

Tucson Metro Soccer League

Board Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2025

Date & Time: 2025-12-10 18:32:59

Attendees: Basile Andriopoulos (Bill), Marty Tagg, Jose Verdugo, Peter Wendler, Diego Morales, Eddie Betterton, Homayoon Karimi (Homa)

Absent: Jonathan Pearlman

Overview

This document summarizes a series of meetings held on December 10, 2025, covering league administration, finances, disciplinary actions, and future planning. Key decisions included eliminating the team bond system in favor of a penalty fine, changing the paper registration deadline to Wednesdays, and approving holiday bonuses. Discussions also covered the league's financial status, the Chapman Cup tournament, a future captain's meeting, and the transition to a digital check-in system.

- **Financial Report:** The bank account ending balance for November was \$94,491.04, compared to \$98,344.23 the previous year.
 - The cash (PayPal) account balance was \$4,680.36, compared to \$3,717 the previous year.
 - As of the meeting, the PayPal account held \$10,941.72, and there is a plan to transfer \$6,000 or \$7,000 to the bank account.
 - Total balance is \$99,171.40.
 - Major expenses for November included Kino fields (\$7,378), referees/assignors (\$5,613), along with other routine administrative costs.
 - When comparing financial performance year-over-year, it was noted that the numbers are very close. Variations depend on the timing of income like registrations and expenses like invoices for fields or referees.
- **D&R Report**
 - Several players have accumulated yellow cards, with two or three crossing the three-card threshold and one player receiving a fourth.
 - Currently, four players are suspended, primarily due to yellow card accumulation.
 - A discussion was raised about whether fines for yellow cards are the best deterrent compared to game suspensions.

- It was ultimately agreed that changing the current bylaw could lead to worse behavior, so the existing system of fines and suspensions should remain.
- It was suggested that team captains should be more proactive in warning players who are accumulating cards.
- **Team Conduct.** An incident occurred during an over-50 game where a Babylon player received a red card, and the team subsequently walked off the field with about nine minutes left in the game.
 - This is the team's second offense for causing an early game termination.
 - According to the bylaws, a second offense results in the team forfeiting their next game and being placed on probation with stipulations.
 - The board decided to enforce the bylaws, regardless of the team captain's emotional response or threat to pull the team from the league for the rest of the season.
 - There is a risk that the Babylon over-50 team may pull out of the league for the rest of the season, which would reduce the number of teams in their division to three.

League Administration and Logistics

- There is a lack of clarity regarding the process for submitting ASSA registration numbers.
 - Cynthia, who no longer officially has system access, is still pulling and submitting these numbers without providing a breakdown to the board for oversight.
 - The board agreed that they need to see a breakdown of the numbers before they are submitted to ASSA to ensure accuracy and transparency before payment.
- A proposal was made to change the deadline for dropping off paper payments and waivers at the shop from Friday at 5 p.m. to Wednesday at 5 p.m. to give volunteers more time to process them.
 - The board voted unanimously to change the deadline for paper waivers and checks to Wednesday at 5 p.m. for the remainder of the Fall season. Online registration deadlines will remain the same. The new deadline will take effect in January.
- The games scheduled for 12/21 have been canceled due to players being on vacation.
- A request was made to verify that the league has six fields reserved from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Super Bowl Sunday, instead of the usual three.

- The board will make a \$250 donation to the family of a member who recently passed away. A check will also be cut to the family for his remaining account credits, which total around \$160.
- The group discussed providing holiday bonuses. It was proposed to increase the bonus to \$200 for Eddie Suh and Maggie. It is unclear if a bonus will be given to Andrew or Amy.
- A team, DM, has requested to move from the Premier division to D1. If DM moves, the Premier division would be reduced to four teams, while the D1 division would increase to eight teams. A final decision is pending.

Old Business

- The primary discussion revolved around two proposals for managing team compliance and forfeits.
 - Option A (Status Quo): Continue requiring new teams to pay a \$100 refundable bond.
 - Option B (New Penalty System): Eliminate the bond system entirely. Instead, teams that commit major infractions would be assessed a \$100 fine.
 - Challenges with the current bond system include administrative burden, inconsistent enforcement, and it being a deterrent for new teams.
 - It remains undecided how to handle the bonds that have already been paid by existing teams. This will be discussed in a future meeting.
 - **A vote of four to two was passed to eliminate team bonds. The board will determine at a future meeting how to handle the bonds currently held by existing teams.**
- Website and Roster Updates
 - The new game cards and roster sheets have additional columns to support a future online check-in system.
 - The goal is to go live with the digital check-in in January, but a firm date has not been set.
 - A recommendation was made to add a captain's initial or signature line to the current paper roster sheet to verify scores and cards for the remainder of the season.

New Business

- A need was identified to analyze the plan for the upcoming Chapman Cup. A committee will be tasked with developing ideas to present at the January board meeting.
- The idea of holding a captain's meeting via Zoom in January was supported.
- A review of field availability at Kino was conducted.

- Fields are secured for January 11th and 25th.
- Fields are reserved for all of February, though a request for six fields for the 9 o'clock and 11 o'clock slots on February 8th is needed.
- All fields are booked for March and the first weekend of April.
- It was confirmed that games are scheduled for January 4th.

Action Items

- **Bill**

- send an updated list of teams that have paid bonds, including any refunds given.
- contact Cynthia to request that she send the breakdown of ASSA registration numbers to the board for review before submission.

- **The Board**

- determine how to handle existing team bonds at the next meeting.

- **Diego**

- cancel the games for 12/21.
- Verify Kino availability for January 4th if needed.
- verify the reservation of six fields from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Super Bowl Sunday (Feb 8th) for 9am and 11am games

- **Eddie**

- email team captains about the new Wednesday paper registration deadline.
- Ask Edmundo if he can add captain's signature line on game rosters, or determine who can make that revision.

- **Division Reps**

- notify team captains about the new registration deadline.

- **Homa**

- cut a check to the family of the deceased member for the \$250 donation and his \$160 in credits.
- inform Connie about the approved holiday bonuses.

- **Marty**

- email the Chapman Cup committee to start generating ideas for the January meeting.
- reach out to DM United regarding their request to move divisions.
- Ask Eddie Suh if he can add a signature/initial line for captains on the paper roster sheet for the rest of the fall season.
- Verify game schedule with Eddie Suh for the January 4th games.
- Ask Amy and Eddie Suh to post registration deadline change on social media and TMSL website.

- Ask Maggie to notify referees to have captains sign off on scores and game cards.

The following issues were not concluded in the meeting or lack clear action items;

1. The board must decide how to handle existing team bonds after voting to eliminate the pre-paid system. It is unresolved whether to refund or credit the bonds already paid by teams. A clear policy is needed to address this financial transition and ensure fair treatment for all existing teams.

2. There is a significant risk of the Babylon over-50 team withdrawing from the league for the remainder of the season. Their potential departure would shrink their division to only three teams, severely impacting league structure and scheduling. A decision is needed on how to manage this situation to mitigate the impact on the division.

3. The league lacks a reliable system for tracking which teams have paid their bonds, and it is unclear how many teams have not paid. This inconsistency in tracking and enforcement creates a risk of conflict, especially if the league attempts to retroactively collect payments from teams who were not informed of the requirement when they joined.

4. A decision is pending on the DM team's request to move from the Premier division to D1. This move would reduce the Premier division to only four teams, raising concerns about the viability and competitiveness of the division. Further information is required before a final decision can be made.

5. There is a risk of low referee awareness and compliance with the new interim procedure requiring captains to sign off on game cards and scores. Without a clear plan for notifying and training all referees, the procedure may be inconsistently applied, undermining its effectiveness in dispute resolution.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next Virtual Board meeting scheduled for January 14, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted January 13, 2026, by Jose Verdugo, Secretary

Martyn Tagg, President