

**New Lebanon Soccer Club  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**November 28, 2006**

**Members Present:**

Michele Arthur  
Mike Arthur  
Carol Creevy  
Angus Eaton  
Joe Stauch  
Scott White

**Members Absent:**

John DiMuro

**Review of minutes from August 24, 2006**

Corrections to the minutes of August 24, 2006 are as follows: Page 3, first line should read "Black and white or grey should be the colors used on all of the travel club team uniforms."

Page 4, **Red Bulls Camp (Rec. and Varsity)** should read **Red Bulls Camp (Recreation)**, and second paragraph, first sentence should read "Recreation League participation in the Red Bulls camp was higher this June, and arrangements have been made for the recreation camp next year."

**New Lebanon Invitational Tournament**

The fall soccer tournament held September 28-30, 2006 was a successful fundraiser for the club and would provide funds for operating expenses in the year ahead.

In preparing for the tournament, Michele Arthur explained that she contacted local businesses and asked for donations. The businesses that made donations were listed on the club website as club sponsors. The listings have links to the sponsors' web page. The postings can be viewed at [www.nlsoccer.org/sponsors.htm](http://www.nlsoccer.org/sponsors.htm).

Concession stand sales were good. The crock-pot food items were an excellent addition to the concession stand and seemed to work very well. All of the donations were sold. Members that donated a food item entered their name in a door prize drawing. The drawing encouraged participation, and was a nice "reward" to members for their donations. This part of the concession stand was organized by Kelly Magin and board members extended their thanks to her.

The board agreed that having a local team in the tournament like Berlin increased attendance, and this should be kept in mind for future tournaments.

Feedback was positive on having *The Star-Spangled Banner* and *God Bless America* played before the games, the 50/50 raffle and the music provided by Nelson Furlano.

### **Equipment Needs**

Mike Arthur reported that there should not be a lot of equipment needs in the Spring. Some cones and discs will probably have to be purchased. First Aid kits were replenished last year and will probably not require much in the way of supplies in the Spring. Last year the coaches were provided with ball bags and game balls and practice balls if needed.

### **Coach Vacancies**

At present there is no coach for the girls under 17 team, and it is possible that there may not be a coach for the girls under 14 team. Zack Arthur will be coach of the under 10 team, but at this point it is uncertain if the team will be boys, girls, or co-ed. Joe Stauch stated that at the membership meetings where there are player sign-ups there should also be coach sign-ups. He said with all the children enthused about playing and teams being formed, generally there are parents that will step forward and sign-up to coach.

### **Board Member Vacancy**

Mike Arthur informed the board that Crystal Phelps had resigned as Treasurer, and the vacancy on the Board will have to be filled. Scott White suggested April Smith for the vacancy. He stated that April was very helpful and organized with the Recreation teams, and he believed she would do the same as Treasurer.

### **Procedures for Spring Soccer**

There was discussion again on the necessity of streamlining and simplifying the sign up process before the Spring soccer membership meeting. Fees for registration, referees and uniforms should be itemized and determined before the Spring soccer sign-up meeting. Coaches need to be able to concentrate their efforts on coaching, therefore, it would be ideal if each team had a "team parent" or assistant coach to help out with the forms and collecting fees. The board agreed that this process needs to be established before January and Mike Arthur noted, as a reminder, that any parent working with the children is required fill out a disclosure form.

Initially there was discussion about having a January meeting for Spring Soccer, and a September meeting for Recreational Soccer, after further discussion board agreed that there should be a "big" soccer meeting night in January or early February. Recreation soccer participants could meet in the gym

and travel soccer participants could meet in the cafeteria. It was decided that this would be a good opportunity to inform club members of, how many members the club serves, perhaps general finances, coach and board vacancies, and explanation of the difference between Recreation and Travel soccer. This information could be disseminated by a flyer or fact sheet given out at the meeting or included in a press release announcing the meeting. No date was set for this meeting, but it was agreed that the meeting should be held as early in the new year as possible.

The October 11 Spring soccer sign up meeting was not well attended. It seemed that it is too early for families and players to be thinking about Spring soccer. Team commitments are not due to CDYSL until March so the February meeting seems to be the best alternative.

Regarding Recreational soccer, Scott White said he would probably not be able to devote as much time next spring & fall as he did this year. From his experience this year he believed it would be helpful to have a sign-up before the elementary school year starts next fall, that way the first week of school all the paper work is complete and the schedule is set and the children can just play soccer. He suggested sending a notice via email to club members. It was also suggested that a flyer be sent out with the back-to-school mailing from the elementary school.

Scott also said it would be very helpful to have a team parent for each of the recreation teams to help out with the forms and collecting fees. He emphasized the necessity to reserve the elementary school gym in case of inclement weather. There were several times this year the gym had to be used, and had he not reserved the gym the question arose as to what to do with all those players!

### **General Discussion**

Michele Arthur said there would be a meeting for the Red Bull camp on Thursday, November 30.

Mike Arthur said he was planning a January coaches meeting. Among other things Mike said he would again tell the coaches of the necessity to keep the game balls in their possession over the winter. The game balls were a big expense to the club and should be used only for official games not pick-up soccer games or practice. New game balls do not need to be purchased each season. As an aside, Scott White added that first aid kits containing the cold packs cannot be subjected to freezing temperatures, if the kits are stored outside in a barn or the shed the cold packs will be destroyed.

Scott White said he would check with Nelson Furlano regarding the procedure for obtaining non-profit status for the club.

Mike Arthur informed the board that last year the club incurred \$460 in fines from CDYSL largely because of forfeited games. He said a couple of the fines were assessed in error and CDYLS would drop those fines.

Michele Arthur wished to state she has nothing but the utmost respect for the way Rick and Cindy Feltman had conducted all aspects the soccer club. Club oversight by the Feltmans has never been questioned as anything but for the good of the club and its members. Having been through the first year of the club "cycle" each of the Board members agreed that the club would not have continued to exist if not for Rick and Cindy's genuine concern for the children and for the advancement of the soccer program in New Lebanon. The Board expressed their sincere thanks to Rick and Cindy Feltman for their tireless dedication to our community and the integrity with which they managed the Club. Joe Stauch added how Rick was always willing to do anything and everything he could for the children. Angus Eaton suggested that perhaps it would be appropriate to publicly thank the Feltmans by submitting a letter to the editor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Creevy  
Recording Secretary

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