

ATLANTIC FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
EXECUTIVE/BOARD MEETING  
February 1, 2010 – 9:00 PM  
Conference Call

Members On line: Pat O'Brien, Dan Fougere, Larry Timms, Larry Wisniewski, Bill Todd, Barry Ogden

Members Absent: Roger Collette, Terry McIntyre

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 p.m.

Pat listed the items he felt that needed to be addressed and these are set out below.

**1. MFL AGM Update** – Pat had attended the Maritime Football League AGM held the previous weekend in Moncton. He noted the following:

1. It appears that there will be 7 teams participating in 2010 MFL season
2. Depending on the number of players available for the games, teams will have the option of playing 10 or 12 man games.
3. Concerns were expressed about the quality of officiating out of Halifax (NS) – implications if Halifax joins the AFL
4. There is some underlying animosity for the AFL – conflicts about players participating in both leagues, although seasons do not overlap.

**2. PEI Joining the AFL** – Pat was looking for agreement that he could send a letter to the PEI group that the AFL would welcome their participation in 2010. It was noted the PEI team would be a community club team, centered out of Holland College, with UPEI and community players welcomed (the PEI Hurricanes). As set out in the AFL constitution, the team will have to make a formal application to the AFL a month before the AGM and their final acceptance into the league would be voted on at the AGM. The unanimous consensus was that the PEI team would be welcomed into the league. Pat will proceed and send an email to Terry Allen, PEI indicating the above.

**3. CJFL Attendance at the AFL AGM**– The commissioner from the Canadian Junior Football League (from Montreal) has made a request to attend the AFL AGM to make a brief presentation about the CJFL. Some concerns were expressed about what purpose this would serve in that we had agreed, when the league started, we would wait 3 years before any age change would be considered. After some debate, it was agreed to have Pat contact the CJFL and indicate that a 'brief' presentation would be welcome, if he was willing to travel from Montreal for a limited window of opportunity to talk. Pat will contact the commissioner and pass on this proposal.

**4. AFL AGM** – It was agreed to hold the AGM in Moncton, on Saturday, March 20 starting at 10:00 AM at the field house at Rocky Stone Field. Dan Fougere will ensure a room is available and arrange for a light lunch to be provided (the AFL will cover this cost). An agenda will be issued closer to the date.

**5. Constitution and Bylaw Changes** – As set out in the constitution and bylaws, proposed changes must be presented a month before the AGM, to be voted on at the AGM. With the AGM set for March 20, any proposed changes must be sent to the Secretary no later than February 20. Some changes, mainly clarification items, were discussed at the November 28, 2009 Board meeting and these should be filed by Feb. 20 also.

**6. Halifax entry into the AFL** – Halifax (Dalhousie Alumni) have also expressed interest in joining the AFL this year. Concerns were expressed about expanding the league too quickly and some of the financial implication of bussing costs for travel to and from both PEI and Halifax. It was proposed to generate a tentative schedule based on a 4 and 5 team league and obtain some estimated cost of bus charges for the extended travel. The Halifax entry into the AFL would be subject to the same requirements as those with PEI as noted above. Pat noted, as highlighted in 1 above, that there appears to be concerns about availability of qualified game officials in NS, which would have to be addressed, if they joined the league.

**7. Next Meeting** – Based on the concerns expressed above, it was felt that we need to schedule another conference call next Tuesday or Wednesday (Feb9 or 10) to finalize the issue re Halifax. Proposed 4 and 5 team schedules will be distributed and hopefully bussing costs will be available so we can better assess the feasibility of a 5 team league.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm

#### **Action Items**

#### **Responsibility**

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|----|---|------------|
| 1. | AFL AGM – location confirmation                     | Dan        |
| 2. | AGM – Agenda items to Larry T ASAP                  | All        |
| 3. | Constitution/Bylaw changes to Larry T by Feb 20     | All        |
| 4. | Constitution/Bylaw changes discussed at Nov meeting | Pat & Bill |
| 5. | Email to PEI re joining the AFL                     | Pat        |
| 6. | Contact Commissioner of CJFL re AFL AGM             | Pat        |
| 7. | Proposed 4 and 5 team schedules – Bruce Watts       | Barry      |
| 8. | 2010 Budget – proposal for AGM                      | Larry T.   |