

## Minutes of BA Soccer League AGM held Thursday February 19, 2009

Twenty-two members were in attendance. Steve Cock called the meeting to order at 9.25 pm. Paul Stanisci Treasurer clarified some items regarding the **finances for the winter 2007-08 season and summer 2008 season. The statements of account were accepted.** The issue of re-using uniforms from season to season was raised, and specifically there was a suggestion that when new uniforms are purchased, excess shirts be included so that even if some go missing at the end of a season, there would still be enough with the excess to make a full set for the following season. This suggestion was not accepted.

Until further notice a **new set of shirts will be purchased every season.**

Members endorsed the existing **fathers and sons policy as working well.**

**Steve Cock was re-elected President, Paul Stanisci was re-elected Treasurer and Ray Martel was elected Vice-President. Dave Knibbs will continue to coordinate discipline procedures.**

Mike Murphy moved that the league should make an effort to **avoid buying equipment that may have been manufactured using child labour**, and suggested that products that are stamped **FIFA approved should be chosen** whenever practicable as we can have confidence that these would not have been manufactured using child labour. The meeting **voted to accept this constitutional amendment** with respect to purchases.

Steve Cock moved that the constitution be amended to specifically permit the use of **spare goalkeepers from the spares list during playoff games** if the regular goalkeeper is not able to be present. This was voted on and **accepted.**

**Fees for the upcoming outdoor season were set at \$160** for regular players and \$80 for keepers. **Members questioned** the level of fees being paid to the GSA and what benefit was being received for these, wondering **whether the BA League would be better off independent of the GSA.** Concern was also expressed that the spirit of the BA League would be lost if the GSA were to try to steer us toward significant expansion. Steve Cock estimated that **most of the fees** being paid by us to the GSA for registration **are being forwarded on to the EODSA/OSA.** This purchases some basic insurance. The GSA/Dragons also bills us for field use in summer. They are in turn billed by the city for the use of the fields we use. There may have been an admin surcharge applied, but Steve said he did not question the field cost charges that came in higher than expected last summer as there had been offsetting lower than expected charges for player registrations, and on overall balance the amounts charged came in roughly in line with what was expected. Steve confirmed that the coordination of registration of players with the GSA office had been a significant hurdle last summer but that things had been running more smoothly recently and that Cindy Cornfield the new office manager has found ways to reduce red tape and delays. Players questioned whether we could run more cheaply by ourselves independently of the GSA / EODSA /OSA if insurance could be obtained from another source. Steve guessed that this would definitely be the case, but expressed concern that outside of the GSA we would lose the large organization clout the GSA has with the city. In Steve's opinion access to the Potvin fields on a Saturday morning would likely be more difficult to secure on an ongoing basis into the future as a league independent of the GSA. Also, hypothetically, pressure could be brought to bear on referees by the EODSA if they refuse accreditation to referees working for an unsanctioned league. The meeting voted that **Andrei Solonnikov, Steve Cock and Ray Martel should together draft a letter to the GSA** outlining concerns players express with respect to the GSA-BASL relationship and suggesting ways in which the partnership can be enhanced.

The meeting voted to **expand the league from six teams to eight teams next winter** as long as four fields can be secured at the Gloucester Superdome at the same convenient 7 pm till 9pm time slot we have already secured.

There being no further matters raised for discussion, the motion to adjourn was carried.