

## **ASA Travel Program Committee Meeting Minutes**

April 10, 2019

The Travel Committee (TC) of the Arlington Soccer Association (ASA) held its monthly meeting on April 10, 2019, at the ASA's offices on 5210 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22205.

TC members in attendance (listed alphabetically): Mark Churchill, Colleen Cresanti, Alex Deegan, Marc Garufi, Justin Hibey, Katie Koppelman, Margaret Liu, and Rhodri Morgan. Staff members in attendance: German Peri and Melissa Riemer.

### **I. Call to Order and Opening Comments**

#### **a. Approval of Minutes**

The March 2019 TC Meeting Minutes were circulated and approved.

### **II. Report on ASA Board Meeting**

Chair Garufi reported on the most recent ASA Board Meeting.

- On April 1, ASA Membership approved a change to membership voting, which will now afford 4 votes to the Travel Program (instead of 1). The Board discussed this change and also the proposed Travel player prohibition for the Recreational program. The Travel player prohibition was accepted without change, which means that starting in Fall 2019, Travel players may not play in the ASA Recreational League if in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade or older.
- The ASA Budget was unanimously approved.
- ASA is considering rebranding this year to coincide with the club's 50-year anniversary.

### **III. Director of Coaching Report**

DOC Peri reported that the seasons across age group were in full swing. As for the 2019-20 season, the Travel tryout schedule was nearing completion and publication. The coaching lineup would follow. DOC Peri also reported on possible league considerations for the U15 and U16 levels, including adding a Spring NCSL schedule.

Chair Garufi provided an update on DA, including the 2005 and 2006 boys teams going to Texas for the Dallas Cup. Girls DA teams would be in Colorado the last week of April.

### **IV. Other Issues**

#### **a. Tryouts**

COO Riemer and DOC Peri jointly reported on changes to Travel tryouts for the Spring. Tryout

dates were still pending but expected to be released by the end of the week. Some age-group specific changes had been implemented for the first time. U9-U12 boys and girls would be run as usual. However, at the U13 level, the technical staff planned to run multiple intrasquad 11 v. 11 scrimmages prior to tryouts to prepare for the move to full field. For U14-U16, tryouts would be broken into CCL 1 & II (Red/White) and then NCSL (Blue/Black) sessions. Decision on players would be issued prior to the NCSL sessions (allowing time for players to register for the latter session if desired).

In terms of tryout logistics, COO Riemer reported that numbering would now be done by age group and gender (i.e., a set of numbers for that age and gender rather than one set of numbers for the entire gender regardless of age). The decision was made also to switch to race bib numbers and pins (rather than stickers). Staff working with the technical staff also had implemented some improvements to charting, notes, etc. during the actual tryouts.

#### **b. Communication**

COO Riemer reported on a 4-point communication plan for the Travel Program: Feedback; newsletter; coaches survey; and a yearly or semi-yearly report. The feedback form had been released. Some comments were fielded on tone and content. The newsletter is likely to be sent less frequently, with tailored content to specific programs. The coaches' survey was pending. The end-of-year report would normally issue in January but this year, Staff is shooting for May 1.

ASA Staff also was undergoing some change, with the addition of two videographers, a person for social media, and a person for graphics.

#### **c. Role of Travel Committee**

The TC discussed the role of the TC. Katie Koppelman was asked to circulate an informal survey that she had conducted to a smaller distribution, which touched on some of the topics. Numerous TC members cited the importance of being in synch with the ASA Board's wishes for the Board. The TC also discussed the importance of ensuring diversity of representation on the TC.

### **V. Issues for Next Meeting**

#### **a. Charter Review**

### **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m. The next meeting will be held on May 15, 2019.