

## **Unofficial Minutes from Competition Committee meeting on 11/02/06.**

Recorded by Eric Blommer.

1) **Developmental Pass** – Once again there were issues with the developmental pass. The biggest source of complaints has been when Premier players play down. We went through the entire rule line by line and made two changes. The first is that no players rostered on a team playing in the Premier Division can play down in their own age group. This is a very draconian solution but it should eliminate 90% of the current complaints and so we felt it was worth a try. Along with this it was decided that all non-premier players will be able to play up or down any number of divisions. This is only a change in those age groups with 5 divisions. It was done because some clubs have a team in the first and fourth divisions only and thus were blocked from using the developmental pass. We will try this for a season and see if it gets abused like it did with the premier players playing down just to win games.

The second change was more a clarification than a change. We clarified that although a team must have 11 rostered players at all times, they do not have to have them at every game. Since the limit is three developmental players per game, a team could have 8 regularly rostered players and 3 developmental players at a given game.

Finally, a few comments were made about the passes. Kurt emphasized that we must provide rosters for the referee and the opposing coach whenever we use developmental passes. The only teams who will not be able to use developmental passes at the end of the season are those playing in State Cup. All other teams will be able to do so but Kurt will have to override the system. Also, there was a comment made that the game rosters can only be printed if you are using Internet Explorer as your browser.

2) **Club Coaching Pass** – We briefly discussed the idea of having a club coaching pass. This would allow any coach within a club to coach any other team within that club by simply presenting his existing pass to the referee at the start of the game. This would avoid the Friday night scramble to get another coaching pass when a coach is suddenly called out of town. For the most part the idea was acceptable but there are some details that need to be resolved to avoid abuses. It will be discussed again at the next meeting.

3) **Sidelines** – We also briefly discussed the idea of moving the parents back to the same sideline as their coach so that we can regain control of a rapidly deteriorating situation. We didn't talk about it long because we were told that the state board is going to address it at the next meeting. Basically they will make the change but also have the parents on the half of the line where the Assistant Referee is not located. This should stop some of the parental abuse of the officials since there is not one right in front of them.

4) **High School Affected Teams** – Another brief discussion related to what the effective age group should be for the provisional high school affected teams. With the girls this season the division was effectively a U-18 division. There was a U-15 team put in that group but then they were not allowed to add two U-17 players to the team. We ended the

discussion when we were told that the state board was also addressing this issue. The bottom line will probably be that all these teams will be classed as U-18.

5) **Far West Regional League** – Greg talked about the Far West Regional League for U14 – U18 teams that Region 4 is starting. This would be an elite program that teams would have to earn a right to play in. The winners of this league would get the wild cards at Regionals. The teams would still play in their state leagues. This league would be set up like a series of tournaments. We are the only region not already doing this. A lot of details still need to be worked out by the region committee that is meeting here on November 10. The only additional information he mentioned was that this may cause some high school players to decide to skip playing for their school and play club soccer all year. This is not our problem since it is only the high school rules that prevent kids from playing on both teams.

6) **Miscellaneous** – Kurt said that at the next meeting we must choose a new Sub-Director for the boys. Districts are reminded that teams must have 9 to 11 returning players to be able to keep their division standings. This is traditionally a problem with the girls teams returning from high school play. Finally, the next meeting of the committee will be on Wednesday, December 6, at 8 PM at the State Office.