

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS PARK  
SOCCER CLUB (DPSC)  
Wednesday, May 19, 2010**

Attending members:

Peter Keenlyside  
Robert Sambrook  
Brendan Avery  
Kim Ball  
Steve Weston  
Darin Bennett  
Andrew Roets  
Greg Williams  
Georgia Weinstein-Wright  
Dianna Christopolous  
Charmaine Van Possel

The meeting commenced at 7:32 pm.

1. Introduction of parents and Board members. 12 parents attended from various age levels.
2. President's Report: Robert Sambrook, President, addressed the year's events. Highlights included:
  - i) Total registration rose slightly, due to an increase in girls' enrolment, offset somewhat by a slight dip in boys' total registrations.
  - ii) Our gaming funds, currently a revenue item of \$40,000 will continue for another year, in contrast to many organizations which have had them cut.
  - iii) Due to the strong financial position of the Club, fees were increased by only \$10-15 per player per year, mainly to offset higher officials' and BC Soccer fees.
  - iv) Efforts to increasing collaboration between clubs and perhaps merger arrangements have progressed in fits and starts. Rob repeated the familiar issues that personalities tend to obstruct progress on this file. The Club will continue to pursue merger and collaborations with other Clubs where opportunities exist.
  - v) One player from Douglas Park made the BC Summer Games Team.
  - vi) The Club expects to gain some access to the new all-weather fields, beginning with Jericho around October 31, 2010.
3. Treasurer's Report: Charmaine von Possel, Treasurer updated the Board and parents on the financial position of the Club:
  - i) The loss of the Gaming Funds will present a significant challenge to the Club in 2011-2012. The loss of \$40,000 in revenues will result in a significant shortfall to the Club unless fundraising can be increased

substantially or fees raised significantly. With that in mind, Charmaine urged all parents to work more closely with the newly formed fund raising Committee.

- ii) Charmaine noted a higher number of player subsidies affected the Budget somewhat for the previous year, likely due to the weaker economy.

4. Head Coaching Report: Steve Weston, Head Coach updated the status of the Club's Player Development efforts:

- i) The help of the volunteers in supporting Player Development is crucial
- ii) A formalized flowchart of skill development is being developed for both coaching (Andrew Roets) and players (Brendan Avery).
- iii) Steve reminded the meeting that the Community Coaching (Youth) and Community Coaching (Senior) will be paid for by the Club. Coaches are urged to take these courses to improve their skills.
- iv) Player Development programs have been organized for most age levels in three sessions: Fall, Winter and Spring. The only pre-requisite is payment of \$50 for a Player Development Jacket. Numbers so far have been good.
- v) Summer Camps will be run the first week of July for ages 5-12.
- vi) Steve highlighted the challenge the Club faces in maintaining registration numbers, balanced with the desire to have players play at appropriate skill levels. This has unfortunately meant occasionally not fielding Clubs at certain age levels, or serious negotiations with other Clubs.
- vii) The assignment of teams is largely complete for the upcoming year
- viii) It was stated that the House level is both the base from which we get our Divisional players as well as the main source of our registration revenues.

5. Discussion: Further discussion was had on growing ties with other Clubs, what factors affected it, and how best to further the process. The parents in attendance were all in favour of closer ties to other Clubs:

- i) It was acknowledged that some "dumb luck" was needed to get agreements.
- ii) Egos and local reputations of Clubs and Club Directors have unfortunately been significant factors in progress (or lack thereof).
- iii) Club finances and field availability are important strategic factors in Douglas Park's decision-making process.
- iv) Douglas Park (and all Vancouver soccer clubs') small size has led to smaller than hoped for representation on elite level (eg. Provincial) teams.

6. Player of the Year Announcements:

- i) The boys' player of the year was Jake Law, from U14.
- ii) The girls' player of the year was Beatrice Henshaw from U15.

iii) Winners receive a plaque and \$250 each.

7. Election of Officers and Directors:

The floor was opened and the following individuals were nominated to positions at the Club:

**Past President:** John McIntyre

**President:** Rob Sambrook

**Vice President:** Greg Williams

**Registrar:** Darin Bennett

**Treasurer:** Charmaine von Possel

**Secretary:** Peter Keenlyside

**Officers were elected unanimously.**

The following Directors resigned at the end of their terms:

Jim Bahen

The following were nominated as Directors at large:

Brendan Avery (player development)

Andrew Roets (coaching development)

Hark Hoag (new director)

Dan Getz (new director)

Kevin Soulsbury (new director)

Georgia Weinstein-Wright (coordinator)

**Directors were elected unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:23.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at Douglas Park Community Centre.