

The 2009 Executive has determined their focus for this year will be on the following directives:

- 1) Membership & Recruitment
- 2) Women's Outreach
- 3) Community Building
- 4) Volunteers & Leadership
- 5) TIPC



info@downtownsoccertoronto.org

<http://www.downtownsoccertoronto.org>

MEETING Minutes – November 8, 2009

Location: 330 Berkeley Street

Secretary: Tedd Konya

1. CALL TO ORDER by Jason 1:40PM

2. MEETING ATTENDEES & REGRETS

Present:

Jason Wilcox – 2009 Commissioner
Kephra Senett – 2009/2010 Communications Officer / Vice-Commissioner
Tedd Konya – 2009/2010 Secretary
Tara Vinodrai – 2009/2010 Women's Representative / League Ombudsperson
Amanda Stocks – 2010 Membership Coordinator
Daniel Tourangeau – 2010 Treasurer
Steve Lloyd – 2010 Commissioner
Ed Van Ekeris – 2010 League Operations Coordinator
Shane Butner – 2010 Events & Fundraising Coordinator
Kent Williams – 2009 Membership Coordinator (2:00PM)

Regrets:

Clay Knight – 2009 League Operations Coordinator

3. COMMISSIONER

- Jason started the meeting by stating he and Steve will co-chair the meeting. The goal is to pass on information to the new executive and allow the new executive to ask questions of the out-going executive
- Deadlines
 - Steve wanted to know if there were any problems meeting deadlines the past year
 - Tara said getting information to Kephra early enough to get information out the league in time was a problem
 - Tedd said discussing membership fees was discussed too late and needs to be done much earlier this year
 - Amanda asked if there was a min/max set for occasional or non-playing members → No
 - Tara stated that the membership structure needs to be changed entirely
 - The occasional player status needs to be revisited due to challenges met this year
 - Jason said permit applications need to be turned in soon

- Ed said he has already contacted the city to request a packet
- The events calendar should be set early
- TIPC needs to be scheduled soon and a Tournament Director found
- Frequency of meetings
 - Jason stated that the '09 exec met every 2 weeks, usually on Monday evenings
 - Tara added that call-ins were allowed to be flexible to work/travel schedules
- TIPC
 - The debrief has not yet happened, Steve & Jason will both participate when it does happen
 - Jason said he wanted to incorporate TIPC in to the mandate of the league but it just didn't happen this year; he recommends that it be addressed by the '10 exec if they plan to continue with TIPC.
 - There will be new challenges this year because it is expected that there will be a high turnover rate of task force members
 - Does TIPC make money?
 - It was not the goal but it has made money
 - It could be viewed as a fundraiser in the future
 - Jason liked that it was held in Brampton this year because of the feeling of unity that was created
 - There needs to be clear rules on player and spectator conduct so violators can be removed easily without a refund
 - Jason explained the issue that happened this year
 - Steve said it's a new tournament so there are definitely things that still need to be worked out
 - Will holding it outside the city be an issue? → Discussion followed with pros and cons
 - Amanda stated that more shelter and better washrooms are needed
 - Kephra said the docks soccer area has a trailer washroom that may be beneficial for TIPC

4. OPERATIONS

- Regular season schedule
 - A suggestion that came from the captain's meeting was to hold the draft a week before the first game so teams can have a practice before playing a game
 - Steve asked about a response to Monday games → The survey results were 50/50
 - Due to the strike, every team had 1 team they never played in the regular season
 - Steve asked Ed to check with the city to see how early the league can play on the fields
- Playoffs
 - Tedd explained how the playoff format was created and approved by the executive this year
 - Tara said the playoff format needs to be determined early and put in place before the season starts
 - Feedback from the league was largely negative
 - The schedule had teams playing 4 games in 1 day

- People were not happy with the quality of the field → Jason said that the '09 exec worked to get away from Riverdale but were unsuccessful with the city
 - Jason explained how the city allots fields
 - Jason recommended shortening the season to avoid playing at Riverdale
 - Tara said she drove by Withrow every Sunday in September and it was always empty
- Referees
 - Jason said he had an issue with the “referee’s discretion” rule when calling games for inclement weather. He recommends that a clear protocol be put in place that all refs will follow
 - Kephra added that there is a long-term issue with one of the refs
 - Discussion about ways to handle non-agreeable refs
 - Suggestion to make clear league rules for them to follow
 - Kephra added that communication to league members should also be clear in how the executive expects members to respect ref decisions
 - Possibility of firing a ref
 - The OSA policy regarding refs was explained by Steve
- Rule changes
 - Lightning policy was suggested
 - Steve stated that the refs learn the lightening policy during their training but he is not clear why there are inconsistencies. He suggested the league get the policy from Harry and put it in writing in the league policies
 - Attendance reporting
 - There was an issue with captains having inaccurate reports, possibly on purpose
- Skills Assessments/Clinics
 - Jason recommends everyone in the league be reassessed
 - Tedd said that at the last exec meeting Clay said he was going to work with some of the assessors from May to reassess current member’s based on this year’s level of play
 - It was suggested to look into the process of determining final scores and see if it needs to be changed
 - This year only 1 of 2 scheduled skills clinics occurred
 - It needs to be promoted sooner and better
 - Steve said internal communication also needs to improve
 - Suggestion was made to rename the event to increase attendance

5. TREASURER

- Tara & Tedd provided information and an update to the ongoing investigation
- Account balances provided by Kent
 - BMO DST chequing \$9,989.57 with outstanding expenses explained
 - BMO TIPC savings \$8,692.27 with some outstanding revenue in PayPal

- CIBC chequing \$446.00
- Signing authorities
 - Tedd printed the change over letters and Jason explained the process that needs to occur to make the change over happen
 - Steve will coordinate with the banks

6. MEMBERSHIP

- Uniforms
 - Feedback – Kent has heard positive response about the colors; except a request was made to have more variation since some colors looked the same on the field. No complaints about not having shorts as part of the package this year. There were 2 complaints about the quality of the socks
 - Amanda has supplier information to look over and she will bring options to the next exec meeting
 - A suggestion was made to purchase a new set of pinnies
- 1st aid course
 - Amanda is concerned about the members in the league that have heart issues. She would like to look into getting defibrillators at the field from the city or through the Heart & Stroke Foundation
 - Amanda thinks all exec members, at the very least, should have 1st aid training
- Recruitment & retention
 - Challenges this year
 - Business cards had some misleading information; some people thought women's only night meant there was a women's division. 2 members that signed up believing this did not finish the season
 - Indicating that space is limited and the league runs a waiting list needs to be written on advertising
 - Reaching out to different groups and neighbourhoods → Tara will add a survey question to the annual survey to try and determine where the league comes from
- Advertising done
 - Listserv through Univ of Toronto
 - Soccer ball flyers dropped off at business
 - Business cards
 - Posters were created but never printed
 - Website
 - New opportunities?
 - Fab or Xtra
 - ProudFM

7. EVENTS & SPONSORSHIP

- Tedd's comments were deferred to save time since he will be on the '10 executive
- Jason thought there were too many fundraisers
- A suggestion was made to change sponsorship levels
- Kent advised Shane to send team photos to the sponsors

8. OBMUDSMAN

- Governance

- Tedd & Tara still need to go over and rewrite the governance based on the investigation
- Tara suggested all executive members read the bylaws, constitution, and league policies
- Survey
 - There is usually an end of year survey to help advise the executive for the upcoming season
 - Discussion was deferred for the next exec meeting
 - Jason asked about sending out a TIPC survey
- Concerns about some members' conduct
 - The '09 will send a list of recommends members to approach about conduct prior to the start of next season

9. COMMUNICATIONS

- Kent suggested an auto-response be added to the waiting list on the website where information about the process is included
- Google calendar
 - Jason asked the '09 exec about their thoughts on it
 - It is hard to trust unless everyone commits to using it
 - There was lack of use
 - Tara said a calendar on the website might work better

10. SECRETARY

- Tedd still needs to get portfolio files from '09 exec members

11. ADDITIONAL INFO/RECOMMENDATIONS

- The league is a member of IGLFA but have not heard anything back since paying for the membership
- Jason said most communication should go through the executive@downtownsoccertoronto.org email address to keep everyone in the loop
 - Tara added that writing in the subject line the initials of whom should respond came in handy
 - 2010 executive will send their email address to Kephra so she can update the @downtownsoccertoronto.org email links

12. ADJOURNMENT

TIME – 4:16PM