

Acton Soccer Club



ACTON SOCCER CLUB: AGM 2004

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

Present:

Ian Watson, Anita Valvasori , Tania Spill, Chris Telschow, Jim Dunn, Brian Morrison, Ray Hurrell, Dan Elliott, Malcolm Mills, Dave Eagan, Stew & Joy Bartels, Darrell Pond, Liz Griffiths, Pat Graham, Richard Van der Wal, Neil Moon, Donovan Patterson, Nancy Fenning

Meeting started at 7:45pm.

Introduction and Welcome:

Duly performed by Ian Watson.

Minutes of 2003 AGM:

Accepted as read. For anyone curious to read them in their entirety, they are available on the web site www.actonsoccer.org

Elections:

President	Ian Watson
Secretary	Nancy Fenning
Treasurer	Anita Valvasori
Registrar	Tania Spill
Equipment Manager	Dan Elliott
Field Manager	Donovan Patterson
Field Scheduler	Ray Hurrell
Coaching Convenor	Brian Morrison
Indoor Soccer	Malcolm Mills
Sponsorship	Joy Bartels
Trophies	Holly Dunn
Referee Scheduler	Monica Vanhelden
Picture Day	Sue Walker
Discipline	Dave Eagan
Bingo	Liz Griffiths
Publicity	VACANT

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Special Events	Leathertown: Tania Spill SC Parade: Dan Elliott / Malcolm Mills
GIRLS League	Donovan Patterson
NPHSL Rep	Dave Eagan
Fun / Championship Days	Monica Vanhelden

President's Report:

This time last year, we faced an almost complete change in administrative volunteer staff. Due to a combination of factors, we had a new:

- President
- Treasurer
- Registrar
- Secretary
- Field Scheduler
- Equipment Manager
- Referee Scheduler
- ... and others

So this season, we learned a lot of things for the first time all over again.

Firstly, the indoor season last winter. Just to prove that it's impossible to please everyone, for the second year in a row we listened to our members, and this time we moved the youth indoor from midweek in Acton to weekends at Hitherfield school. Numbers dropped again, although they remained reasonably stable in the adult indoor. So this winter, we are reverting to midweek in Acton, on the basis that weekends in Acton are too expensive, and many people don't really like to drive to Campbellville in the winter.

As for the outdoor season: what happened?

	Successes	Next year?
Fields	MSB fields repaired somewhat. Painting was done legally using Sport Stripe paint.	Continue the improvements, Grass cutting could be better, get more people to paint lines New position of field condition supremo
Sponsorships	We got the money, many thanks to Tania and Anita	We want to get the plaques distributed before Christmas, along with invoices for next year. We should consider a brochure to describe the benefits of sponsorship.

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Equipment	Uniforms were on time, the right sizes, good colour choices. Everything worked well on equipment where it counts – from the player and coaches points of view.	Getting extra uniforms was tricky and slow. We need different balls, and it may be time to change uniform suppliers. People kept destroying nets at Elizabeth St., so nets to be put away at all fields except AHS. Equipment boxes need repair, and Dan has some other good ideas . . .
The Leagues	All leagues ran well, once they were going. Many thanks to Tammy Burton for standing in as emergency convenor. Also great jobs by other convenors, Pat was best at painting lines!!!	GIRLS league difficulties, some clubs wanted to be unhelpful to Grand Valley, etc. Some concerns about health of NPHSL. Next year, repeat food for out of towners,
Team selection	Random selection for U5 – U9, balanced semi-random for older teams, better balanced than ever before.	Continue with these ideas. Possibly stricter about No Requests!!!
Coaches	We ran clinics! We had enough coaches! Well done Brian.	Volunteer Screening should be more fully implemented. Expand the success of clinics.
Referees	Training sessions went well Monica scheduled well	May need to pay refs more for parity. Definitely need better reports from refs on red and yellow cards to uphold the discipline process. Referee evaluation??
Discipline	Our busiest year for years	Can we improve coach selection and training? Need referees to provide better records, and more consistent refereeing.
Soccer	U16B – Town and Country won league. U16G – Outdoor Power won league, Denny's insurance won Cup. U14G – all Acton final – Clarica vs Time Out Sports U12B – Ron's Burner won Cup	Plans to play with Georgetown and Rockwood at Under-10 didn't come to fruition. Decided not to keep Under-12 as a 3-year group – what do we do about Under-5 and Under-6?

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Photo Day	The best photo day we've had.	Do it same place, same way.
Bingo	Raised \$15,000 in smoke-free facility	Not enough volunteers – do we have to follow the scouts into not holding Bingo?
Publicity	The newspapers are willing to help us, and the web-site is there and available	Encourage more teams to publicise themselves.

We still have one of the lowest registration fees around these parts, largely financed by bingo but also because we run without frills. And none of this would work without our volunteers.

We must also acknowledge our sponsors, and also the special generosity of Acton's Time Out Sports, Dribblers, Acton Tanner, Georgetown Independent, Credit Valley Shriners, Acton Sobey's, M&M Meats, Maple Lodge Farms, Acton Motors, and the Legion.

Treasurer's Report: (abridged)

During 2004, the club spent more funds on coach and referee clinics. It is anticipated that the club will continue to do so in future years. We also spent more funds on field equipment and maintenance during the year. With the Town's help we hope to improve all the fields. The cost of permits decreased over previous years as we avoided using Town facilities as the price was too high. The club has assets of approx. \$159,700.00 ear marked for improved soccer equipment and fields.

(Detailed Hard Copy available)

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Registrar's Report:

Outdoor

Outdoor registrations continue to show growth in the Under-5, Under-7 and Under-9 (mini-soccer) age groups. We have increased the capacity of each of these age groups by adding teams, but really we have reached the practical limit in U5 and U9 for the 2004 season. For the 2005 season, we have decided on U5 / U6 / U8 / U10, we have an idea how to fit on our fields. For 2004 our registrations grew to 630 players with ~340 in the under nine group.

Indoor

The change for 03 / 04 was to move the children to Hitherfield on Saturdays, adults were run the same as 02 / 03. We had one complete adult team drop out for the 03 / 04 season due to changes in Brampton (!) so the adult picture is reasonably encouraging.

We have learned that advertising in Milton is the way to increase indoor registrations, we will do that earlier next year

Head Referee's Report:

Presented by Pat Graham.

Pat felt that things went fine in 2004 but stressed the need for more training and certifying for 2005. We have someone in house that can do this for us for next year. We need to make sure we are compensating our people properly and as such we will review our structure for 2005. It was decided that new uniforms would be needed for next year as well. The addition of Monica as scheduler has been great. Pat felt that we should be in good shape for next year but we do need to attract a few more bodies.

Other Business:

- The state of our fields was brought up again and with the addition of a Field Manager this should help. (Note: the Town has no immediate plans for new fields for Acton, they are looking at a recreation complex that may be a number of years away)
- Concern about playing on Sundays for our finals was raised, it will be looked at for next season but it is unlikely to change as we would need to use two weekends and tournament finals are traditionally held on Sundays etc...
- Pat raised a concern about an article that appeared in the Tanner (~Sept 23, 2004). He felt that a match report portrayed the referee involved in a poor fashion. Ian Watson, who extended an apology for any unintended offence, wrote the article. The article had been written with humorous intent.

The meeting concluded at 9:00pm.

Minutes prepared by Chris Telschow