

Arlington Travel Program Committee Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2019

The Travel Committee (TC) of the Arlington Soccer Association (Association) held its monthly meeting on November 20, 2019, at the Association's offices on 5210 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22205.

TC members in attendance (listed alphabetically): Mark Churchill, Greg Flatt, Marc Garufi, Jon Gowdy, Dave Greene, Rhodri Morgan, and Stacy Zee. Staff members in attendance: German Peri and Melissa Riemer.

I. Call to Order and Opening Comments

a. Introduction of New Members

New TC Members Dave Green and Stacy Zee were introduced.

b. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the prior TC Meeting were previously circulated via email. TC members were to review and approve over email.

II. Report on Board Meeting

Chair Garufi reported on the Association Board meeting. Arlington County Parks & Recreation staff raised the issue of the percentage of out-of-County players in travel, especially in the DA program. It was noted by the TC, however, that a recent study shows 90% of the soccer players playing for Arlington live within a 10-mile radius, which is consistent with the Association's mission to serve Arlington and surrounding communities.

The TC discussed possible County advocacy options.

III. Director of Coaching Report

a. League Updates

CCL II has been the focus of significant discussion within the club and with CCL leadership – especially issues concerning the number of games and the quality of play.

b. DA

DOC Peri met with US Soccer in North Carolina several weeks prior. It was a productive meeting. The expected timing on a response as to DA application for 2004s is Thanksgiving or the week after (which is much earlier than in the past). No decision has been made whether US

Soccer will do DA for 16s and 17s individually or continue to combine them. Regardless, the clear indication is that the DA program is not growing/expanding further.

c. Evaluations/Reviews/Feedback

Player evaluations are being circulated to different age groups, and they are specific – not generic – to the age group. Staff are also tracking evaluations to know whether a meeting happened, etc.

The Travel Coach Feedback Form is being circulated to families. It remains anonymous, and coaches do not read the forms or feedback directly but are instead provided comments or a synopsis by Technical Staff. Coaches also are receiving evaluations from their respective AGDs and are completing a self-evaluation for Staff.

Also in process is continued review of information provided through the general Travel Feedback Form. Among issues raised and being pursued are club resources, education, and equipment.

d. Clinics/Trainings

Winter clinics have been posted. The club will be holding futsal training on Sundays in January for recreational, ADP, and travel players. The venue will be certain to-be-named elementary schools in Arlington.

IV. Voting Issues

None.

V. Other Issues

a. Finance Committee Update

Dave Greene reported on the Finance Committee. Two budget meetings have occurred. There is an endowment fund that the Association is figuring out the particulars on. The fiscal year started in July.

The TC discussed the “at risk” categorization used by the Finance Committee for rostered teams. The designation is based on roster size, and several DA teams have been highlighted for that reason.

b. Player and Parents Code of Conduct

The club is planning to convene a rules and decisions (“R&D”) committee to address player and parent conduct issues/incidents.

c. Charter Revisions

TC Secretary Mark Churchill will circulate a clean version of the proposed revised Charter with the plan for Chair Garufi to present the revisions at the Association's January Board meeting.

VI. Issues for Next Meeting

- a. Parent and Player Codes of Conduct**
- b. FY 2021 Budget**
- c. Spring Season Letter/TC Intro**

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next TC meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 11, 2019.