

Dakota Soccer Club –June Board Meeting Agenda
Sunday, June 8, 2025
Inver Glen Library

Call to Order 6:05 PM

Roll Call

Dakota Soccer Club Voting Positions			
President (interim)	Matt Thompson – (Y)	Treasury	Justin Humenik – (Y)
Vice President (interim)	Andrew Held – (Y)	Secretary	Nathan Peterson – (Y)
Traveling Coordinator	Brian Applequist – (Y)	Volunteer Coordinator	Kellie Kronberg – (Y)
Rec Coordinator	Andrew Held – (Y)	Equipment Coordinator	Molly & Bernie Schroeder – (Y)
Volunteer Coordinator	Vanessa Coates – (Y)	Web Development	Larry Deutsch – (Y)
At Large Board Members	Mary Dunn – (N))		Ben Nelson (Y)
DSC Paid Positions			
Director of Coaching / Ref Assignor	Jake Smothers – (Y)	Registrar / Field Assignor	Jon Fredeen – (Y)
Rec Director	Trevor Lunn – (Y)	Communications/ Club Admin.	Trina Hatcher – (Y)

Greet and address any guests | No Guests

Consideration of previous Board Meeting Minutes | Approved. Matt motioned Larry 2nd and all present approved.

Upcoming Events

- DSC Spring/Summer Rec League, May and June 2025, July Jamboree
- Summer Rec Soccer Clinic, July 21-August 13
- Fall Rec Soccer, September and October 2025
- June'25 MNUFC Camp (June 27 and June 28)
- Soccer Photos | Scheduled for Thursday, June 19th, and Wednesday, June 25th

Parents' names and emails need to be sent to the photographer for email distribution. A master schedule will be emailed to everyone and posted on the website. Coaches are responsible for putting it on TeamSnap, though some U16 and U4 teams had not received it. Players should wear their home color (blue) jerseys for photos.
- Dakota Soccer at MNUFC | September 20, 7:30 PM

Executive Group

- Refund for [player name removed](concussion)- A refund was requested for [player name removed] due to a concussion suffered in an Iowa tournament in early May. The decision was to prorate the refund, consistent with previous injury cases.
- There is an urgent need to decide on fall and tryout registration fees for next year, as decisions need to be made before the next month's meeting to allow for timely online registration.
 - Costs have increased, notably due to city charges for out-of-city residents, although referee costs are currently stable. Field usage fees for the fall season will also differ from summer
 - The Winter Academy's financial impact is uncertain; while it helped retain field time, high dome expenses (~\$20,000/year) may prevent it from being a net positive cash flow.
 - Significant expense increases include tournament registration costs and increased staffing

Proposed Solutions to above:

- Reduce Included Tournaments: It was suggested to include only one tournament in registration fees, requiring teams to fundraise for any additional tournaments. This could save approximately \$300-\$600 per team.

- Increase Registration Fees: A 5% increase in registration fees was proposed as reasonable. A \$50 increase per player, based on the current 254 players, could generate almost \$13,000 in additional funds.
- Boost Sponsorship: Focus on securing larger sponsorships, potentially from Fortune 500 companies (e.g., Target, Best Buy) via athletic grant applications. Ben Nelson is also working on a club-wide sponsorship from a company that offered to buy full team uniforms.
- Negotiate Tournament Discounts: Investigate negotiating group rates with tournament hosts for multiple team registrations.
- Action Plan: A small committee will research and coordinate via email to make a decision on fees by next Sunday (within approximately one week), as time is of the essence. John will delay creating new registrations until the final fees are set.
- **Hosting a tournament:** The idea of hosting a tournament to help fundraise was discussed. Concerns about field space were addressed by suggesting McMorrow fields.
 - A test run with a fall event (Jamboree-style) for U9/U10 or U11/U12 age groups, possibly with four teams per group/gender, was proposed. Kelly and Jake will begin pre-planning and check with TCSL regarding tournament registration requirements.

Treasurer's Report |

- MidWest One Bank Balance as of May 30, 2025, is \$49,362.15

Rent at Storage Locker:

- The rental rate at our new storage locker has increased to \$157 + \$14 for insurance totaling \$171/month and is effective 7/1/2025.
- Our old storage locker had increased rates to \$220/month.
- Taxes (Form 990) have been filed for the fiscal year ending 11/30/2024
 - Income/enrollments are down
 - Spending is up

- We need to have a discussion on the value of expenses and costs for participants going forward
- Special Event Food Stand License was applied for the following:
 - June 4
 - June 5
 - June 12
 - June 18
 - June 19
 - June 26
 - June 27
- July 11
- July 12
- July 13

Credit Card Processing

- Square terminal (offline processing): \$300
- Burner Phone?
- iPad

- Ref Money has been distributed to all coaches

Registrar |

- provide a status report on background checks and Safe Sport certifications for all rec coaches.

Traveling Coordinator | No current update

Rec Coordinator |

- Rec League Update: Experiencing some rainouts and occasional referee absences, but uniforms and coaches have been smooth. Trevor has been officially contracted and will receive orientation.

- **Jamboree Planning:** This is a major upcoming event, scheduled for July 11th, 12th, and 13th (Friday through Sunday). The schedule will be recycled from last year. Help is needed for referee coordination. Concession stand volunteer coordination is required, and the shopping list will be reduced to around \$700-\$750 to minimize waste in case of rain. The lunch break will be removed from the schedule to encourage people to stay at the park.
- **Jamboree Awards:** Medals will be given to all participants, with specific first and second place medals for U10 winners and runners-up, to reduce hardware costs by eliminating trophies. Leftover gray t-shirts were considered for awards, but kids prefer medals.
- **Friday Night Events:** Interest in a 3v3 tournament and a parent/coach/player game on Friday night of Jamboree was noted, with a need for coordination.
- **Inver Grove Summer Clinic:** Trevor will lead this clinic in late July and August.
- **Fall Rec Soccer:** Aiming for a league format rather than a clinic. It typically draws around 120 kids. The schedule will transition to back-to-back hours for younger and older kids to allow coaches to work with both groups, improving efficiency.
- **Board Participation:** All board members are expected to attend Jamboree to help out, especially with recruiting for travel teams and future board members. Vanessa will send a sign-up for board members. The Jamboree weekend conflicts with TCSL finals, so some board members may be attending tournaments with their travel players.

Coaching Director |

- **Tournament Schedule Challenges:** Recent tournaments saw teams unprepared due to player unavailability (e.g., school, graduation). Suggestions for next year include providing only one included tournament option and improving scheduling to avoid conflicts. Selecting specific tournaments for teams could allow for mutual support across age groups.
- **Team Managers:** The lack of team managers, particularly for boys' teams, is causing administrative difficulties.
- **Competitive League Concerns (TCSL):** The TCSL is an open league, leading to some teams being improperly placed (either too high or too low), affecting competitive balance. Examples included U12 girls' losses and U10 girls' struggles with limited training sessions due to low numbers. It was suggested that U9, U10, and U11 age groups consistently work together for training to ensure sufficient numbers.
- **Field Maintenance:** Generally good, aside from minor referee disputes. Issues with missing field markings (circle, penalty spot, kickoff spot) at McMorrow fields were noted. While the city is responsible, quick fixes with white spray paint (available at the concession stand) were suggested. Jake will provide a list of missing items to Matt to contact the city.
- **Net Anchoring and Liability:** The city has raised concerns about unanchored nets. Sandbags are an alternative to anchors. The core issue is the city's liability concern over

club-owned nets being left out, as they fear injuries. The club is open to donating the nets to the city to shift ownership and liability.

Equipment |

- Tryout Jerseys Stock: Current stock includes 53 blue, 89 black, 116 white, and 2 gray jerseys. More will likely be needed.
- Locker Keys: Only two keys are available for the new locker, down from three for the old one.
- Size Five Balls: Only three are currently available. Jake is confirming a deal for \$10 per ball.

Volunteer Coordinator |

- Vanessa will coordinate volunteers for Jamboree and upcoming tryouts, potentially utilizing a wagon to sell leftover concession products during tryouts.

Web Master |

- President's Drive: Content will be deleted and reassigned.
- Account Migration: Plans to switch to personal names for accounts, with aliases matching titles. This will be done on a one-at-a-time basis, starting with less critical ones after the tryout period.

Fundraising Coordinator |

- Sought a blank jersey mockup to show potential sponsors their logo placement. Current jerseys will remain for at least two more years.
- Will develop a fundraising plan for teams to cover extra tournaments.
- New Initiative: Researching and applying for athletic grants from Fortune 500 organizations (e.g., Target, Best Buy), which may offer substantial funds.
- Team-Specific Sponsorship: A U10 girls team secured a sponsor willing to buy a third jersey with their logo. The sponsor will donate directly to the club, which will then pay for the uniforms. The jersey design is the current one with adjusted colors (pink and blue). This is seen as a good advertising opportunity, and the sponsor may be primarily interested in a tax write-off. This one-time donation for the 2025 season could lead to broader club sponsorship. The board approved pursuing this sponsorship.

Communications |

- IGH Parks and Rec ad for \$325
- PodiumWear invoice for Jonathan's players

Meeting Adjournment Next meeting scheduled for July 6th 6:00pm Virtual