

**Park Ridge Sports, Inc. (PRSI)  
Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 8, 2015  
Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance:**

The following members were in attendance at the meeting: Al Czech, Garry Abezetian, and Jim Dihu, which represented 100% of PRSI Board of Directors given Eric Schmeiser resignation on January 7, 2015. In addition, Dave Marquardt, Rob Guzaldo, Jim Toulon, Tony Porrello, Rob Leach, Lea Hagerty, and Caroline Gust.

**Absent:**

None

**Call to Order:**

Garry Abezetian called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. In accordance with the Bylaws, Garry requested and collected \$1.00 from each of the Board Members for their annual dues, which represents their intent to remain a member of PRSI. \$3.00 was provided to Rob Guzaldo to be deposited in a PRSI account.

**Election of Members:**

A motion to nominate additional members was made by Garry Abezetian and seconded by Al Czech. The new members or directors elected to the PRSI board by 3-0 unanimous vote of the 3 current directors were: David Marquardt, Rob Guzaldo, Jim Toulon, Tony Porrello, and Rob Leach.

**Election of Officers:**

A motion to nominate a slate of new officers was made by Garry Abezetian and seconded by Al Czech. The 2015 officers nominated were: President David Marquardt, Vice President Garry Abezetian, Secretary Rob Leach, and Treasurer Rob Guzaldo. The vote was an 8-0 unanimous vote to approve the new officers.

**President's Report: Dave Marquardt:**

Dave thanked all volunteers for joining PRSI under one board and outlined the large undertaking it would be for all Board members, and set a regular meeting schedule of twice a month likely through March 2015, which no one objected and unanimously agreed. Dave confirmed that we now have 3 openings for the Board, and Jennifer Urias has not responded to recent emails.

Topics on Dave's agenda included: Organization Review, and Committee Review. In lieu of first discussing PRSI By-Laws and proposed revisions, Dave modified his agenda given two non-board members that were in attendance – Lea Hagerty and Caroline Gust, and were able to give the Board an overview of where Park Ridge Falcons Cheer program stands, recommendations, and discuss next steps.

**Falcon's Cheer DISCUSSION**

Lea Hagerty and Caroline Gust introduced themselves as prior year coaches of the Falcon's Cheer program, and spoke on behalf of Anna Hagerty, past Director of Falcon Cheerleading. Discussion ensued with Jim Toulon asking difference between Poms and Cheerleading, which one preps and develops members towards Hawkettes and the other towards Cheerleading in high school. Typically, their program has appealed to young girls that want higher level competition, and not necessarily cheering home and/or away games. Dave Marquardt stated this is now an open slate and program could have numerous possibilities. Lea and Anna discussed that parents didn't want to drive an hour for away games under UYFL, possibly interested if transportation was provided. Dave asked if most girls were in it for cheer or competition. Lea and Caroline said most parents/girls in it for the competition. Jim Dihu explained the program used to be 130 and now closer to 50 at 2 or 3 age levels under IRCA, and can be very \$ driven (vs. more expensive Florida championship) so some parents left the program (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grader to just compete at cheer camps, equivalent to HS varsity quality). Lea explained they practice 2x a week over 3 months against teams practicing all year at state. Jim Toulon reiterated this was open for discussion, and Rob Guzaldo asked if we took away travel would parents be more into games if only at home. Al Czech added a question if only 1 game a season. Lea and Caroline said probably. Jim Dihu said he didn't register last year with the league at \$25 per team since they would need to do both home and away games, and then they couldn't compete to win as a result. Dave Marquardt said he would meet with Lea, Caroline and Anna before our next meeting, and offered anyone interested to join and report back to the Board on our next steps. Jim Dihu wants home game cheering and competitions. Jim Toulon questioned fit under PRSI. Dave Marquardt asked for Cheer meeting volunteers.

**By-Laws DISCUSSION**

Dave Marquardt stated By-Laws established in 1967 and amended in past with program changes, typically involving changes in people, positions, or organizational charts. For instance, there used to be a Mother's Club who coordinated the annual banquet, etc., and were ultimately disbanded. Dave would like to amend to bring older provisions current and outline organization as it is in its current state, which will assist our successors.

Dave added Director Positions and Committees under the Board in his proposed revisions, who do not need to be a member of PRSI or on its Board. Two key considerations by Dave were: 1.) get more outside help involved; and 2.) work outside the Board meetings under Committees. Dave talked to some people interested in helping, but ultimately the Board will need to ensure all the work gets done. He said a negative of this structure is no power at Committee level, and Chair must be a Board member. Rob Leach suggested good detail for changes and will help succession. Rob Guzaldo wanted to review, and then discuss and vote at our next meeting. Jim Toulon recommended a 2 week deadline on By-Law review and vote. Dave Marquardt again outlined 2 meetings each month and asked if ok and board unanimously agreed. Dave then suggested that by 1/17/15 any Board members email Rob Leach recommending new language to By-Laws, and we would review only changes at next meeting, and at our 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting vote on the changes/By-Laws as a whole, which would include Director and Committee organization chart in changes as well. Jim Toulon questioned if top box under greed doesn't have to be a Board member, and Dave Marquardt agreed.

### **Nominations DISCUSSION**

Dave Marquardt asked that members email him name of individuals that may be interested in open position per the organizational chart handed out. He asked that everyone reach out to volunteers over the next 2 weeks. Rob Guzaldo asked about reaching out for Board members. Dave Marquardt said we could increase our number of board members. Jim Toulon said we should get a list of people prior to our next meeting, and do a 'white board' evaluation and discussion as a group. Jim DiHu recommended 1 of 3 open Board position goes to Director of Cheerleading, which was seconded by Rob Guzaldo and Jim Toulon. Jim DiHu, Dave Marquardt, and Jim Toulon discussed concessions, Anna Hagerty and Jodi Nitti as candidates, and Jim DiHu suggested a separate committee for cheer. Dave Marquardt stated there were a lot of complaints last year from House Cheer parents, etc. Rob Leach stated that Jennifer Urias likely not a Board member going forward.

### **Financial Report: Open**

Jim DiHu asked should non-Board members be involved in the finance and budget committee. Dave Marquardt was ok with some, and agreed it needed to be held closed door. Jim Toulon suggested that we add parents and volunteers that are CPAs, and have a financial background. Jim Campbell is PRSI CPA from Callero & Callero located in Niles, and may want to be involved beyond our tax filings. Jim DiHu expressed concerns over parents given past experience with Cheer parents already stretching dollars, and Rob Guzaldo agreed only Board members should be engaged. Dave Marquardt was setting up an offsite meeting between him, Jim DiHu, Rob Guzaldo and Rob Leach to review the finance and budget on PRSI, likely during the evening of 1/20/15.

### **UYFL Report: Jim DiHu**

The UYFL meetings are the first Monday of the month unless Labor Day. UYFL considering 10U league under travel. July 31<sup>st</sup> is the cut-off for travel by age. Sept 30<sup>th</sup> is the cut-off for house by age. 5<sup>th</sup> graders are 10U typically. UYFL is 20 teams in Chicago area. 10U is a potential option. Trend is 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U. Changing 14U to have 13U&14U if going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade. ½ league is 13U and ½ league is 14U. Added Darien Hitmen as a new team to UYFL league in Chicago.

### **UYFL and Falcon's DISCUSSION**

Rob Guzaldo asked if he asks parents at registration if they agree to go to Florida. Jim DiHu responded no, and past 3 teams qualified and didn't go. Chicago had no Division 1 representative, probably due to the economy per Jim DiHu. National UYFL wished we participated, and Jim told them not to count on us going in the future.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Initial notifications – no discussion.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **7 on 7 Spring Football:**

Dave Marquardt outlined potential 7 on 7 teams under PRSI. Garry recommended we treat the teams like Niles basketball, and allow teams to come to PRSI once they have a coach and minimum number of players. Dave outlined need to be 1.) price sensitive and responsible, and 2.) fair selection process. Jim DiHu explained his involvement in the past and that is had been parent led activity, and he helped recruit add some Falcons players. Dave handed out a spreadsheet that broke down potential revenue and expenses for the new program under 12U, 13U, and 14U levels with Rosemont Dome / Barrington Field house existing league. Discussion ensued on whom would coach, what value PRSI would add vs parent just signing up, and how do we avoid hard feelings by parents/players if not on a team. Jim DiHu offered using extra Falcon's jerseys to be unified in appearance. Insurance, brand, and coordination with league were the few value adds that Dave suggested, and understanding that 7 on 7 is fast growing and we should be a part of it especially in these early years. Rob Leach recommended only having 1 team per age level. Rob Guzaldo questioned how we will avoid the parents and player challenges that travel traditionally represents, and create hard feelings and negativity to the organization – including should we do tryouts. Jim Toulon said all in favor of doing it, but need more

details and afraid PRSI add minimal value to the process. Rob Leach, Jim Toulon, and Rob Guzaldo recommend allowing Falcon's name to be used and only 2 teams to start given workload on Board already. Jim DiHu believes this will be a deterrent to PR Junior Hawks. We discussed allowing PRSI to sponsor up to 6 teams once we approve coaches backgrounds on a 'bring your own team' and 'first come first serve' basis. All members were in favor, but no vote yet given need to better understand logistics and other items.

**Loft Equipment:**

Dave informed us that PRPD needs us to move our equipment out of the space at some point in the future, and we'll have space at the Youth Campus once construction/space has been identified. Dave is leading our discussions with the PRPD, and we'll also need to consider consolidation with Falcons equipment to save cost, increase efficiencies.

**Website:**

Two websites need to be collapsed into one per Dave Marquardt, and prefers we leverage PR House. Jim DiHu brought up functions used on Falcons website to link UYFL scores, rankings, etc, and maybe be difficult to replace given parent relationship with UYFL – and is at a lower cost (\$600). Jim and Dave agreed to look at options to make 1 site work effectively, or pay \$1600 each year for both.

**Banquet:**

Rob Leach asked about the annual Falcons Banquet, and Jim said he hoped we all would attend and is looking at late February in Niles.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Secretary Rob Leach and seconded by Board Member Jim Toulon. Motion passed: 8 in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Next meeting Thursday, January 22, 2015 at 7:00 PM at Maine Park.

Respectfully submitted by:

H. Robert Leach  
Board Secretary