

Youth Athletics Advisory Board  
August 22, 2012

Board Members Present:

Jackie Kellogg, Derek Weaver and Cesar Elizondo

Jackie Kellogg called the meeting to order.

Jackie Kellogg added the recent law passed in regarding concussions to the agenda and the possible requirement of proof of insurance for all sport participants. Cesar Elizondo added information regarding improving the sportsmanship and stronger values beyond just improving their performance.

Ron Yacoub addressed the Board during public comments. He stated that he has worked with several communities before opening in Key Biscayne. He stated his interest in working with the sports community to help address sport injury preventative care. Key Biscayne Physical Therapy is willing to help. They are currently working with Key Rat baseball and the Girl's Volleyball program. Coach's clinics were discussed.

The Board discussed the Tackle Football program and the current registration numbers. The Board discussed what takes place when a sports registration drops. The Board discussed the field space allocation for sports when their numbers drop. It was discussed that this would be an issue brought before the Board to address.

The Board discussed the Girl's Volleyball program. Staff reported that the Board recommended registration process was implemented. Two players were added to the lottery and a random selection was made for the lottery. Jill Stephens addressed the board. She stated that the new process was received well by the program registrants. The concerns that were raised before the process were not realized. This year there was the lowest waiting list that we have had in the program so far. Jill discussed the wait list process. She stated that players are taken from the wait list by their evaluation score to insure that the teams remained balanced. Jill discussed a way to absorb the players. It was discussed that all the players have ten players and adding an eleventh would create a difference for two teams. All the program registrants were from Key Biscayne. Staff discussed trying adding them this year to see if there were any adverse impacts. Jill recommended having all the girl's participate in evaluations and then to see how things develop. Jill stated that is not uncommon to have a couple participants drop out of the program. Jill stated that the program is still looking for one more additional volunteer coach. She stated that she received 12 program sponsors to fund the program extras this year. Jill addressed the head coach experience question. She stated that all head coaches have volleyball experience and very actively involved and there is a survey that goes out. The past two years there have not been any issues with the coaches. She continued to state that one week has been added to the schedule and increased the number of games during the season.

The Board and Jill discussed the sports program overlap issue. Jill stated that the Girl's Soccer and Volleyball issue was addressed. She stated that there is a concern that there will be an overlap with Girl's Field Hockey. She stated that a written policy would be helpful to address the issue. The Board discussed the current policy is that in-season sports have priority over out of season sports and that intramural sports may not conflict during their regular season as a goal. A travel sport may conflict with an intramural sport, but all efforts should be made to avoid conflicts whenever possible. The Board discussed the travel and intramural field hockey program.

Staff stated that Field Hockey registration will take place within the parks and recreation department for the first time and will be conducted in the same manner as Girl's Volleyball with the exception that the Field Hockey program has an existing wait list they have maintained over the years. This wait list will be used first to place players into the program after returning player registration is completed. The Board discussed how the limits of field's space and resources do not allow all those whom wish to participate to do so. Staff stated that the Village Green North will be closed until October first; therefore, field hockey and soccer will be using other facilities until the field is open. The Board discussed the existing Field Hockey wait list.

The Board discussed the different rates for the different sports programs. The Board discussed sponsorships and if they could be used to lower fees. Fundraisers were discussed as another option available. The Board discussed that with KBAC closing some of the sponsorship procedures will have to change. Getting people involved in these efforts is a challenge that needs to be addressed.

The Board discussed the Basketball program. Staff reported that the Basketball program contract has been executed. The Board discussed the potential cost increase due to going to team orientated teams. The Board discussed that this was due to the requests received during the survey of this program. This will increase the costs. The Board discussed maintaining the same teams year after year to insure that any unused uniforms could be used the following year.

The Board discussed coordination of programs with St. Agnes Academy. Staff stated that St. Agnes has always maintained their own programs but usually their programs are completed by 5:30 pm so the conflict is minimized. There have been issues where their parents may not participate in too many programs. The Board discussed that this issue will have to be monitored with St. Agnes as well as the new high school to see how it impacts Key Biscayne programs.

The Board discussed the soccer program. Roberto Sabella addressed the board regarding Key Biscayne Soccer Club. Staff thanked Roberto, Jackie and everyone involved for working with their schedules to reduce overlaps between different sports. Roberto stated that things are very tight due to going to only Tuesday and Thursday

practices. Roberto reported on the current registration numbers with 150 on travel teams, 50 on pee-wee, and 90 in the intramural pre-season clinics. He continued that the pre-season intramural was capped due to field space. Roberto stated that pee-wee takes place at the KBCS and pre-season intramural takes place at St. Agnes. The Board discussed evaluations and draft procedures and that there will only be two travel teams per age group, so early registration will be beneficial if one wishes to play in the travel program so there will be enough time to evaluate the players. The Board discussed the football players being allowed to participate in travel try-outs. Staff stated that all of the football coaches were notified to make accommodations for players who wish to play travel soccer. Those practices will take place in Crandon Park. Staff stated with programs soon to be taking place at the MAST field, this will be a change the community will have to get accustomed to. Roberto was asked how he sees the programming improving and developing in the coming years by Cesar. Roberto responded by stating that the limited fields are a biggest issue. He continued by stating that more and more people are moving to the Key with children who wish to play soccer. Roberto stated that a limited registration is required to insure that the program is provided at the level of quality expected by the community. Also, he felt that high quality coaches are a priority. He felt that the qualities of uniforms were important as well. Roberto felt that more lighted fields would be beneficial in providing more time for practice. He stated that the loss of the Crandon Park fields will be significant. He stated that other clubs practice three times a week, while KBSC practices twice a week and in addition their practices are one and a half hours while KBSC practice times are limited to one hour due to field availability. Cesar asked if practicing off the Key would be an option for some of the travel teams. Roberto stated that some teams did go off the Island to continue during the off-season. Roberto stated that the KBSC did provide opportunities for their coaches to improve their soccer coaching licenses. The Board discussed the importance of getting survey response and using other methods of evaluating the coaches and program overall. Roberto stated that working with the team parent they hope to obtain more information to evaluate the programs. The Board discussed the improvement in communication by KBSC. The Board discussed the importance of proper parent and player conduct. The code of conduct documents signed by players and parents were discussed as well as the role of the newly implemented Disciplinary Committee was discussed. The importance of reminding people of these during parents meeting and coaches meetings.

Staff addressed the board regarding the maintenance of the playing fields. The plans to redesign the Village Green next year were discussed. The North Field closure was discussed by the board. The Board discussed the lighting of fields such as the Village Green North and the KBCS. Staff stated that the portables will be used again this year for the Village Green North. The Board discussed the goose grass issue that has impacted the fields.

Jackie discussed the new concussion policy enacted for all sports. The medical review process was discussed including the requirement of having players reviewed by a

neurologist before returning to play. The Board discussed implementing a policy requiring health insurance for all participants. The Board agreed to make fundraising an agenda item for the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM