



## Nordecke Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 5, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Columbus Metropolitan Library, Hilltop Branch

Attendees: Kourtney Sullivan, Melanie Brown, Paco Argondizza, Brent Miller, Kurtis Roush, Brad Holloway, Emily Kegg, Bethany Janney

### Updates

#### a. Chairperson

- i. All directors, deputies, and senior leadership team members have signed the code of conduct.
- ii. Memberships launched, there are 3 tiers.
- iii. We are looking for a new webmaster, Brian is continuing to help in the interim.
- iv. Trent has stepped down from the gameday operations position. Norm is acting as the deputy right now and we have a team acting in the gameday ops position until a new director is appointed.

#### b. Communications

- i. Comms is looking for someone to join the team to help run social media.

#### c. Community

- i. Emily is in the process of building out the season. Currently 9 different community events are planned. Mid-Ohio Food Bank, Ronald McDonald House, Pride parade march, etc are among the planned events for 2026.

#### d. Creative

- i. Crewsmas artwork is in progress.
- ii. Working on art for a special project to involve some of the local schools in tifo. That tifo will be for the second game. The process will be a little different. Tifosweat will trace the artwork, then cut it into pieces, then send the pieces to schools to be painted, then we will stitch them back together.
- iii. Brent has reached out to a couple of places to use for tracing since we can't hang things from the ceiling in the tifo space anymore, we will hopefully have a schedule by Monday or Tuesday.
- iv. No update on a new tifo space so far. Brent is continuing to search.

#### e. Gameday

- i. Paco and Ashley are working on getting things ready for the season. They're working on putting together their capo list for now.
- ii. Paco would like to work with the webmaster to add a hub to the website with information on becoming a capo and other game day info.
- iii. 2026 smoke waivers have gone out, please make sure to sign them ASAP if you are interested in helping with smoke deployment.



- iv. Paco is talking with the front office about using more of the section to deploy smoke instead of just the capo stands, hopefully will have more information after the next FO call. This will apply to smoke for goals, tifo displays, etc.
- v. Emily got ahold of the Cincy FD to start the process on having the permit to have smoke for HIR march to the match, Paco is working on getting that taken care of.
- vi. Ashley and Paco will be filming some reels to start posting to social media about chants, banners, how to get to tailgate, etc.
- vii. A march to the match has been requested for Crewsmas, Paco is working on the details.
- viii. Norm said thanks to the tifosweat volunteers who helped repair and touch up the rail banners in preparation for the season.
- ix. We have gotten confirmation that we will not be able to hang rail banners on the new corner section above the Nordecke, however the party deck still doesn't have a sponsor so we are still able to hang banners there.
- x. The team is still planning on doing their one flag per national team/country for this season.
  - 1. Kourtney asked Norm to help remind her to ask the FO for a Swedish flag for coach.
- f. Merchandise
  - i. Memberships launched on 2/1, we're seeing good engagement so far.
  - ii. Melanie is working with Emily and Bethany to catalog old inventory to market and sell this year to clear out backstock.
  - iii. They're working to finalize the sling bag and t-shirt products. Melanie has lots of plans for merch, especially working with Emily on pride merch.
- g. Partnerships
  - i. Brad announced that Ravi has agreed to be the partnerships deputy this year to help with the transition, they have a meeting scheduled tomorrow.
  - ii. They're working on setting up the away watch parties.
- h. Travel
  - i. Starting the season off with two away games, tickets have been on sale for about a month. Approximately 30 fans are heading to Portland so far and 20-25 are heading to Kansas City.
  - ii. Kurtis is working with the new FO contact to get the away matches for sale ASAP, to have everything available earlier so fans can make travel plans. 10 matches are available for sale with NorOnTour now.

## New Business

- a. Crewsmas
  - i. Crewsmas Eve plans
    - 1. Crewsmas Eve will be at Pastimes in Grandview. We'll have the party room reserved for us. We'll have two rounds of appetizers available. Kourtney is



working to have someone host Crew trivia as well. Kourtney is also working to finalize if we can have some merch for sale at the event as well.

2. Melanie also has some plans for giveaways.
- ii. Sunrise toast
  1. We have a toastmaster scheduled. The toast will take place on the plaza again. Champagne and NA options will be available as well as coffee and doughnuts from Duck Donuts.
- iii. Crewsma's tailgate
  1. We can set up at 11AM, the lot opens for tailgating at 12PM.
  2. Melanie said that Black Flag will be doing the chili cookoff again. A sign-up genius will be going out for sides and other things.
- iv. Tifo production/update/upcoming work schedule
- v. Gameday plans
  1. Paco is working with the Upper 90 podcast about including the "loser" of their competition.
- vi. Tickets/Lottery
  1. Kourtney asked for feedback on whether to do a lottery or first come first serve for Crewsma's tickets.
  2. Kurtis asked how quickly Crewsma's tickets sold last year, Brad said he believes it sold out in about 36 hours in 2025.
  3. Norm said that they're planning to put all matches up to the World Cup break on sale next week. There was some discussion about selling Crewsma's tickets on a separate day to avoid confusion. Brent asked that the first 24 hours make tickets only available to members.
  4. Kourtney motioned to a 24 hour members only presale on 2/16 for Crewsma's tickets, then open to the general public on 2/17.
    - a. Second - Kurtis
    - b. Yays - Kourtney, Brad, Paco, Brent, Emily, Kurtis, Bethany (on behalf of Colin).
    - c. Nays - None
  5. Ticket pricing for Crewsma's will remain the same as what was said at AGM, which is \$39 for members and \$44 for non-members.

#### Open Forum

- a. Norm discussed the current website issues. Anything that is purchased on the website that requires shipping is not going through because there is a backend thing broken with regard to shipping. There is also an issue with admin access. Currently the only memberships that can be processed completely is the supporter tier. We are hoping to have the website fixed this weekend.
  - i. Bethany asked if anything should be put out on comms about it, Norm said yes.



- b. First Capys match will be the day after Crewsmaas at ScottsMiracle-Gro Field.
- c. Brad asked for feedback and ideas if anyone has suggestions for new partners, especially some places that are more family friendly, not just bars/breweries.
- d. Norm asked Nick if he has any pain points or issues from 2025 that he would like to see addressed prior to the start of the 2026 season.
  - i. Nick said not being allowed to hang banners, restricting where Capybrava can sit, etc. He would like to be able to hang banners in the Nordecke and also would like to see the national/county flags to be displayed for the Crew2 players as well. Kourtney suggested asking about capo stands as well.
- e. Nick and Carlos attended the ISC conference a couple of weeks ago. Nick would like to see a board member to attend the ISC conference in the future.
  - i. Nordecke cannot join ISC unless all of the supporter groups leave.
  - ii. Kourtney asked what the general vibe of the ISC conference is. Nick said that there's meetings on how they increase memberships, how they create merch, this year they had a meeting with the head of security for the MLS.
- f. Website public code of conduct needs to be updated to change the stadium name.
- g. Melanie asked Brad for the membership email login, he said there's an email drafted to be sent to her tonight. Melanie asked why it has taken a week to get the information to her; Brad said his grandfather has been in the hospital and is not doing well.
- h. Kourtney asked Brad about some confusion between Nordecke and Supporter Supply. Supporter Supply is under the impression that we're moving forward with production on 750 trucker hats and 750 stickers. Supporter Supply stated that they got confirmation on 1/27 to go forward, stickers & hats are produced and ready. We are currently on the hook for \$375 approximately for the stickers. The remaining items were in production. Brad said that he did not give a confirmation to Supporter Supply. Kourtney asked why Brad hadn't told Supporter Supply that we were going in a different direction when the board voted on the membership kits on 1/27/26. Supporter Supply found out about the kit changes when we announced the membership launch on 2/1/26. Kourtney is going to follow up with Supporter Supply and with Brad to sort out what happened and what is needed to resolve the issue.