



**FC Exeter (Exeter Youth Soccer Association)
Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 14, 2023**

Meeting conducted via video conferencing

President's welcome

The meeting came to order at 7:02 p.m. via video conference. President Maria Proulx welcomed directors Luke Martel, Geoff Meadville, Jenn Young, Scott Craig, Patrick Garrity, Ben Bailey, Jason Faria, Porter Hayes, Eric Kelley, Christie Farris and Matteo Taormina. There were apologies extended for absence from Scott Craig due to the snowstorm.

Minutes

A vote to accept the minutes for the February meeting was tabled so as to amend the minutes to include updates to the club's financial report. The February minutes will be voted on during the April meeting.

New director

The president opened the meeting by asking Luke Martel to introduce a new candidate for the board of directors. Luke welcomed Jessica Costa to the meeting and nominated her for a three-year term on the board. Matteo Taormina seconded the nomination. A voice vote passed the nomination unanimously. Jessica's addition brings the board's ranks to 14.

Spring season

Maria reported that the spring registration numbers tell a great story for the club, with registrations outpacing the previous spring season and surpassing fall numbers. Overall, 359 players have registered for the spring. Maria stated that the task at hand for directors was to determine the number of teams we will field and the divisions in which the teams will play, and then establish a "to-do list" for roster formation.

A thorough and thoughtful discussion produced the following breakdown:

High school boys: 3 teams, 1 varsity team in the New Hampshire Soccer League, 2 JV teams in the championship division Northern New England Soccer League (with 3 players from the 2008-09 boys moving up to fill out rosters)

2008-09 boys (U14-15): 1 championship team in NNESL

2010 boys (U13): 2 teams, 1 in NHSL and 1 in NNESL championship

2011 boys (U12): 1 championship team in NNESL

2012 boys (u11): 2 teams, 1 premier and 1 championship in NNESL
2013 boys (u10): 3 teams, 1 prem and 2 champ in NNESL (with 4 boys moving up from 2014)
2014-16 boys (u9): 4 teams, developed and balanced by age and hometowns

High school girls: 2 teams, 1 varsity and 1 JV in NHSL
2008-09 girls (U14-15): 1 premier team in NNESL
2010 girls (U13): 2 teams, 1 premier and 1 championship in NNESL
2011 girls (U12): none (2011 girls playing up at U13)
2012 girls (U11): 1 championship team in NNESL
2013 girls (U10): 2 teams, 1 premier and 1 champ
2014-16 (U9): 3 teams, developed by by age and hometowns

Roster formation

Geoff Meadville and Jason Faria (high school boys), Matteo Taormina (U13 boys), Eric Kelley (U11 boys), Jenn Young (U10 boys), Patrick Garrity (U10 girls) and Christie Farris and Ben Bailey (U9 girls/boys) are age-group “captains” to make roster decisions. Captains were asked to seek input from previous coaches from the most recent fall and spring seasons to help determine rosters. A meeting was set for 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 21 for final discussion before rosters are submitted to the leagues.

Fields

Patrick Garrity reported that as many as six facilities will be available to the club to use throughout the spring. Access to Exeter Rec may be limited to weekend games due to conflicts with youth softball. Brentwood Rec, Knowles Field in North Hampton, Stevens Parks in Stratham, Stratham Memorial School and Timberland HQ all have been notified of our interest and are reviewing availability. All venues are equipped with goals.

Patrick reported that Exeter and Brentwood will be lined with multiple pitches for game scheduling. A spreadsheet will be made available to coaches to choose practice days and venues once the field availability is finalized.

Equipment

Luke Martel reported that a cheaper option for uniform kit shirts will be made available for those purchasing this spring, as this season is the end of our two-year cycle and the kits will change for fall 2023, requiring all families to purchase new shirts. Nearly 100 new players need to order uniform kits for the spring.

NNESL

Maria Proulx reported that NNESL’s regular board of directors meeting was held the previous week. Nine of 14 clubs had already registered teams for the spring season. The league is prepping for a switch from U.S. Club Soccer to U.S. Youth Soccer for the fall 2023 season and is looking to expand into northeast Massachusetts.

Evaluations

Player evaluations are May 13. Laura Skaal will send a save-the-date e-mail to the league database in the coming days. Maria Proulx reported that Seacoast United has agreed to provide coaches to evaluate the players. Scott Craig will schedule sessions by age-group once the 2023 league season is published to avoid game conflicts.

Finances

Jenn Young reported that the club's cash position is strong at \$138,865, up 23 percent from last year.

Jenn will open registration for the fall 2023 season in early April, because that will serve as a player's registration for evaluation as well. Registration for the fall season will remain open for some age groups throughout the summer.

Jason Faria moved to adjourn the meeting, a motion seconded by many. The motion passed unanimously.