

The 2010 Executive has determined their focus for this year will be on the following directives:

1. Governance Adjustments
2. Community Building
3. Leadership/Continuity

Carrying over the 2009 Executive priorities:

1. Womens' Outreach
2. TIPC
3. Membership & Recruiting



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ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Minutes – March 27, 2010

Location: Jarvis Collegiate Institute cafeteria

Secretary: Tedd Konya

1. CALL TO ORDER by Steve 4:45PM

2. MEETING ATTENDEES & REGRETS

Present:

Steve Lloyd – Commissioner
Tedd Konya – Secretary
Tara Vinodrai – Women’s Representative / League Ombudsperson
Daniel Tourangeau – Treasurer
Ed Van Ekeris – League Operations Coordinator
Amanda Stocks – Membership Coordinator
Jordan Stewart – TIPC Director
31 league members from 2009 season

Regrets:

Kephra Senett – Communications Officer / Vice-Commissioner
Shane Butner – Events & Fundraising Coordinator

3. AGENDA & MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

Agenda

- “4.2 TIPC Director’s Report” moved ahead of “4.1 Commissioner’s League Report”
- “5.1.B Amend section 8.1” moved ahead of “5.1.A Amend section 4.1”
- Item 6 “Question/Answer” will occur after each report

- Motion by Steve to accept revised agenda
 - Second by Tedd
 - **APPROVED all in favour**

4. REPORTS

4.1 TIPC Director (Jordan)

- 2010 Tournament dates: June 18-20 (Moved from the first week of Pride due to G20 and Pride festivals occurring in other cities)
- Registration again online, fees the same as in 2009, opening April 1
- Primary goals for this year’s tournament:
 - Improve community feel and overall experience

- Maintain high quality play without encouraging overly-intense competitiveness
- Provide maximum value for participants' registration fees
- Same location in Brampton, will use last year's lessons to enhance experience:
 - Improve regularity of transportation from the city to the playing field
 - Provide increased shelter from sun (since there is none at the park)
 - Attempt to offer more refreshment options at the field, since there is little nearby
- Banquet event again to be held at Voglie, registration event venue is yet unconfirmed
- Accommodation partner will be Sheraton Centre on Toronto, \$100/night
 - Locations closer to village not able to offer rooms due to G20 Summit on weekend to follow
- Presented again by BMO, working with Proud and Fab as media sponsors
 - Task force working to expand sponsorship base to provide more benefits without increasing price
- Tweaks to schedule to reduce intensity while still maintaining quality, competitive tournament
 - Addition of a recreational 7-on-7 division using mini fields? Task force predicts this will be primarily composed of DST members, as most visiting participants would be traveling to play in full-size games
 - Attempts to cram a full tournament into a weekend may be excessive
- Still looking for help on Task Force
- Q&A
 - Jason W → What positions are open on the Task Force?
 - Sponsorship & Communications
 - Jordan added that the task force is interested in contacts for additional sponsors
 - Dann M state the new owner of Crews & Tango might be interested

4.2 Commissioner's League report

- Daniel spoke about the state of the league finances
 - Reasons for increasing the fees:
 - League must be financially viable. Although TIPC shows a potential surplus, the less predictable nature of revenues and expenses of the tournament makes it that the regular league should be able to survive independently from the tournament.
Even considering the increase, the league this year is relying on \$2,300 of non-recurring revenues that will need to be replaced in the following years.
 - Cash position is around \$5000:
 - Daniel predicts the league will have approximately \$18,000 on October 31, 2010.
 - Many expenses are incurred several months prior to registration. It is essential for the league to have access to funds in advance of registration. The league needs at least \$12,000 to start each year.
 - Sponsored League:

- Over 25% of the budget revenues consist of sponsorship and self-generated revenues (in 2010, this will be the calendar), thus directly allowing DST to ensure a low individual contribution.
- Q&A for Daniel
 - Dann M asked about the missing money from last year
 - Steve deferred to Tara & Tedd. Tara stated there is not a lot of information that can be said due to the police investigation. There is confidence that approximately \$14,000 was taken by the previous Treasurer over a 1 year period. The Executive is working to try and recover those funds.
 - Dann M asked if steps are in place to avoid this in the future
 - Daniel stated controls are in place to avoid this situation. Such as triple checks and ensuring multiple responsibilities with tracking money
 - Tara added that the bylaws have been changed to reflect better controls and the financial policy is in the process of being revised.
 - Terry S asked if there will be a report during the season to keep league members informed.
 - Steve stated that money was bled over a period of time. In the past, the checks in place were not observed stringently. The league will have an Annual General Meeting at the end of the season to report again. The 2 new annual meetings are designed to give members future information and reporting back on season results.
 - Tara added that the Town Hall Meetings have not been well attended, so the new meetings are meant to be more businesslike and reporting.
 - Steve stated that the league has always tried to be transparent
 - Tara reminded everyone that the Executive is all volunteers and friends so certain situations are tricky and vulnerable
 - Dan added that financial statements are reported in the minutes and a balance sheet can be attached to these minutes
 - Jason W asked if the new bylaws have been posted to the website → Yes, this past week
- Steve continued his report by stating the roles of each Executive member and then providing a brief report on each portfolio
- Membership
 - Uniforms/Sponsors are complete and ready for the season! 2010 Team Sponsors will be announced on Draft Night
 - 2010 Advertising Drive:
 - We have repeated the popular "Soccer Ball" advertising from 2009 and doubled the amount of soccer balls to 1,000 this year
 - Target locations include Church Street (league sponsors and non-league sponsors), Queen West, University Campuses, etc.
 - 2010 Registration:
 - Registration for Returning Members officially opened on March 13th allowing members 2 ½ weeks to register on-line for the new season

- In-Person Returning Member registration was earlier from 4-4:30pm
- As of this morning 67 people have registered
- New Member Registration dates are booked for:
 - April 10th – 1-4pm @ Churchmouse (Women Only)
 - April 16th – 7-9pm @ Gladaman's Den (Open)
 - April 17th – 1-4pm @ Pegasus (Open)
- Draft Night is planned for May 14th at Woody's
- Big thanks to Kent W for his help revising the advertising
- Communications
 - Web site:
 - Online registration repaired (thanks Avery M) and prepped for future seasons.
 - Back- and front-end tweaks.
 - Content updates and new content posted.
 - Updated all events and news items.
 - Posted extra-league information to members' forum.
 - Members are encouraged to use the forum section to help increase participation
 - New Award: Gary Manz Award
 - Will be given to a person/group that shows outstanding volunteer contribution
 - Award honours a former league sponsor for his help with the league since its inception
 - Press release has been sent to ProudFM, Xtra, and Fab magazine
- Operations
 - We listened to the survey results:
 - 46% wanted more skills development → we added Saturday evening practice / play. This will occur after Pink Turf games from 5-6PM to allow more playtime for league members. Ed asked the members present to raise their hands to indicate interest in attending
 - 55% wanted improved fields (and would pay for it) → working to get better fields for play-offs (and will pay extra, if required), if we can find appropriate fields.
 - Steve added that the availability of fields makes them very hard to get and most of the good fields are outside the downtown core. For now the league has to work with Withrow to stay local
 - 65% said that skills balance on teams is important →we are reviewing existing members skill ratings to ensure balance on teams, have eliminated occasional players, and will continue evaluating new players.
 - Too many games played on one day at playoffs. → spreading out playoffs over three weekends instead of 2.
 - Concerns regarding referees →Will meet with Ref Harry to discuss re-evaluating his refs, establishing a clearer rain cancellation policy, and reviewing reffing policies.

- Steve explained that the refs we get are OSA qualified but since we are not an OSA league they could face losing support from their local organizations. We need to be careful about forcing too much on our refs for the fear of losing them, they are the best we can get for the price we pay.
- More Playing Time → Earlier start date of May 16
- NO GAMES
 - Civic Holiday weekend due to Montreal Pride, Gay Games (Cologne), and the long weekend.
 - Toronto Pride weekend
- Events & Fundraising
 - Event Schedule
 - Completed, finalizing dates with venues and will then post/advertise to membership, possibly before the draft.
 - Events have become more social driven with the fundraising element removed from all but 1-2 events.
 - Picnic in the Park event added to this year's schedule.
 - Banquet confirmed to return to Radisson this year.
 - Will create a 'Social Events' committee after registration to help with planning of events.
 - Fundraising (Calendar)
 - Calendar planning in progress with support of Ryan L/Justin D our volunteer photographers.
 - Will start shooting in April.
 - Calendars will be sold at 'Calendar Launch Party', 'Pride Booth' and through the effort of the membership.
 - If all calendars are sold, the money raised can pay for special fields for playoffs...if available.
- Steve stated a request to help Tedd gain information about the 1st few years of the league to build better records
- Q&A
 - Mike L → Will the calendar only be sold at Pride and through membership, or will there be other forms of advertising?
 - Steve said we will try other advertising but it costs money and other calendars tend to be sold best by word of mouth
 - Mike L asked if they can be sold in stores on Church St
 - Steve said to contact Shane to make that suggestion and also suggested any members to contact Shane to be part of the social events committee
 - Dann M → Asked about the creative design of the calendar
 - Steve said to contact Shane to provide input
 - Ryan L added that the shots have not been determined yet
 - Ben M asked if the idea of 2 calendars (gender specific) has been discussed
 - Steve said all shots will consist of more than 1 person and hopefully co-ed but to contact Shane to give him the suggestion

- Steve asked if there were any other questions from the membership → No

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Steve explained 20% of membership needs to be in attendance at the meeting in order to amend the Constitution
- At this point in the meeting quorum was not met → New Business items were not discussed since no decisions could be made
- Discussion about what “Open Membership Meeting” means
 - Jason W said the Executive has the ability to change the definition of a business meeting
 - David P said it cannot be changed through the bylaws

6. PRIZE DRAWINGS

6.1 Survey raffle

- Greg B pulled the name → Nate B won \$25 to Bishop & Belcher

6.2 TFC tickets (door prize)

- Meghan pulled the name → Joseph N won tickets to the April 25th TFC game courtesy of Carlsberg
- Tedd will get Carlsberg in contact with Joseph to redeem the prize

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to end meeting by Steve

- Greg B asked if the league’s participation in the Pride Parade will be different this year.
- Steve said the social events committee will handle it

Second by Tedd

PASSED all in favour 5:45PM