



**Richmond FC  
Public - Board Meeting Minutes  
September 28, 2017**

Present: Carlos Carvalheiro-Nunes, Don Jenkins, Chris Parry, Mike Fletcher, Steve Hood, Jasmin Ma, Emad Ghashgahae, Rein Weber, Fred Weill, Terry Dowle, Cristina Carvalheiro-Nunes, Tania Webster (recorder).

Regrets: Mary-Anne Humphrey, Mark Fletcher, Danny Lam, Michael Rubenstein, Fraser King

Called to order at 6:35pm

Agenda approved as circulated.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Financial statements for June, July and August were circulated in advance of meeting. July and August Coast Capital bank statements circulated at the meeting. Positive revenue, will start decreasing as expenses get charged to. Seeking clarification on where 2017 spring program (non-league) registration fees were placed – in 2016/2017 (which wouldn't be reflected in the present statements) or 2017/2018 – presently shows 0.

**MOTION**

Cristina Carvalheiro-Nunes moved and Don Jenkins seconded that the July, July and August financial statements be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR REPORT**

U9 and U10 House teams need some rebalancing.

Age group technical lead – assigned to whole age group is working well.

U15 Bronze coach – son moved up to Silver, but has agreed to stay on. Thanks to Mike.

U16 Bronze coach – new coach, getting support from Emad has worked well. Thanks to Lorne.

1<sup>st</sup> in-house coach clinic – this Friday September 29.

U9 Development – training and development going well. Experiencing some success in PDL games.

U10 Development – games are a bit challenging. Richmond FC has balanced the two teams, but other clubs may not be and tiering players within group. However training sessions are going well and success in games will come.

Thanks to James Evison for all his time and dedication to Richmond FC. James is returning back to England as previously advised.

Jan Skoupil – new staff coach, well-received so transition has been good and James helped a lot. Age Group Head Coach for U13 and U14.

School Program – looking to start approaching schools now.

Steve is now part of BC Soccer's Grassroots Committee. Congrats to Steve on this appointment.

Would like to encourage more players to wear turf boots on turf fields rather than soccer cleats, particularly at the younger ages.

#### **AGE GROUP COORDINATOR REPORT**

Jasmin: smoother process this year. Problems with the coach certification and the new Charter rules. Balancing of teams with new players was difficult. Had some new players who were very skilled in soccer and teams ended up being not balanced. Add a tick box to the with skill level – beginner, intermediate and advanced (Tania to look into). Get staff coaches to fill out assessment forms as well. Not just the parent coach.

#### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

November to work with Denise from Vantage Point.

Bill circulated out letter regarding the season of BCCSL. And moving more in-line with BC SPL-like season. Looking at the perspective of increased in enrollment so not competing with hockey and basketball and in-turn increasing hockey and basketball registrations. Looking to send this letter to Via Sport and BC Soccer. Asking to investigate. Steve noted that CSA is planning Exit Interviews for players who don't return to soccer. This is part of their greater retention plan. Board is in support of sending the letter.

#### **MOTION:**

Bill Barrable moved and Carlos Carvalhiero-Nunes seconded that the letter be sent in to Via Sport and BC Soccer on behalf of Richmond FC board.

#### **CARRIED**

Looking at have a panel discussion about why we're are not doing baseline concussion testing anymore. Working with hockey to have a presentation that can be given to all youth sports groups. Have been in discussion with UBC/Brain Health Centre on the matter. The testing UBC did last year with Richmond FC players helped reach this conclusion.

## **BCCSL**

Start-up was disappointing. Richmond is lucky with good scheduling other clubs/districts not as lucky. Fari Fuladi our BCCSL Rep has gone above and beyond the call in his role. Thank-you Fari. Whole year looks to be problematic for scheduling – mostly for Richmond FC away games.

## **Metro League**

New website. Season off to good start.

## **EQUIPMENT REPORT**

Donated a bunch of equipment for group going to Nepal. Old balls, old uniforms, white socks.

Nets are an ongoing problem. Nets being ripped because goals are being dragged across field. Perhaps a wheel option that the City could look into.

Succession plan for equipment manager. Not in place, need to start getting more members involved. Could be divided into 3 jobs – T&D/nets, U5-U11 and U13-U18.

## **KNOW YOUR SPORT**

Event at Lansdowne went well. Thanks to board members who attended and to Danny on hand to help with translation. Need more items to hand out as “freebies”.

Discussion about more signage – banners, branded canopies, etc.... need a better grasp of cost. Chris to look into.

## **REGISTRATION**

Overall down about 150 players from last season. Registration numbers are on par and strong at U5-U10, down 20 house registrations at U11, traditional loss of players in move to U11 to U12 because no “Richmond-only” soccer anymore (~30 players), down two teams at U15 Bronze (from 3 at U14 Bronze), no U18 Bronze teams (down from 2 U18 bronze teams, but to be expected b/c no U17 Bronze last season) and a combined U17/U18 Metro team. Also no U14 Metro team due to 4 players going to BCSP and two moving out of Richmond – all taking place after evaluations and team selection. Discussion about other sports enrollment numbers, declining school age population and how to keep recreational soccer teenagers involved when competing with high school basketball and club volleyball.

## **FIELD USAGE**

The City of Richmond and some City Counsellors received a letter from person in community of Richmond alleging that Richmond FC and RGSA are overbooking field space, so that no other soccer groups can book it. Allegations of RFC/RGSA booked space but no one on field using it. Steve, Rein, Emad, Kim (RGSA) and Dave (RGSA) met with Gregg Wheeler, City Counsellors and Jim Lamond of Richmond Sports Council to discuss allegations. As a result both RGSA and Richmond FC have been asked to provide to City detailed allocation of bookings of Richmond fields team by team, program by program. Emad and Steve have a fairly comprehensive Excel document already which use to allocate field space internally based on bookings from City.

## **REFUNDS**

Board revisited the revised Refund Policy that was approved by Board in January 2017 and confirmed they are in favour of refund policy. Confirmed support and in line with what other clubs do.

## **BRANDING**

Giving our logo out to teams to make their own club wear. We have a supplier who provides club wear. Our policy is not provide to our logo. Going to investigate more with an approved supplier and more variety.

## **Balls over head/Head height with ball**

Following on US ruling regarding head safety – Richmond FC Rule implemented last year for keeping ball on ground for U5-U11, no kicking in the air 1) player safety and 2) technical – keep the ball on ground, passing. From a referee perspective it is problematic. US just has a no heading rule. Maybe this is the way we should go. Will review policy and come up with alternatives.

## **DROP Off/Pick-UP**

Complaints from coaches about parents of U5-U10 players just dropping kids off and also coming back late after session is done. During practice sessions it is not possible for coach to provide individual care to child left at field, such as taking to bathroom. Reiteration of the policy that U5-U10 players must have a parent at the field at all times or a designated non-parent who is NOT the coach. Must be back at field 10 minutes prior to session ending.

## **PROVINCIALS 2018 A CUP**

Need 6 board members to join committee.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm.