

River City Youth Soccer League Board Meeting
Wednesday July 16th, 2025 - 7:00 pm
Mountain Mike's 1319 Fulton Ave, Sacramento 95825

Attendees: Marc Larsen (RSC proxy), David McKay (Treasurer), Shannon Hall (Registrar), Catie Anderson (Scheduler), Frank Cockrell (Coaching Coordinator), Gene Totten (President), Meagan Leonard (PAD), Andy Slocombe (BAC), Bret Fair (DDSC), Abner Soto (SOSC), Kevin Ahern (SISC), Rebecca Hovarth (APSC)

- A. Call to Order – 7:08p
- B. Guest Speaker – none
- C. President's Report –
 - 1. D6: pushing Metro League; Sarah: any governing body support for AED requirements? prob not
 - 2. Grassroots modules coming up, online begins July 22, field July 27th; 4v4 has 9 participants (of 12 max); 7v7 has 5 participants (of 12 max); per DDSC 7/27 is "Champs" weekend for swim so some scheduling conflicts
 - 3. New Sportsmanship Committee meeting and will start getting coaching and family communications out
- D. Club Manager Hot Topics –
 - 1. DDSC: still no response from US Club; BAC hasn't heard if sanctioned yet either, NorCal SuperRec hasn't enrolled RSC or APSC either;
 - 2. Sarah: remember to get your COIs from US Club and submit to permitting entities before start practicing
 - 3. BAC: getting a GotSport invoice, not sure what it's for – send to Shannon and Gene
 - 4. BAC: background checks and LiveScan – do we send who needs to Shannon? Yes. US Club background checks are more (\$25) but are good for two years
 - 5. U16/19 discussion BAC and DDSC to talk
 - 6. BAC: for clubs that order bulk uniforms, how much time to delivery? APSC: 3-4 weeks, happy w/ Challenger, talk to Lucio, recommend direct ship
- E. Officer's Reports
 - 1. Vice President/Sportsmanship/PAD Committee – meeting July 24th
 - 2. Secretary –
 - i. a. Approve June minutes -- **APPROVED**
 - 3. Treasurer –
 - i. a. need registration checks for last year's fees from clubs
 - 4. Registrar –
 - i. a. [medical] play down request(s)
 - 1. SOSC: would be U14G, turns 12 in Dec, medical diagnosis of autism, clinician note would benefit play down b/c of small size and conditions, Abner will be coaching, SOSC Board approved, wants to play U12G; BAC 1st to allow play down, SISC 2nd, APSC abstention, Scheduler opposed (both stating that APSC doesn't recognize autism as play down medical diagnosis), all others AYES - **APPROVED**
 - ii. b. Registration numbers –still down but catching up

(registration numbers continued on next page)

July '23	July '24	July '25
1115	1120	1033
352	429	444
491	495	506
2	0	0
430	412	324
107	89	99
201	185	133
2698	2730	2539

- iii.
- iv. c. LiveScan event – about 25 people
- 5. Referee Coordinator –
 - i. a. Referee Clinic 8/9 & 8/17 @ Larkspur, working on D6 \$\$ support for last year and this year
- 6. Coaching Coordinator – working on goalkeeper training for both coaches and players, hosting pilot this year at DDSC, ~20 kids and coaches, July 27th 9:30-11; DDSC to share google form signup
 - i. a. APSC, SOSC, and BAC discussion about other goal keeping clinics and formats
 - ii. b. League-wide Coach meeting = 6p Arden Park Monday August 18th – Sarah to put on website & tell Jose to attend; need Referee and Sportsmanship Coordinators there to emphasize info; Coaching Coordinator to bring amp and microphone
- 7. Scheduling Coordinator – NO ONE TURNED IN TEAM INFO FORMS!!!! Except CCA (they have one team), sent another email, need preliminary info even if need to TBD teams, need an idea of how many teams/age group
 - i. a. July Rules Meeting for NorCal; discussion re: how Coach info gets described
- 8. Webmaster – put League Coach Meeting on website
- F. Old Business –
 - 1. US Club & NorCal U14^ Affiliation: see Club Manager Hot Topics
 - 2. U8 format (see attached notes)—update
 - i. a. Club feedback: APSC = zero interest; DDSC = if moved forward have all the games at one spot/Larkspur so equipment and field sizing can be in one place, DDSC on board; SISC = supportive, remaining concerns like DDSC; SOSC = same concerns, most likely a no; RSC = lukewarm on the topic; BAC = not supportive
 - ii. b. Gene: doesn't sound like enough support to proceed
 - iii. c. Shannon: could talk to D6 about U8 Metro playing 5v5
- G. New Business – none
- H. Good of the Game – SacRepublic State Fair game this Sat; SacState group price games
- I. Adjournment – 8:19p

Proposal: U8 Format Pilot for RCYSL Fall 2026

Overview

RCYSL is exploring a pilot program to introduce a more developmentally appropriate and challenging format for U8 players. The objective is to better align play with player development standards and to prepare athletes for the transition to higher levels of competition.

Pilot Key Elements

- **Target Participants:** All second year U8 teams, ideally those with more experienced players and stable coaching staff.
 - **Format Changes:**
 - Modified field size and game format
 - New goal dimensions (equipment purchase required)
 - Potential for referees trained in new rules
 - **Implementation Timing:** Tentatively proposed for Fall 2026.
 - **Alternative Considerations:**
 - Mid-season play date or mini-tournament to test the format
 - Trial during seeding tournament
 - Split pilot by age (6s vs 7s), acknowledging challenges with mixed teams
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Board Representatives – Discussion Guide for Club Review

Key Questions to Ask Your Club Boards, Coaches, and Families

1. **Interest & Readiness**
 - Do we have interest from players & families for this change?
 - Survey families (suggestion) What is the appropriate timing for this?
 - Are coaches open and prepared to adapt to the proposed changes?
 - Survey coaches (suggestion) What is the appropriate timing for this?
2. **Resources & Equipment**
 - Can we procure and store the required new goal sizes?
 - Do we have the field space and capacity to support the format? This includes fields designed for first year U8 in addition to second year U8.
3. **Refereeing & Rule Management**
 - Would we be able to identify and support referees trained under a different U8 rule set?
 - Are we concerned about confusion caused by having two sets of U8 rules in the same season?
4. **Community Impact**
 - How might this change be received by families?
 - What level of communication and education would be necessary?
5. **Pilot Logistics**

- Would a mid-season tourney or seeding tournament be a better time to trial this?
- Are we open to implementing this fully by Fall 2026 based on these considerations?

6. Evaluation Metrics

- What would success look like for this change?
- How will we gather feedback from participating clubs, players, coaches, and referees?

RCYSL U8 Format Change – Planning Road map (June–November 2025)

Goal: Informed vote by November 2025 for possible Fall 2026 implementation

June 2025: Board-Level Awareness & Communication Kickoff

✅ **Finalize proposal and distribute to club board reps**

✅ **Distribute discussion guide and FAQs**

- **Action:** Clubs begin review and collect initial feedback
- **Deliverable:** Initial club responses shared at July RCYSL meeting

July 2025: Feedback & Readiness Check

- Clubs report on coach/family feedback
- Share a **Readiness Checklist** (goal needs, referee availability, coach interest)
- **Deliverable:** RCYSL aggregates responses and identifies club readiness trends

August 2025: Demo Planning (Optional)

- Plan optional U8 play date or mini-tournament to test format
- Appoint subcommittee for demo logistics (coach, ref, scheduler reps)
- **Deliverable:** Confirm club interest and schedule demo if feasible

September 2025: Demo Execution & Debrief

- Host demo event (if approved)
- Survey participants (coaches, refs, parents)
- **Deliverable:** Debrief summary of key outcomes and feedback

October 2025: Consolidate Input & Final Proposal Update

Compile all feedback from clubs, participants, refs

- Refine pilot proposal based on lessons learned
- **Deliverable:** Share updated version with clubs for final consideration

November 2025: Final Vote

- Conduct league-wide vote on Fall 2026 implementation
- **Deliverable:** Final decision with follow-up planning timeline if approved