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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 14, 2020
7:30 pm

(via Zoom Video Conference Call)

CALL TO ORDER - R. Northing called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present : R. Northing, K. Downes, J. Doyle, M. Ennen, G. Luengo, T. McNutt, D. Mann, R. Martinez, C. Rudberg, R. Swanson, M. Winter-Greene, J. Yarkin

Absent:

Guests: L. Even, J. Michel, J. Owen, F. Wilson, P. Uriz, R. Zamora

1. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the October 2020, November AGM 2020, and December 7th Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Moved: R. Northing; 2nd: T. McNutt; Passed: Unanimous.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/GOOD OF THE GAME

F. Wilson reported that JT Marcinkowski, current San Jose Earthquakes goalkeeper and former Mustang Soccer player, has been added to the US Men's National Team training camp roster. We are very excited for him and look forward to watching him play at future USMNT games.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

3.1. Voice of the Coach

K. Downes introduced the coaches present on the the zoom video meeting, R. Zamora and L. Even.

R. Zamora grew up in Danville, playing youth soccer at Juventus and Mustang Soccer. He played soccer in college at Cal Poly and continued his schooling to complete his Doctorate in Chiropractic. His coaching career began at Pleasanton Rage in the U9/U10 age groups. Two years ago, he joined Mustang Soccer coaching the same age groups and this season, he coaches the 2011G Red team. He admits that this has been a challenging time for everyone. Many parents seem frustrated as they want their kids to be playing games and have things back to normal. He appreciates the Coaching Directors support throughout these last months.

L. Even was raised in the Midwest, played soccer in college and moved to the Danville area around 22 years ago. He has coached 10 years of boys' high school soccer at Monte Vista High and Athenian School. For the last six years, he has been a Mustang Soccer coach in the Competitive Elite program while also being a coach in various programs, such as Mustang Juniors, Recreational Plus, and Competitive Premier. In addition, he held the Fields Director position on the Mustang Soccer Board for seven years. He currently coaches the 2012B Elite and 2009B Red teams. As COVID has been tough on many levels, coaching his young boys teams has provided a release not only to him, but also to his players. He feels that the communication, protocols implemented, return to play plans and information has went above expectations. All the Board's work is appreciated.

K. Downes thanked the Coaches for attending and they left the meeting.

3.2. 2021 Board Kickoff

R. Northing welcomed the newest Board members, D. Mann and R. Swanson and congratulated the returning Board members, along with R. Martinez in his new position as Treasurer/Secretary. He reminded them to be involved, be engaged, be responsible for their duties, and be proactive with our families. In addition, Board reports should be emailed out by the Friday prior to the monthly Monday's Board meeting. These reports should provide a brief update about what has been occurring in your area.

The 2021 Annual Board Dinner, which is normally held in January or February will be postponed due to the socially distant environment and indoor dining not being allowed in the current COVID lockdown.

3.3. Recap of "return to play" status for Competitive

F. Wilson reported that we continue to practice using a safe, responsible approach. Our teams are following socially distancing, and we have reiterated our protocols to coaches, parents, and players. No out of state tournament play will be happening as a result of Covid cases increasing and the California lockdown. The vaccines have begun so the hope is that cases will decrease in the near future and new State guidance will be issued at the beginning of January. Our Mustang Soccer coaches have been phenomenal throughout this pandemic.

3.4. Registration Update, 2020 fees collections, current budget status

R. Martinez reported projected \$1.8M revenues with \$2.6M in expense, resulting in a projected net loss of \$760,000 for the FYE January 31. These projections do not take into account the remaining ECNL/Elite Program Fees to be collected and will reduce the net loss. The remaining Program Fees fees will be collected next month in January 2021. The Executive Committee and Competitive Directors will continue to ensure that our competitive players receive value for their program fees paid. Early communication to our families will be essential to remind them of the remaining program fees payment as they have committed to these programs. These fees will cover costs including February to April coach trainings, PPE costs, and field usage. Players are receiving more hours than a normal season in terms of trainings. We are hopeful that normalcy returns in February/March where players will be actively participating in competitive soccer games.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1. Honor the Game

Nothing to report.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1. Multi-divisional Social Media communications

R. Martinez, C. Rudberg, T. McNutt, and J. Yarkin are working on the 2021 marketing strategy, including social media. With a focused marketing presence, we are aiming to engage Competitive Premier and Recreational players. Also, we are looking for more Faces of Mustang to highlight people within our community. The coaching development program has four areas that will be added to YouTube.

5.2. Competitive Elite & Premier Update

R. Martinez added that the Premier teams will continue to train until the end of January. Players and parents were excited about these extra trainings and that their Fall season was extended into 2021. These trainings provide an outlet for the kids energy, promotes exercise, and allows players more touches on the soccer ball.

5.3. Rec and RecPlus Camps Plans

F. Wilson reported that three-week camps will be offered in the months of January, February, and March. Priority of participation will be given to those unable to participate in the Fall camps due to our capacity constraints. In addition, next season's registration will be focused on providing a 2021 marketing strategy to bring back our registration numbers. With increased COVID testing and the vaccinations rollout, we should be back to a normal soccer season.

T. McNutt added that these three-week camps will be conducted by Mustang Soccer professional coaches as camps will be run at MSC in the early afternoon; therefore, finding volunteers may be more difficult. These camps will be geared toward 6-10 years old. The expected start date of these recreational camps will be Monday, January 11th.

T. McNutt expressed his appreciation for those Board members that were able to attend the Recreational Camps and thank the Recreational volunteer coaches for their help in our Fall Camp program. The volunteer coaches were provided Mustang Soccer gear to show our appreciation. Lastly, F. Wilson was acknowledged for all his time and effort that went into creating this new camp program, forming teams, finding coaches, and making this Fall camp program happen.

5.4. Equipment Update

R. Swanson discussed that he has been working with F. Wilson on creating timelines, new ordering process with Nike and Soccer Pro, and older gear distribution from the warehouse in the coming months. In addition, he reported that renegotiations with Nike will need to occur as our contract ends next year.

5.5. Referee Update

J. Yarkin reported that he attended a Referee Assignors Meeting which he learned that there are approximately 1,000 referees registered for 2021 NorCal. This number is typically 13,000. Once return to play is determined, significant registrations will need to occur to fill in this large gap. In addition, the background check process can take two to six weeks which could impact the timeliness in getting referees back out on the field. If referees do not register each year, they must go through the entire process again.

5.6. Tournament Update

G. Luengo discussed that we will not be holding Winter Turf Tournaments this winter typically held in December. He will be focusing on College and Premier Showcases next summer and bringing the Stampede Tournament back in some format. He added that any Board member that has interest in assisting with input for these future Showcase events is welcome to join working with him.

5.7. Sports Alliance Update

G. Luengo reported that he has been working with F. Wilson and the Town of Danville in obtaining fields that are not being used by any organizations. Mustang Soccer has been given access to Sycamore Fields recently as they are not being used by Lacrosse or Rugby teams. We will continue to monitor access to fields. In addition, Sports Alliance has an enhancement plan for Diablo Vista Park by adding lighting to the grass field. A meeting with Sports Alliance has been scheduled for tomorrow. A future update will be provided at next month's meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Registration Fees

R. Northing introduced the 2021 registration fees topic to determine whether any fee increase should occur after this pandemic we have endured. The last fee increase occurred in 2016. Board discussion followed. Board agreement that registration fees should remain the same for the upcoming 2021/2022 season. This topic will be revisited for future seasons.

6.2. Board Meeting and Retreat Dates

2021 Board Meeting dates were distributed and are listed below:

January 19th (Tuesday – as Monday, January 18th is MLK Day)

February 16th (Tuesday – as Monday, February 15th is President's Day)

March 22nd

April 19th

May 24th

June 21st

July 19th

August 23rd

September 20th

October 18th

November 15th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

December 13th

The 2021 Annual Retreat will be conducted over Zoom instead of being an in person meeting. Once a few dates have been determined, a google link will be forwarded to request availability so we can finalize the scheduled date.

ADJOURNMENT: R. Northing adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.