

Livingston County Area Junior Football League
Meeting Minutes – January 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm with all communities present with exception of Byron who was unexcused.

Motion to approve the agenda as written by Hamburg (Shepley), seconded by Lakeland (Natoci).
Motion passed unanimously.

Financial report was submitted, there is \$1664.67 in the checking account. All bills are paid.

Nominations were taken for the Executive Board as follows:

Tom Bellar and Pat Seremet were nominated by Brighton but had no official positions given. Clay Porter from Howell was nominated for Vice President. Maureen Wagner from Lakeland was nominated for Treasurer. Jason LaPerna from South Lyon was nominated for President by Hartland.

Motion by Howell (Tom Curtin), seconded by Lakeland (Natoci) to lay on the table the official vote of all Executive Board Members until we can find out which positions Tom and Pat wish to run for and so that we can allow each of the members to do a short write up about themselves. This should be emailed to the entire body by January 31. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion occurred around the 2017 calendar. The first proposal was from President LaPerna with a start date of August 14, first contact date of August 21, first game date of September 9 and if we continue with the same playoff format, the semi-finals would be on November 4 with Championship on November 11. It was also stated that we could separate this by only looking at the start dates and work on playoff format separately.

Hartland discussed wanted to reduce the season length with a 7 game schedule. President LaPerna stated that it would be difficult to schedule Home and Away properly with an odd number of games but was overall in favor of a reduced game schedule if we could make it work.

Howell was in favor of starting practice on August 7th. All other communities present were in favor of August 14th. This information is to be taken back to the communities and discussed for a final vote in February to set the 2017 schedule.

Discussion surrounding the updated Bylaws and Game Rules presented by President LaPerna. Approval of these Bylaws will occur over the next two months with two official reading of the Bylaws with the second being the official sign-off from each community. The proposed Bylaws are on the Dropbox account and President LaPerna will grant access to those folders to anyone that currently doesn't have access.

Howell brought up the fact that we should once again start to look at age versus grade. Howell and Hartland will begin discussing the possibilities but it is not something we will be able to implement in 2017 due to the fact that communities are already taking registration.

Brighton discussed new language for game balls. Adding verbiage into section 5 about language surrounding inflation of balls to the psi listed on the ball. Also adding language that all balls must be inspected at weigh-in. Acceptable balls were also discussed and perhaps language added to the Bylaws on which balls are acceptable to use in the league could also be added to the Bylaws.

Brighton discussed adding the blind draw procedure to the instructional level.

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Howell brought up that in the event we do not have a recording secretary on hand, each community would be responsible for taking notes and this would rotate from month to month.

Howell brought up the fact that the new bylaws should have a change log added to track any changes made and the reasoning behind this change for future board members.

The discussion about off season activities came up and it was a general consensus to greatly loosen up the rules regarding off season activities. The rules in place are extremely old. As a league, we would like to allow more offseason, non-contact activity including speed/agility camps, 7on7 leagues, post season leagues and other camps and clinics that include our coaches for the betterment of our game and education of our coaches and players. This will be discussed further in February with the hopes that a finalized bylaw addendum can be made.

Brighton has a Speed and Agility camp coming up at 242 Church beginning on April 17 through the end of June from 6 to 7:30pm. They are taking the first 75 participants that register. Registration will be \$50 and will go to cover expenses related to the training only. All other monies will be donated to 242 Church. Brian will get the flyer to us to post on our website.

Hamburg stated that their 7on7 team went great and will be doing it again this year. The kids had a lot of fun.

Hartland brought up the fact that we need to do more to educate players on concussions and symptoms.

Howell further stated that we needed to clear up the confusion surrounding off season activities.

Milford showed a gel cap product that is worn under the helmet. Discussion surrounding how products in addition to education will go a long way in ensuring our coaches are properly equipped to teach the game properly to reduce the amount of head related injuries occur.

South Lyon spoke about the 12u tournament that occurred. President LaPerna talked about the process involved in taking the team to that tournament. South Lyon was doing a post season tournament in house for years. We didn't feel it was any different but were sorry if it broke any official bylaws. Discussion quickly went back to cleaning up off season activity bylaws in February.

Motion to adjourn at 8:23pm

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the LCAJFL by Jason LaPerna.