

WYSA Board Meeting - Special  
3/11/09

Present: Marnie Terhune, Richard Tozier, Kathleen Minot, Michelle George, Terri Dufour, Dan Carey, Heather Carey, Chuck Calkins, Chris McPherson, Kevin Concaugh and visitors: Tami Cayer, TJ Bolduc and Julie Jones

A special meeting was held to discuss the U11 boys group and how this group should be divided into two teams. A discussion of the A/B leveling system was held.

Comments from parents/coaches/board members present:

- Some are opposed to A/B leveling. Child may not play if likelihood of repetitive failure on a weaker team.
- Prefer non-competitive levels. Board has the players at heart.
- Sees both sides of the situation. Kids are maturing between 8 and 11, but they are too immature to make divisions.
- Favors following SoccerMaine policy.
- Make a decision and stick with it.
- Worried about promoting mediocrity. Wants more competitive teams.
- Playing on a B team hasn't affected negatively any of the players.
- Kids should be rewarded for their own hard work.
- Soccermaine's position (see policy on-line) is that U12 is the cut-off for competitive teams.

Comments from other clubs who were contacted regarding this issue:

- All responded that they strive for even teams

New England Revolution Director's Comments:

- They do A/B teams starting at U8, however they combine age groups and skills. Every year they hold tryouts and teams are mixed up from year to year. This includes coaches.

No decision was made at this meeting on what the outcome of this age group will be. It was an informational meeting/discussion meeting only.