

Saint John Soccer Club

Annual General Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2016

Board Members: Terri Lanigan, Pat O'Brien, Dave Connell, Heather Morrison, Isabelle Logan, Barry Logan, Ben Curry, Bill Pasch, Kari O'Neill, Yousef Hasnain, Amy Ricardez, Ricardo Ricardez, Kari O'Neill, Amit Tamrakar (new member), Mike Coackley (new member)

Regrets: Wendy Patterson; Mike Foster

Opening Remarks – Isabelle opened the meeting and explained the open roles on the Board for 2017. (See all opening remarks attached below).

President's Report – Isabelle thanked the board members and coaches in attendance. She shared the 2016 success of adding over 100 Syrian children to our club. Recapped the field change required in 2016 due to the Forest Hills field being unavailable. We unfortunately lost some families due to location, however overall it was for the best safety of our children. The 2016 Jamboree was a great event for the club and the families. Congratulated the U14 Boys this year for being in the playoffs. Three students worked in our office this season, as well as coached mini-teams. This was a great learning opportunity for the students. Field Monitors were continued this year, and Squad Members were also introduced. This was well received. Isabelle advised she is stepping down after 6 years on the board.

Treasurer's Report – Bill reviewed the Treasurer's report. Ending the season with \$79k, which is a healthy balance. There is approximately \$8000 still to come from Pro Kids. Isabelle nominated to accept the budget for 2016. All were in favor.

Executive Board Member Nominations/Elections – Barry recommended we have three Vice President's in 2017 (one for each of the categories). Three categories are AA Senior, Youth, Mini's. Ben seconded the motion for three Vice President's. Vote moved forward. All were in favor, none opposed.

Isabelle asked for nominations for the following roles:

President – Bill and Ben both offered up for this role. Both nominees shared why they would like to take on this role and what they have to offer. Ben decided to withdraw his name in order to continue the work he is doing in his current role and recommended to support Bill in the role. Voting commenced with Bill absent from the room. Majority voted in favor of Bill taking on the one year Presidency role.

VP AA Senior – Barry nominated Terry, Terry accepted nomination. Terry shared why he would like to be considered for the role, and how he would positively contribute. Vote commenced. Majority were in favor.

VP Youth / U10 and House League. Terry nominated Barry. Barry accepted nomination. Barry shared why he would like to be considered for the role, and how he would positively contribute. Voting commenced. Majority were in favor.

VP Mini Program – Ben will be continuing in this role. All were in favor.

Treasurer – Ben and Barry nominated Amit Tamrakar. Amit shared why he would like to be considered for the role, and how he would positively contribute. Voting commenced. Majority were in favor.

Secretary – No nominations at this time. Role will be left open temporarily.

Advisor – No nominations at this time. Role will be left open temporarily.

2017 Pricing – New field rates are going to have a large impact on our budget for 2017. Costs are expected to increase by approximately \$15,000. Spring registration fees need to raise by \$5 or U8 and \$10 for U10 Spring Soccer. For summer, U8 and below will increase by \$10 and U10 and up by \$15. Fall will increase for U8 and below by \$5 and U10 and up by \$10. The board votes on the new pricing. All were in favor, none opposed.

SJSC can only increase rates during AGM, however can reduce rates later if either additional funds are received or if field impact is less than expected. Bill asked if any objections. Kari nominated to accept, Bill seconded the motion. Majority were in favor.

2017 Office Space – SJSC requires new office space. New ideas from the board were discussed. Saint John Toyota may have a trailer available for purchase, however we would need to find a location for it. The Lord Beaverbrook was also recommended as they would have space for rent. Lorne Middle School/Nick Nicole Centre may also be an option, or a container within the City. **ACT:** Dave will contact LBR and Toyota. Ben will contact Nick Nicole and the City of Saint John.

2017 Equipment Management – We have had issues with equipment this year and some nets will need to be sent back. It is difficult to organize or track equipment. It was recommended that we have one contact track/manage the equipment. The board agreed to change the locks for now. U8 nets had a lot of weakness in the joints. They were under a one-year warranty. The manufacturer requires us to open a claim (with photos). **ACT:** Terry and Pat volunteered to take the photos.

****New Business** - Mark Coackley requested to become a member of the board and shared what he would contribute. Isabelle nominated to accept Mark's proposal. Heather seconded the vote. Majority were in favor.

****New Business** – Ben recommended we discuss Winter soccer (skills development only). The Boys and Girls Club have agreed to host once again. **ACT:** Bill will contact B&G Club and determine the days available.

Tentative: Bill and Pat will run ages 3-5. Ages 6-8 are TBD. Mark has agreed to take on ages 9-12. Ricardo and Barry will do 13-16. Next meeting will determine how many registrations per age group. Once the children begin playing, we can recommend they move up or down depending on size/skills.

****New Business** - Dave Connell inquired how the fields will be improved based on the increase in price. The Club shared there have been no commitments from the City.

****New Business** - Dave also shared that Lester Trophy's offered cash back in 2016 however it was not utilized as there was \$0 dollars ordered. Dave advised this offer still stands for 2017.

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President's message

First I would like to begin by thanking everyone for coming and showing support for Saint John Soccer Club. Secondly, I would like to say "Thank you" to all of the board members, coaches, parents for your support of myself as your President. I can proudly say that when great people come together for a common goal, the love of soccer, we can accomplish great things. We have all worked hard to accomplish this.

I believe we had a successful year starting with adding over 150 Syrian children to come and play even though we had some struggling the English language. You could see in the faces of the children that they were happy.

Our mini program this year continued in the three areas, West side at Lowell, North at PES, East with two programs at Forest Hills at the start, then finished with Champlain Heights and Barrack Green Armour. We did have a set back as the Forest Hills field was not maintained very well and we ended up with having a coach injure himself having him out of commission for the remainder of the season. Due to this injury, the city tried to help with the condition of the field but had to close it and we had to change location. I thank everyone that was involved with this as we acted quickly to prevent another injury, especially thinking of the young children. Due to this move, we did lose some families as the new location was no longer accessible for the families. The mini program continued and had a fabulous turn out for our jamboree weekend. We had the "Funky Monkey" as an alternative for food which saved time for our valuable volunteers. The children had a blast, even in the rain. Parents wanted them to leave but they were having fun playing, so the jamboree continued.

Our house league for the older children continued to play in the Fundy Soccer league and they enjoyed themselves as well. We of course had some challenges with field locations and transportation for the Syrian children.

Our AA division had a busy season as well, this year we had a boy and girl team in each division. New age group was added, so we had a U12, U14 and a U17 division. The children in these groups did great especially the U14 Boys group as they went on to play in the Regional playoffs. They came in third place and played a competitive final game.

Our seniors had an accomplished season with having 3 teams in each division, men and ladies. One of our accomplishments this year was having the majority of our home games play on the new Shamrock Turf field.

We had three students working for our office this season in conjunction with the SEED program. They put in extra effort with the regular office duties as well as taking on as coaching one of our mini teams. This has certainly given our students an insight working with children and dealing with different personalities. They managed very well and still had smiles on their faces on the final night of soccer.

We continued with the field monitors at our mini field program, we also started a new program, "Squad members", to help with the coaches which started in our spring program and continued in the summer program. The Squad members had pre assigned drills set up for the coaches so that the kids all developed the same skills. This was developed for the U6 to the U10 age groups. Coaches seemed to appreciate the assistant of the Squad members.

Overall, we had a great season due to all the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, so in closing I would like to thank you all for the time and energy you have given to the club for the successful season. I am stepping down after 6 years of seeing this club grow and develop to where we are now. I wish good luck to the new executives and board members that will be elected soon for a successful season next year.

Thank you and respectfully submitted,
Isabelle Logan