

Tucson Metro Soccer League

Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2026

Date & Time: 2026-02-11 6:32 P.M.

Attendees: Basile Andriopoulos (Bill), Marty Tagg, Jose Verdugo, Peter Wendler, Diego Morales, Eddie Betterton, Jonathan Pearlman

Absent: None

Action Items

Marty

- Finalize the tournament schedule with Eddie S.
- Send an email update to captains regarding the premier game reduction and tournament dates
- Post the passing of the deceased player on the website
- Forward the deceased player's information to Homa for the refund once received from Bill
- Add the discussion of a tiered bereavement policy to the next meeting's agenda
- Send the compiled team bond list to all board members for review
- Ask Eddie S. to create a draft calendar for the summer season (mid-May to end of July)

Homa

- Generate and issue a comparative report of major expenses (2004 vs. 2025) for the board
- Arrange for Connie to issue a refund check to the deceased player's mother

Pete

- Follow up on determining the classification for the recent double-yellow red card

Eddie

- Forward the corrected player registration spreadsheet to Dan Trainer at ASSA
- Set up a shared Google Drive and invite board members to centralize documents

- Ping Edmundo again about the possibility of a fully virtual summer registration system

Jose

- Send out a message to captains requesting team pictures for the website

Review of Outstanding Action Items

- **Player Registration List:** Eddie completed the corrected Excel spreadsheet of player registrations and will forward it to Dan Trainer at ASSA.
- **Team Bond List:** Marty compiled a list and is working with Bill to review it for accuracy, especially concerning teams that have changed divisions over the years. It will be circulated to the board for further verification.
- **Team Jersey List:** Diego will create a spreadsheet detailing which of the 26 teams received new jerseys this year (19 total) and when each team is due for a new set. This list will also track the five replacement jerseys allotted to teams in off years. To improve accountability and transparency, this document, along with the bond list and other key records, will be stored in a shared Google Drive.
- **Brewery Partnership:** The initiative to partner with a local bar for post-game discounts for championship teams is ongoing. The league will offer marketing (website and social media posts) in exchange for a discount, such as 1 –2 off beer or a free appetizer. The discussion is focused on finding a mutually beneficial arrangement without creating liability issues.
- **Completed Items:** Holiday bonuses and thank-you notes were confirmed as sent, the Premier schedule was finalized, and the referee assessment during the Babylon game was completed.

Key Decisions

- **Elimination of Team Bonds:** The requirement for teams to pay a \$100 bond upon registration has been completely removed from the bylaws.
- **Implementation of a Reinstatement Fee:** The “bond revocation” penalty for exceeding three forfeits in a season has been replaced. Now, a team incurring more than three forfeits must pay a **\$100 reinstatement fee** before they can resume play.
- **Updated Notification Window:** The period required for a team to notify the league of a forfeit to avoid penalty was reduced from seven days to **72 hours**. This change was made because the league is required to pay referees their full fee if a game is canceled with less than 72 hours’ notice.

- **Captain Communication:** The board confirmed that team captains will receive a warning after their team's second forfeit, ensuring they are aware before facing a potential suspension and fee.

Detailed Minutes

Review and approval of the Treasurer's Report.

- The Treasurer's report indicated that the league's finances are running very close to par with the previous year. The minor discrepancies were attributed to the timing of when transactions were recorded. To provide deeper insight, the Treasurer will generate a comparative report on major expenses from 2004 versus 2025 to better inform future budgeting and planning. The return of Chapman as a sponsor in 2025 was noted as a significant positive contribution to the league's financial strength.
- The balances at the end of February were \$58,060.87 in Wells Fargo and \$4,993.02 in PayPal for a total of \$63,053.87.
- Major expenses for March included ASSA Fee (\$7860), The Shop (\$1171.24), TWSL for City fields (Jan-Jul), and Referee and Assignor fees (\$6748).

Chapman Cup and League Championship Awards

The board finalized the awards structure to better differentiate between league and cup winners:

- **League Champions:** Will continue to receive high-quality, jersey-like championship shirts. Teams can choose their style (e.g., polo, alternate jersey) and pay the difference if the cost exceeds the league's \$25 per-shirt budget (based on a \$35 value).
- **Chapman Cup Champions:** Will receive a new set of awards instead of t-shirts and a standard trophy.
 - **Team Award:** A large, glass pitcher engraved with the TMSL logo and championship details.
 - **Player Award:** An individual, World Cup-style glass for each player, custom-etched to say "TMSL Chapman Cup Champions" and the year. Diego has ordered 150 blank glasses and will present design options.
- **Chapman Cup Runners-Up:** Will receive trophies, consistent with previous years.

- **Additional Glass Recipients:** The board approved giving the custom glasses to the referees officiating the championship finals (estimated at 12-20 referees) and to board members, using the extra glasses ordered.
- The number of glasses awarded to a winning team will be based on their actual roster size, not a fixed number like 25, to manage costs and resources.

Future Season Planning and League Structure

The board was informed of the passing of a 22-year-old player on January 24th. The player's family is facing financial difficulties.

- **Immediate Action:** The board unanimously agreed to refund the player's registration fee to his mother as a gesture of support. A check will be issued and sent with a card.
- **Policy Standardization:** The event triggered a discussion on standardizing the league's response to such tragedies. Past donations have consistently been \$250 for longtime players or board members (e.g., Leng Her, Jeff Lukanowski, Fiji). The board debated whether to set a flat amount (e.g., \$250) for all players or create a tiered structure based on factors like years in the league or contributions (e.g., captain, board member).
- **Decision:** To allow for thoughtful consideration, the board decided to create a formal, tiered policy at the next meeting. For now, only the player's fee will be refunded.
- **GoFundMe Policy:** The board decided against promoting individual GoFundMe campaigns on official league channels (website, social media) to avoid setting a precedent and being inundated with requests for various personal hardships.
- **Memorial:** The player's passing will be posted on the league website, and a moment of silence was suggested.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Next Virtual Board meeting is scheduled tentatively for March 11, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted March 10, 2026, by Jose Verdugo, Secretary.

Martyn Tagg, President