

Arlington Competitive & Development Program Committee Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2022

The Competitive & Development Program Committee (the “Committee”) of the Arlington Soccer Association (Association or Club) held its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, via telephone and video conference.

Committee members in attendance (listed alphabetically): Marc Garufi, Ethan Kearns, Grant Mandsager, Laurie Moret and Seth Reini. Staff members in attendance: Melissa Riemer.

I. Call to Order and Opening Comments

a. Introduction of New Committee Members

Boys Academy Representative: Seth Reini

Boys Travel Representative: Ethan Kearns

Representative to Board Finance Committee: Chris Wood (not present)

II. Report on Board Meeting

- a. Club’s FY 2022 end of year finance report shows revenues exceeded expenses.
- b. The Board and the Executive Director discussed the issue of Financial Aid and how there were fewer families receiving aid this year due to lower demand. This is a growing concern. Committee suggested the Club reach out to current recipients of Financial Aid. The Club is also doing outreach to Title I schools.

III. Technical Director /Director of Operations Report

a. Teams / Leagues Updates:

- NCSL season wrapping up this weekend.
- ECNL Regional League in post-season play.
- ECNL League continues with league games and showcases.

b. Tournaments:

- Many teams participating in end of season tournaments.
- State Cup / Pres Cup play:
 - 2008 Girls White – President Cup Champions.
 - US Club State Cup play continuing.

c. Programs:

- College Program: use of SportsRecruits, College Seminar, continued involvement and support from staff.
- Winter Clinics: registration opening next week – wide range of opportunities for ADP and Travel, indoor and outdoor.
- Summer Camps: preparing summer camp information for county.
- Elite Futsal Program: tryouts completed, teams being formed.

- This is 'travel futsal' – in addition to winter futsal leagues that U9-U12 will play in.
- d. **ADP:**
- Season ends this week.
 - Winter Clinic will be offered.
 - Players may opt out of playing in the spring if they choose.
 - Supplemental tryouts will be held in February.
- e. **Staff:**
- Weekly meetings being held for all coaches in their age groups.
 - Weekly meetings held for AGMs.
 - Player evaluation process will begin later this month.
 - R&D / Behavior issues continue to be an issue –dealing with referee abuse, player/parent misbehavior, league hearings.

IV. **Issues**

a. **Club Coaches' Manual**

This was distributed at the beginning of the season. This was an important first step to ensure that there is a common approach for coaches across teams. This is not a technical/soccer strategy document but rather one focused on team administration.

b. **Coach Appreciation**

- The Committee had discussed earlier this year doing a small end of season Coach Appreciation event. After much discussion, the Committee and staff agreed to move forward with a "thank you note" approach whereby players/families would write notes of appreciation that would be read at a planned December meeting of coaches.
- Laurie and Ethan volunteered to organize with Melissa's assistance.

c. **Sideline behavior**

- As discussed at the previous Committee meeting, staff were asked how the Committee can support. It was noted that generally (not always) Arlington parents are better behaved comparatively to other teams.
- The Committee suggested that coaches and other parents would have the best knowledge of who the troublemakers are from their teams. The Coach, manager, and other parents should not be involved in conduct correction/discipline.
- There are existing Club resources to deal with these situations including the Club's Rules & Discipline Committee.
- How the Committee can support to be discussed at the next meeting. Committee members volunteered to be part of the improvement process as monitors at certain games.

- The Club is developing a social media campaign using players—the most effective approach—to remind parents to behave appropriately.

V. Adjournment

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 14.