

# Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)

## AHJSA Executive Committee meeting

Held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at Bridgewater Sport and Social Club

Meeting started at 7.35 pm

### Present

Rob Kilpatrick (Chair), Nick Papavasiliou (Stirling Districts/Vice Chair), Tim Hawkins (Torrens Valley/Property), James Kerr (Hahndorf/Coaching Director), Paul Rees (AHJSRA Referees rep/Minutes Secretary), Tom Pauli (Stirling East/Competition Programmer), Ken Byfield (Registrar),

### Apologies

Brenton Moyle (Treasurer) and Samanda Smith (Stirling East/Publicity)

### In attendance

Jesse Kaehne (AHJSRA Referee Coordinator for 2008)

### Minutes of previous meeting

None presented

### Business arising

None

### Correspondence in

Reply from Michael Carter of FFSA regarding use of VOAN

### Correspondence out

None

It was acknowledged that there are many email conversations recorded as part of AHJSA business, but that it will only be major correspondence directed to the Executive or from the Executive that should be recorded as Correspondence in and out.

### Treasurer's report

In the absence of the Treasurer, Rob Kilpatrick (RK) delivered the Treasurer's information verbally.

#### Financial status

Portfolio Investment Account	\$32,444.04
Working Account	\$19,514.16
Total Funds Held	\$51,958.20

Team nomination fee payments received from: Mount Barker, Stirling Districts, Torrens Valley, Bridgewater, Rangers, Hahndorf, Nairne, Mt Lofty, Murray Bridge, Stirling East and Woodside. The Executive was advised that Strathalbyn is arranging payment very soon..

Player registration fees are now due. AHJSA mailbox being monitored daily for payments. The Executive was reminded that unregistered players are unable to play.

\$1500 has been set-aside in the budget for the costs associated with printing Team Sheets. The meeting decided to discuss this matter in Other Business.

## **Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)**

### *Motion*

It was moved and seconded that the Executive Committee accept the Treasurer's report, understanding that a full report will be presented by the Treasurer at the next bi-monthly Executive Meeting.

*Moved - Nick Papavasiliou*

*Seconded - James Kerr*

### **Meeting business:**

#### **Overage exemptions**

It was agreed to address this item at the end of Meeting Business, allowing for latecomers who are anticipated to arrive participation in the discussion.

#### **Program**

Tom Pauli (TP) informed the meeting that the draft program for 2008 was emailed to clubs on Friday 11 April.

Some changes have been requested that will create a further redraft of some divisions.

Particular focus is on Hahndorf's request for pitch changes. Discussion between TP and James Kerr is ongoing regarding this.

There was some discussion regarding G-League start times with TP explaining his thinking behind keeping the times as consistent as possible while maintaining some flexibility.

TP asked whether Nairne were receiving his emails as he has had some difficulties with returned mail from the UniSA address provided – RK will check the email details.

TP had requested 'Read Receipts' for the delivery of the draft program email, but, as yet, has not received these from Mannum, Nairne or Strathalbyn.

*Note: Tim Hawkins and Ken Byfield joined the meeting during the last item of business.*

Action: TP to continue to re-draft the 2008 program and release the final version as soon as he is satisfied that all reasonable changes have been made

#### **Competition Rules**

RK presented the newly created Competition Rules and acknowledged that some members had contributed suggestions and revisions to the Comp Rules over the past few weeks.

RK explained that the comp rules are a supplement to the By-Laws and are written in more plain language therefore making them more accessible to clubs, players, parents and officials. It was generally agreed that this was a good idea.

Action – RK to publish and distribute completed Comp Rules by end of current week Saturday 19 April

Particular discussion surrounded the following areas:

## **Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)**

### *Use of FFSA VOAN and Security Clearances*

Particular discussion focussed on the issues of Security Clearances with RK explaining to the Executive that the request to simply quote the FFSA VOAN has been denied, therefore, a more complex procedure needs to be undertaken with the club gathering together its applications and processing them through the FFSA.

Action - RK will seek clarification of the procedure from M Carter at the FFSA and distribute the advice to the clubs.

### *Spectacles policy*

RK explained that after consultation with the AHJSRA (Referees) and the FFSA's Referee Development Officer, Matthew Cream, that the Spectacles Policy as stated in the current draft of the Comp Rules satisfies all parties. RK also explained that the adoption of the SAJSA Spectacles Policy from 2002, which has been placed on the website, also backs up the policy in the Comp Rules

It was further discussed that with players participating in non-competitive divisions, that more leniency should be shown in order to encourage participation, but that, as a duty of care, a letter advising the club that the spectacles are made from safe materials would still need to be produced by the player.

Action - no further action required

### *Unequal rounds*

Discussion was held regarding the equations to be used to calculate division results when an uneven number of teams are competing. RK and TP discussed the equation to be used and some alternatives. It was agreed that the formula will appear in the Comp Rules as agreed between RK and TP.

Action – RK to reproduce the equations in the Comp Rules

### *Postponed matches*

The updated policy in the Comp Rules was discussed and agreed that the spirit of the policy reflects the common sense approach that was discussed by the Executive during last year's season.

Action – no further action required

### *Ground Stewards*

The new policy of clubs providing Ground Stewards for games was discussed and agreed to be a good idea with explanation of the procedures and expectations articulated in the new Comp Rules. Tim Hawkins further discussed the purchase, design and distribution of the vest to the clubs before the season and agreed to coordinate this task.

Action – Tim Hawkins to follow up the purchasing and delivery of GS vests and provide a copy of the 'Code of Conduct' along with the vests to the clubs

### **Stewards vests**

The agenda item on Stewards Vests was adequately discussed in the previous item.

Action - see above

## **Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)**

### **Other business**

#### *Plaster casts*

James Kerr raised the issue of plaster casts and any advice from referees regarding players wearing casts while playing. Paul Rees responded that Law 4 of the Laws of the Game (LOTG) – Players Equipment provides advice on this area. He requested some time to clarify whether there is any specific advice from the FFSA.

Action – Paul Rees to seek advice and provide clarification to AHJSA of plaster casts worn by players

#### *Number of teams*

The number of competitive teams was raised. TP calculated that, at this stage, there are 60 registered competitive teams, and it is unlikely to change but could. It was also discussed that this figure does not equate to a simplistic 30 games per round, as there are 4 divisions with unequal teams so therefore, as it stands, there will be 26 competitive games per round.

Action - no further action

#### *Country Championships*

There was discussion on the hosting of the 2009 Country Championships by the AHJSA. The Executive discussed the options and felt that a working group outside of the executive would be the best way to explore the feasibility of hosting the championships. It was discussed that a decision would need to be reached sooner rather than later and a date for the feasibility report to be by the end of May. Some options on possible locations for the championships were discussed with particular mention of the Strathalbyn Polo grounds and locations in and around Mount Barker were the focus of discussions.

Action – RK to inform Cathy Cross to form a working group to look into the feasibility of hosting the championships, with results by the end of May

#### *Directors' Insurance*

RK informed the Executive that while investigating insurance options from the FFSA agreement it came to light that the AHJSA does not hold any Directors' insurance and that this will be rectified when the AHJSA updates its insurance agreement.

Action – RK to update insurance policy

#### *Team Sheets*

Discussion was held on the new Team Sheets procedures and printing options. In light of the Treasurer providing \$1500 to cover the costs of printing duplicate Team Sheets, the Executive explored whether the current proposed system of a single sheet made available through the website, and therefore allowing clubs to insert team details and print the sheet, was better than printing duplicate Team Sheets that need to be hand written, probably on the day of the match. It was agreed by the Executive to trial the web-based version for this year and review the procedure for 2009.

Action – all AHJSA Executive members to monitor the implementation of the new Team Sheets system and assess during the season

## Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)

### *Rep Teams*

Discussion was held on the recent correspondence regarding State Representative teams and their selection. The Executive reached a decision through intense email correspondence and agreed that its earlier decision on the matter of rep teams being composed of appropriately aged players was correct.

Action – RK to write a final response to Steve Markham reiterating the Executives decision and thinking behind the policy

Stemming from feedback from some parents that trials held during the term break are difficult for some children to attend due to holiday and term break commitments, TP raised the issue of making sure that all trials are held at accessible times for families during this time. The Executive members in attendance, who are also rep coaches, assured the executive that coaches will be planning more trials than the ones advertised so far and that these will be post-term break.

Action – JK to inform rep coaches to ensure that accessible trials are held during this term-break period and beyond

There was further discussion of the merits of the policy that states that members of the executive should be present and made part of the selection process for Rep Teams. It was stated that this was in the By-Laws of the Association for good reason, as it protects coaches from criticism of making lone decisions and/or showing favouritism, or, as in extreme cases, purposefully not allowing a child to be selected on spurious grounds.

Action – JK to make all rep coaches aware of this By-Law and its sound reason for existence

*Note: Jesse Kaehne left the meeting at this stage*

### **Overage exemptions**

#### Murray Bridge

The Executive considered the overage exemptions applied for by Murray Bridge and, while they understood and had sympathy for the circumstances surrounding the application, their view was that the age difference was too great in this case.

*Exemption denied*

#### Woodside

The AHJSA Executive re-confirmed the exemptions granted at the last Council of Clubs for the following players to play in the division below their rightful age group.

#### Tilley Clennet

#### Ashton-Lee Cotter

#### Kathryn Gilligan

#### Elizabeth Nixon

Permission is granted for the above players to play in the u14G competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. All players do not turn 15 until after the season ends
2. Players have either no, or no recent playing experience
3. Woodside do not have an u17G team
4. The exemptions will keep the players in the AHJSA age division 'system'
5. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

## **Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)**

The Executive was of the view that 4 was the maximum number of exemptions which could be granted in these circumstances.

### **Torrens Valley**

The Executive granted exemptions for the following players to play in the division below their rightful age groups:

#### **Toni Bell**

Permission granted to play in the u17G competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. Toni does not turn 18 until well after the end of the season
2. The geographical location of Torrens Valley provides lesser opportunity for her to remain in the game
3. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

The Executive was of the view that 2 (i.e. Kate Sutton as the automatic overage player and Toni Bell) would represent the maximum overage players permitted in these circumstances.

#### **Jack Toholke**

Permission granted to play in the u9 competition

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The u9s is non competitive
2. Jack does not turn 10 until well after the end of the season
3. The exemption will assist family situation
4. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

#### **Andrew Liddlemore**

Permission granted to play in the u15 open competition

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. Andrew does not turn 16 until after the end of the season
2. It will assist Torrens Valley to field an u15 team
3. Torrens Valley does not have an u17 team
4. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

#### **Strathalbyn**

The Executive granted exemptions for the following players to play in the division below their rightful age groups:

#### **Jessica Potbury**

#### **Tabitha Lewis**

#### **Courtney West**

Permission is granted for the above players to play in the u17G competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The players are necessary to ensure that Strathalbyn can field an u17G team
2. The players all turn 18 well after the season ends
3. Few players remain from last year's u17 team
4. The make up of the remainder of the team is essentially younger than u17
5. The geographical location of Strathalbyn provides lesser opportunity for these players to remain in the game
6. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions
7. Support, albeit qualified, was given by the G League sub committee for exemption in the above circumstances.

## Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)

The Executive was of the view that 3 would represent the maximum overage players permitted in these circumstances.

Nairne

The Executive granted exemptions for the following players to play in the division below their rightful age groups:

Jayden Cowell

Permission granted to play in the under 10 competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The under 10 competition is non competitive
2. Jayden has not played before
3. There is no u11 team for Jayden to play in
4. It will assist in the promotion of soccer at a new club
5. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

Dion Bouwman

Permission granted to play in the under 9 competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The under 9 competition is non competitive
2. Dion has not played before
3. His father is coach of and has another son laying in the u9 team
4. It will assist in the promotion of soccer at a new club
5. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

Rangers

The Executive granted exemptions for the following players to play in the division below their rightful age groups:

Claire Filsell

Permission granted to play in the under 11G competition

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The under 11G is non competitive
2. Rangers does not have an u14G team
3. Claire has not played before
4. Unrealistic for her to play in the u12 open team as she would be the only girl and she has not played before.
5. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

Harrison Bout-Masopust

Benjamin Fowler

Permission granted to play in the under 10 competition.

Matters taken into consideration were:

1. The under 10 competition is non competitive
2. The player does not turn 11 until well after the season ends
3. Rangers do not have an u11 open team
4. He will assist the u10 team's numbers
5. Only one age division gap between the actual and requested age divisions

The Executive wanted to remind clubs that exemptions are granted for the 2008 season only and do not necessarily mean that further exemptions will be granted in future years. The Executive reserves the right to revoke the exemption at any time if it believes that the facts taken into consideration in granting the exemption were incorrect.

## **Adelaide Hill Junior Soccer Association (AHJSA)**

Action – RK to advise clubs of the results of their applications and of the above reminder

The Executive discussed the processing of exemptions and while it agrees that a formula and firm policy in this area could be useful, the members felt that the Executive's ability to judge each application on a case-by-case basis allows for flexibility in its decision-making, therefore, exemption applications will proceed as per existing practice for 2008.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm and thanked those present for attending.

Next Council of Clubs meeting Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 7.30 pm at the Bridgewater Sports and Social Club

Next Executive Committee meeting 17<sup>th</sup> June 7.30 pm at the Bridgewater Sports and Social Club