

Arlington Competitive & Development Program Committee Meeting Minutes

September 14, 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, September 14, 2022, via telephone and video conference.

Committee members in attendance (listed alphabetically): AJ Bownas, Sean Flanagan, Greg Flatt, Marc Garufi, Ethan Kearns, Grant Mandsager, Laurie Moret and Mike Rupert. Staff members in attendance: Jerome Boettcher, Frank DeMarco, German Peri and Melissa Riemer.

I. Call to Order and Opening Comments

a. Review of Minutes

July minutes to be approved via email. No August meeting took place.

b. Introduction of New Member

Welcome to Grant Mandsager, ADP representative.

II. Report on Board Meeting

a. County working on artificial conversion at Kenmore MS. ASA successfully lobbied for 2025 conversion and will be part of the design process.

b. Marymount continuing to try to find a field closer to their campus. Implications for extra field space at Long Bridge.

III. Technical Director /Director of Operations Report

a. Teams / Leagues Updates:

- Fall 2022 season underway for ECNL, ECNL Regional League and NCSL.

b. Tournaments:

- Many teams participated in preseason tournaments.
- Most red and white teams are participating in USClub or USYS State Cup Competitions.
- TD/DOC and AGMs work with coaches to create and review team calendars (including tournaments, winter activities, etc)

c. Programs:

- Skills Program
- GK Program
- Testing Program
- Veo (game video) Program

d. ADP:

- ADP games began last week
- Additional teams added this year

- Team Snap being used by teams to facilitate scheduling and communication

e. **Staff:**

- Weekly meetings being held for age group managers, coaches, etc.
- Coaches Meeting with PCA and handbook
- Volunteers lined up for all travel teams, and being supported by Arlington Soccer professional admin / ops staff

IV. Issues

a. **Club Development Program**

Email Jerome at: comms@arlingtonsoccer.com

- Looking for photos, particularly after games and tournaments.
- Ok to submit Veo clips – can create goal of the week compilations.
- Share personal stories of players, coaches and alumni, including non-soccer success stories.
- Pushing external media relations as well as within ASA community.

b. **Soccerthon**

To be a community day, creating carnival atmosphere. October 10th, 10am -6pm at Long Bridge.

This is a fundraising event with sponsorship opportunities for players to perform soccer related tasks.

There will also be an awards ceremony at end of day.

ASA pushing awareness and participation on social media.

c. **Program Council Meeting/Elections**

Council Meeting to be online again this year. Date will be October 16th, 7pm.

Only 2 nominations so far.

- Melissa will send out a note to Academy teams to request nominees.
- Melissa will send out a note to team managers to share with their teams looking for more nominees.
- Mike will work on copy text for the notices.

d. **Extra Training Fee Activities**

Performance training is an opportunity for additional training for individuals. Has no bearing on team placement nor is it mandatory.

A lot of families do additional one-on-one training; the hope is to bring that more in-house. It has been successful with Academy level teams.

- Committee has concern with the need for players to do all the extra training in order to advance. Could financial aid be offered?
- Need to make sure that ASA coaches conducting these one-on-one sessions do not give any additional influence to team selection – keep messaging that

additional training will help, but doing so with Arlington does not mean advancement within Arlington teams.

e. **Committee General Email Box**

CAndDCommittee@arlingtonsoccer.com is the correct email address.

f. ***What are you Hearing?***

- The ADP tryout process and volunteer coaching approach was a challenge with some coaches. German stated he will address internally. ASA is also implementing coaching classes for ADP and rec coaches.
- Sideline behavior – what can we do to support coaches and stop the parent coaching and negativity?
 - Coach appreciation efforts (like ‘teacher appreciation week’).
 - More forceful mandatory meeting of expectations with team parents – needs to be in-person to be affective.
 - TSL (Team Sportsmanship Liaison) role used to be implemented but was dropped because of a lack of volunteers. Does this need to be brought back?
 - ASA has a partnership with the Positive Coaching Alliance. We can utilize this more and work on encouraging the appropriate parents to attend.
 - How do we measure sportsmanship and what awards /positive reinforcement can be offered? To be discussed at future meeting.

g. **Thank You**

The Committee would like to recognize;

- Greg Flatt for 8 years of service and dedication to the C&D Committee.
- Mike Rupert for 6 years of service and dedication to the C&D Committee.

Thank you both for all your time and efforts.

V. **Adjournment**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 16 after the Council Meeting.

Discuss whether to start meeting in-person.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.