

**Stafford Area Soccer Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda  
May 5, 2008**

**In attendance:**

Reb Benson	N/A	Drew McGregor	X	Luke Harden	X
Tom Paton	N/A	Carla Smith	X	Toby Brown	N/A
Nick Scarpinato	X	Bryan Simmons	N/A		
Barry Hill	N/A	Lynda Compton	N/A	Tom Armstrong	N/A

N/A = Not Available

**I. Call to Order** – 7:17 PM MEETING TIME – Drew called the meeting to order at 7:17 pm with Nick, Drew, Carla, and Luke present. From the public were Randy Torfin, Clint Thatcher, Diana Pointon, Rodney Covington, Dale Kniffin, Don Bennett, Bill Myers.

**II. Public May Address the Board**

➤ Randy Torfin – Petition to reinstate a coach. The petition was signed by various members of the team being coached and the individual in question is the trainer for the team. The issue came up that after taking the individual to a tournament. The President notified Mr. Torfin that the individual was not allowed to be on the sidelines. Additional testimonials were brought on the individual's behalf. Mr. Torfin provided additional information regarding the incident which resulted in the individual receiving the red card. Concerns were raised that the individual was not present at the rules and discipline proceeding. Mr Torfin noted his belief that the decision of the R&D committee was beyond what was called for in the circumstance. Nick S – asked some questions regarding what happened subsequent to the incident on the field.

Drew recommended that the Board discuss the matter and then communicate the decision of the Board.

➤ Possible partnership with Shiloh Baptist Church - this item was not discussed.  
 ➤ Dale Kniffin – Came to find out what was going on with their team's coach. Nick S. discussed the situation with the coach of the Brasil team. This situation occurred because of Tom not receiving a renewed work VISA. The President of the Board made the decision not to allow Tom to coach. Nick shared that if Tom is currently on a tourist visa, Tom can volunteer to coach the team. SASA cannot pay him for coaching the team, nor can he be tasked to do anything on behalf of the team or SASA. The team has not asked SASA to find Brazil another coach for this season.

Nick described the process that would occur during the meeting this evening:

- Nick presented the activities that are going to be taken to facilitate Tom to work in the future.
  - The VISA being sought for Tom is being done by Soccer Academy.
  - A proposal to sponsor Tom for a three-year VISA will be discussed later in the meeting.
  - Nick noted that some had heard that he had not wanted Tom in the Club, Nick noted that he brought Tom into the Club and wants to retain him on the Club and will do whatever is necessary to get him working with the Club.
- Diana Pointon expressed some concern about whether Tom may have an exclusive contract with Soccer Academy. Nick could not state whether there is a contract in place with a non-compete clause. To date, Soccer Academy has not expressed concern about SASA working to obtain a VISA for Tom.

Nick explained what he will propose a way forward with this issue. Nick is ready to do whatever is necessary if the board votes in favor of this proposal.

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Brasil asked to see if there is a contract between Soccer Academy and SASA to provide a coach and an assistant technical director.

Group discussed whether SASA had stopped looking for a coach for Brasil, since Tom's coaching roles was supposed to be temporary. Brasil noted that they would love to have Tom back; however, they are concerned about not having a coach. Nick noted that if Brasil wants a coach, he will seek to have a coach for Brasil in August. Brasil is looking to SASA for a plan B, and Nick re-stated that if Brasil wants a coach in August he will seek to obtain a coach for the team in August. A Brasil team representative recommended that there be a Business Manager in SASA – recommending that SASA needs to be run more like a business.

**III. Other Reports**

**IV. Coordinator Reports (Those with approved agenda items) –** None approved for the meeting.

**V. Approval of the Minutes –** Minutes for April 2008 -

**VI. Action Items**

- Tournament Director – 3 resumes received. The board recommended that the three candidates be called in for interviews. Nick and Drew volunteered to be involved in the interview process.
- P & R Coordinator – Connie Mulgrew – VOTE – The board decided to hold off action until Connie is at the meeting.
- Complex Development Coordinator – Clint Thatcher – VOTE – Clint introduced himself and noted that he is a referee with one child playing in Classic. He noted that he was interested in seeing good fields for the Association. He noted that he met with Reb and had the position explained to him. He did not that he had never dealt with such a position but had reached out to get assistance in doing the Business Plan. He explained his understanding of what was required for the development of the Business Plan. At this time, he doesn't have a good feel for what was going to be required and noted that he needed to get additional information. The Board noted that it would be good to obtain the information that was developed by the previous Coordinator, Elvis. Nick asked about Clint's motivation to accept this volunteer position. Clint noted that he loved refereeing soccer and wants to see decent fields for him to referee on as well as for his children to play soccer upon. Clint noted that because he has seen the poor quality of the fields and wants to see SASA provide fields that will be available for those involved in the program as well as seeing a tournament held in the County. Clint said he is going to give it all he has and doesn't like to give up. Nick moved to accept Clint as Complex Development Coordinator for 2 years and Luke seconded. Clint was approved unanimously as the new Complex Development Coordinator.

**VII. Board Reports**

**President** – Reb Benson - these items were not covered due to Reb's absence.

- Partnership Agreement (on field development)
- Technical Director and Travel Director as SASA "consultants"

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- SASA night at RFK
- Board positions up for vote in August – Treasurer, VP, Travel Division and Recreation Division (Assistant Recreation Division)

**Vice President** – Drew McGregor – Nothing to report.

**Secretary** – Luke Harden – Nothing to report.

**Treasurer** – Tom Paton – Not present.

Bill brought numbers to show where the travel division stands financially. The Division has paid everything that Soccer Academy has charged for the recent tournament. The tournament provided approximately \$25,000 profit. There were fewer teams present at the tournament and it cost additional funds for fields. There were additional teams that could have been in the tournament, but there were less fields and referees available to host the number.

**Recreation Division** – Carla Smith/Bryan Simmons - requested that Double-Goal training be required for Rec Division coaches. Drew stated he would like to do it as part of the Coaches meeting. Teams are to be built two weeks before the meeting. SASA will be providing the Double-Goal training annually for those coaches who haven't completed it. The training will be mandatory for U8 coaches and above. Need to determine how this training will impact the ability of REC coaches obtaining an F-license. Luke moved that all SASA coaches be required to attend Double-Goal training within 12 months of their becoming a coach. Nick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Nick noted that a REC Coach was practicing on a game field and asked that the coach leave and he stated that he couldn't hold a practice without a goal.

**Classic Division** – Toby Brown – Not present

**Travel Division** – Nick Scarpinato, Jr

- SASA sponsoring Tom Armstrong on a three year visa. Nick reiterated the situation and what he had previously discussed. He noted the good work that Tom has been doing in the Travel Division. He is the right person for the position – and Nick doesn't want to start over. It will cost money to pursue this issue. Nick noted that there should be at least 3 members (one board member) on a committee to work through the VISA sponsorship. We will have to write a job specification and advertise.  
Luke moved and Carla seconded that a board of 3 members be solicited to pursue this issue with at least one member being a representative of the Board.
- Nick brought up a future issue concerning Barry's position as well as obtaining a three-year VISA for him as well..

**VIII. New Business**

Drew recommended that the board meet to discuss the issue brought forward by Randy Torfin within the next week.

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- IX. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:43p.m. due to Carla having to respond to an emergency with a family member.
  
- X. Date of next meeting: June 02, 2008**