is a cast District and not a one size fits all.
- Our Clubs and kids develop at different Stage
- Biggest challenge will be the SQS (Standards of Quality Soccer Certification). Lonny, Tammy, and Les will be assisting the Clubs in achieving this. Once we have this all figured out, we hope that it will be an easy process for our Clubs to implement.
- On-field player and Coach development programs are in the works

5. Coach Certifications – Updates

- Coach Certifications are all online. CASA is currently working with Alberta Soccer to devise a plan to ensure that our Coaches receive their on-filed practical session. Alberta Soccer does not have enough Instructors to travel all over the province to run these sessions. Therefore, CASA is stepping up with our own solution to get our Coaches fully certified.
- Clubs reimburse Coaches, CASA reimburses Clubs. Online portion is \$20.00 to \$30.00 per coach based on the Level of Certification. CASA will reimburse up to 50% of these costs to the clubs through the CASA Coach Development Fund. CASA also received a Grant this year for Coaching Program. Full reimbursement per club will be determined dependent on the number of Coaches once courses are complete. CASA receives a weekly update from Alberta Soccer with an updated list of Coaches who have completed their online portion. This also includes Respect in Sport and OR Making Ethical Decisions.
- Questions – How to track a Coach’s progress in their Certifications. Simple process
 - Request your Coach’s NCCP Number, this should be provided to you as well as CASA
 - Go to www.coach.ca
 - Click on Coach Transcript. Enter NCCP number and Coach last name. Their transcript will come up. This includes Respect in Sport from any organization. NCCP is multi-Sport. If they don’t know their NCCP number, also an easy process. They go to the same site, type in their email address and it will be sent to them

6. Referees

- Clinic & Registration Updates – Currently 83 Referees either Registered for Refresher or in New Referee Course
- Only 10 Returning Referees registered with CASA at this time, this is not a sizable number. Encourage referees from your Association from 2019 or 2021 to please get signed up and complete their online Refresher. There are numerous online sessions available, through Alberta Soccer. CASA will reimburse these referees directly as per the Referee Development program and then requesting 50% of that fee from the Clubs.
- Entry Level – 22 open spots. Thirty-eight signed up. Deadline to register April 8
- Mini Courses – One Full Course of 25. Additional Course May 1
- District wide Referee Assigning System – Training will be provided for Referee Assignors. It is an easy program to use. This is an easy program to use. Tammy will be setting up online training for Referee Assignors, that is why it is vital that I receive a name from every community.
- All CASA Certified Referees will be entered into system, Clubs will be expected to use the system. It will assist in finding referees from other communities if there is a lack of adequate officials in your community. Referees will be put into their proper zones. Referees willing to travel may show that on the site as well. They can put in “Dark days” which means they are unavailable. So, their name will not appear for that day when you go to assign. Their Level of certification Mini – 12 & up Youth 14 - 15. District 16 + is also in the system, as well as what age groups and positions they are eligible to referee. We will be looking at sharing referees as we are not at full strength. We also have Red Deer Referees willing to travel to CASA for games. They have been working with us in the Men’s League as well as with games that ran last Summer.
- Tammy requests that everyone please submit their Fees per referee position (as per the email sent last week). The amounts will be entered directly into the system. You can find create a spread sheet of amounts owed to your referees from within this system.
- Request for Tammy to send out a list with average fees as well as high and low for each age group and position.
- Question to referees Pick their own games? No referees should be assigned. See above where they enter their dark days for unavailability.
- Is contact information for the referees in the system? Yes, email addresses are provided.

7. New Business

- Player stats will be posted on the CASA website for U11 and up League. If your Club has players whose names cannot appear publicly, please ensure that Tammy is made aware of this. Those players names will not appear on the website but will still be on your roster.
- The issue with the lack of teams in the U15 Girls Division will be discussed between the Technical Team and the teams in question to find the best solution. Discussion held requesting ideas and thought re the situation.
- Can overage players be on rosters below their division? No this is against CASA Rules and Regulations.
- Player Cards and Game Sheets. Tammy is working with RAMP to create Player Cards that can be downloaded by the Clubs. This program should be ready within the next couple of weeks. CASA will provide Game Sheets.

Meeting adjourned 8:47 pm