

**LEHIGH VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
GENERAL LEAGUE MEETING
Northampton Community College
June 12, 2012
7:30 PM**

Exec. Director: Robert Rooney

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Call to Order: Gus Garcia called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Roll Call: Clubs are fined for non-attendance based on the sign-in sheet. A list of clubs attending this meeting is attached as **Annex A**.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

As a first order of business, the March 13, 2012 minutes were read and unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)

Gus stated that he wanted to keep the meeting short and that the meeting will consist of quick reports in order to have enough time at the end for club feedback.

At the March member meeting Gus stated that he would set aside 30-45 minutes at the end of the June meeting to solicit feedback on league improvement. Members clubs were to provide ideas of where the league can do more/less/better in the areas of scheduling, registration, tournament, communication and other services that LVYSL provides to member clubs.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Rob Rooney

Rob reported that the LVYSL tournament was held during the weekend of June 9 and 10 and that the result was a mixed bag. While the tournament was well run and organized, the number of teams was fewer when compared to last year. A total of 76 teams participated in this year's tournament versus 105 teams last year.

Having the use of good quality fields for all of the games at Lehigh County created a good atmosphere and the tournament was packed. We should receive a final accounting for the tournament around the end of the month after all expenses are paid. The total net income may be up a little due to the fact that the league saved money by not using the higher cost Lehigh University fields for the tournament.

VP OF OPERATIONS REPORT

Greg Ramos (Lehigh Valley United FC)

Not present.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Rich reported that he paid the following major expenses since the March member meeting:

- Referee Assignor contractual payment - \$3,400;
- LVYSL Schedule for Fall and Spring - \$3,450;
- EPYSA for PS-1 changes and Round Robin registration – \$8,371;
- LVYSL tournament team refunds (due to lack of an available age group) - \$2,000;
- East Penn PC support - \$1,375; and
- Tournament expenses – approx. \$2,400.

The bank balances at May 31, 2012 were \$131,525 compared to \$126,771 at May 31, 2011. Despite the totals at the end of May, we are running approximately \$14,000 behind last year’s total revenues. This is attributable primarily to the loss of 29 tournament teams this year compared to last year (29 x \$500 = \$14,500). The differences in the total balances are due to some timing differences in collections and payments. For example, the EPYSA check for \$8,371 was not cashed until June so it doesn’t show up in the May 31, 2012 statement. Likewise, we had a tournament deposit of approx. \$9,000 in June of last year that doesn’t show up in the May 2011 total while this year the same deposit was for only approx. \$3,000.

On the positive side, tournament expenses are down as well due to the fact that the league saved money by not using the higher cost Lehigh University fields and spent less on referees due to fewer games.

GAMES COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Girls/Boys game’s commissioner and League Scheduler

Bob Eaton

Bob reported that the scheduling for the Spring season generally went well and that using specific times for game slots proved helpful. For the Fall, the league will compress the 2 hour time slots for small sided games to 1.5 hour time slots in order to better utilize officials and to reduce the times between games at the same fields. Standard game times will be established and communicated to the clubs in the next few weeks.

There will be no Sunday morning games in keeping with the LVYSL Rules of Play. Bob noted that only 5% of the total games were scheduled on Sunday mornings and that of those games 40% were self-scheduled. He also clarified that the 4 days that teams can request to have off during the season are individual days and not weekends. If a team chooses more than 4 days, then only the first 4 requests will be honored.

The dates for the Fall 2012 season are posted on the LVYSL website and are as follows:

Sun, Jul 1	Club RG1 deadline – EPYSA club registration
Sun, Jul 8	Fall Teams registration packets due (teams with pre-season tournaments)
Wed, Jul 18	Team Entrance Period ends - LVYSL team registration
Fri, Aug 10	Fall Teams registration packets due (no pre-season tournaments)

Fri, Aug 31	All Teams in Approved Status; no pending PS1s
Fri, Sep 7	LVYSL League Roster Freeze starts
Sat, Sep 8	LVYSL League Games begins
Sun, Nov 18	LVYSL League Games ends Round Robin Weekend (Girls and Boys Teams)
Mon, Dec 3	LVYSL League Roster Freeze ends

Clubs were reminded that they must choose division placement when they register a team in the LVYSL system. They also need to identify their home fields and update the directions, if needed. Also, clubs that want to self-schedule must send a note to Bob or self-identify in the comments section of the registration form on the LVYSL website.

REGISTRARS' REPORT

Gina Keys (Lehigh Valley United SC) - Not present.
 Kathy Garcia (Tri-Boro SC)
 Rich Mitstifer (Northwestern SC)

Kathy reminded clubs of the registration dates set forth above, especially the RG-1 EPYSA club registration deadline of July 1. She noted that so far only 10 LVYSL clubs have completed their RG-1 registration with EPYSA.

Kathy also indicated that we would be voting on electing two additional registrars – Manuela Tufano and Kristin Campbell.

Rich reminded clubs to review coaching certifications to make sure that coaches have the proper licenses for their respective age groups. In response to a question regarding what a coach should do in the event of the cancellation of coaching courses, Rich commented that they should look at other options for courses on the EPYSA website.

EPYSA

Wim Roset

Wim stated that the regional championship to be held at the end of June was still looking for volunteers for registration, field coordination, etc. Individuals can contact EPYSA if interested. In response to a question as to whether high school students could volunteer, Wim stated that they could but they had to be local.

REFEREE ASSIGNOR'S REPORT

Hal Grahn

Hal reminded the members that the league would be implementing a 3-person referee system at the U-13 level for the Fall. Youth referees will be manning the lines so teams are reminded to control their coaches and parents and to be respectful and not address officials, especially youth officials, with officiating issues. Coaches should report any issues directly to Hal through the game reports, and Hal addresses all comments directly with the officials (and with coaches when they request a call back or a response). Hal thanked coaches for completing the game reports in the Spring and providing him with comments.

In the event a game is cancelled due to weather, Hal must be notified by telephone (not email) at least 2 and preferably 3 hours prior to the game. All cancellations for whatever reason should be called in to Hal. Lastly, the date for reschedule requests for cancellations should be outside of 10 days from the date of the request to ensure proper referee coverage.

In response to a question regarding referee classes, Hal stated that the state does not sponsor referee classes in the Summer, but that there are classes planned for September. Information on classes can be found on the Eastern Pennsylvania Soccer Association - Referee Committee website at www.epsarc.org.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Elections. The following executive board positions were unanimously approved:

LVYSL Position	Name
President	Garcia, Gus
VP Operations	Ramos, Greg
VP Finance	[Open]
Treasurer & Registrar	Mitstifer, Rich
Secretary	Bento, Paul
Boys Game Commissioner	Eaton, Bob
Girls Games Commissioner	[Open]
Small-side Games Commissioner	[Open]
Registrar	Garcia, Kathy
Registrar	Campbell, Kristin
Registrar	Keys, Gina
Registrar	Tufano, Manuela

Upper 90. Gus discussed Upper 90's application for league membership, and the fact that we provisionally accepted them as a league member for the Spring with the caveat that all Spring games had to be played away from their home fields in Luzerne County. They had one team in the Spring and need two teams to continue as a league member in the Fall. The members will wait on approving them as a member pending the receipt of additional information regarding their Fall teams and plans.

Lehigh Valley Academy Charter School. Gus discussed LVA's application for league membership, and the fact that they expect to have one team (U13 boys) and will play at the Crawford fields in Hanover Township (Bethlehem), PA. After discussion, the members accepted LVA as a member.

League Outreach Meeting. Member clubs provided the following comments in response to Gus's request for ideas of where the league can do more/less/better in the areas of scheduling, registration, tournament, communication and other services that LVYSL provides to member clubs.

St. Thomas More Soccer Club. Consider possible solutions (including one-off reschedule requests) for games when a coach can't be there and no other carded coach is available to take over that team.

Tri-Boro Soccer Club. Consider adding 6-8 games per season to give the players more opportunities to play matches in a competitive environment, and consider advising players on fair play prior to games.

Southern Lehigh Soccer League. Consider larger sized fields for U12 8 v 8 games.

Parkland Area Soccer Club. Consider implementing an on-line warning system for coaches that select to reschedule games within a 10-day window thereby incurring a \$25 fee.

South Parkland Youth Association. Reconsider geographical division placement for U9/U10.

GOOD OF THE GAME

None.

NEXT LEAGUE MEETING

Tuesday, August 14, 2012
7:30 PM
Northampton Community College

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There being no other business, at 9:48 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Paul Bento
Secretary

Annex A

1	Abington Soccer Club
2	Allentown Youth Soccer Club
3	Bethlehem Soccer Club
4	Carbon United Soccer Club
5	Catasauqua Youth Soccer Association
6	Enco United
7	F.C. Elite
8	F.C. Freedom
9	F.C. Pocono
10	Keystone Athletic
11	Lehigh Valley Academy
12	Lehigh Valley United SC
13	Nazareth Soccer Club
14	Northwestern Soccer Club
15	Palisades Soccer Club
16	Parkland Area Soccer Club
17	Salisbury Y. A. Soccer Club
18	Saucon Valley Soccer Club
19	St. Joseph's Soccer Club
20	St. Thomas More Soccer Club
21	South Parkland Youth Association
22	Southern Lehigh Soccer League
23	Tri-Boro Soccer Club
24	West End Soccer League
25	Western Lehigh United Soccer Club