



East Central Academy

Agenda

Kimberly Municipal Center

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Club	Representative	Club	Representative
DePere	Derek Rhodes	Neenah	Tyler Brown
Electric City	Nick Laabs	New United	Sean Breitzen
FC Green Bay	John O'Brien	Oshkosh	Matt Callahan
FC Menasha	Kurt Schodort	Oshkosh	Chris Billstrom
GB Lightning	Jean Geason	United Hurricanes	Malcolm Boyle
KASA	Brad Abplanalp	United Hurricanes	Andrea Leszko
KASA	Wayne Stoflet	Water Cities	Bob Albright
E.C. Academy Comm.	Jeff Pozniak	East Central	Doris Schommer
		East Central	Sue Ann Evers

Introductions: Members introduced themselves

Review of Fall 2016 Academy

Concern

Concerns were once again expressed about teams traveling to a field where neither team housed the home field location. Because teams are traveling as a club unit, there will be times when this scenario happens. It is a tricky scheduling process to ensure that teams are not repeatedly playing each other throughout the season. Besides the fact that three or more clubs may be traveling to one location, the scheduled location may not have teams of the same age and ability to make a one to one match for that location. Another factor that dictates if any teams are available for play are club blackout dates. There are times when there may only be two teams in the district not attending a tournament. Teams may have to travel from North or South or South to North to find a team to play.

There are many variables that make matching-ups teams challenging. Everyone needs to be flexible when it comes to academy style of play. The club's DOC should communicate to their coaches and families that academy teams travel to find competition. If this type of play is not welcomed by the family, they should think about choosing a recreational league that is not governed under the academy rules and more conducive to their needs.

Suggestions

Creating Divisions: Event dates will be scheduled into a Northern and Southern division whenever possible. This should help with travel time for the clubs. Clubs need to remember that there may be times when this is not possible because of club blackout dates. These teams may also be teams that you have already played.

District Wide Event: The academy membership requested that a district wide event be held for all academy teams. This would be an event where everyone comes to one location for an event date: The membership selected the district wide event to be Saturday April 29, 2017 for the Academy Spring Kick Off. United Hurricanes will be hosting the event. It was also decided that each team would be scheduled 2 games. Whenever possible the Northern Divisional teams will be playing Southern Divisional teams. The academy committee hopes that all clubs will participate in this event.

- What: Academy Spring Kick Off -- East Central Academy League
- Date: April 29, 2017
- Host: United Hurricanes
- Games: Each team will be schedule two games

Referees: It is difficult to find enough referees for the U10 teams. Clubs hosting the events can use this as a way to train new referees. At past events, clubs gathered referees prior to the academy games at a centralized meeting location and reminded them of the rules for this age group. This check point is also a place the referee could go if they needed help with game management. As always communication is the key to educate the referee, parents, players and coaches about the rules at the academy level. Clubs are encouraged to continue to work with the referees to help grow the referee pool.

It was discussed that it would be beneficial for coaches to introducing themselves to the opposing coach and the referees. If there are any game issues the coaches should report it to the point person assisting with the referees at the event. Coaches should not approach referees after the game.

Game Facilitators/Referees at U8 games: A plea to have referees at the U8 level was made. It is felt that the game is not being managed correctly and a disservice is being done to the players at this age level. Kids are confused because incorrect information is given to them. There is a complete lack of order and injustice to the game, with many inconsistencies. Right now the Academy rules do not lend itself to having referees at this age level. East Central can pose the question to have WYSA review this.

For now, the Club DOC's should make sure that coaches understand how they should be manage the game. The two coaches should talk before the game. Coaches should not be using whistles to manage games at the events.

Rules of U10 Academy:

It was felt that some teams are not using the build out line as it was intended. It is hoped that with education this will not continue to be an issue. Remember that the buildout line is a new rule that was just introduced, so it takes time to make sure everyone is utilizing it correctly. Referees can also help manage how the build out line is being used.

Game Managers: Game day rain out communications – Jeff suggested that the East Central Academy League use Rainedout.net. We need to give coaches an early enough notice because many teams are on the road early Saturday morning. It was decided that coaches should be notified the night before if games are being canceled.

Right before the season the East Central Academy Commissioner will send out a reminder about what each club should be doing and how to handle things. The club's academy main contact can use this document to pass the same information onto their coaches.

Scheduling Information:

Jeff will send out scheduling data sheet to each club contact about academy scheduling	March 1, 2017
Club scheduling information to Jeff. By this time all teams will need to be in League One.	April 1, 2017
Draft of schedule back to clubs from Sue Ann	April 7, 2017
Revisions of schedule back to Sue Ann	April 11, 2017
Schedule will be posted on East Central website	April 14, 2017

Clubs may blackout three dates of the eight available. This means that no teams from the club will be scheduled for this date. Below are the dates selected for the Spring 2017 season.

- April 29, 2017 - Academy Spring Kick Off. Host: Howard Hurricanes
- May 6, 2017
- May 13, 2017
- May 20, 2017
- June 3, 2017
- June 10, 2017
- June 17, 2017
- June 24, 2017

Clubs will also be asked to register to host an event date. Clubs should have the following fields available in order to host an event:

- Two - U8 fields
- Two - U10 fields

Respectfully submitted by

Sue Ann Evers
East Central Soccer District
Director of Operations