



Nordecke Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 2, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: CML Hilltop Branch - Meeting Room 4

Attendees:

Updates

a. Chairperson

i. Financial report from Bud.

1. Current cash balance is \$55,000.00.
2. Next outlying payment is the next ticket payment for the April 12th and April 22nd matches which will be \$9.3K will be made on the 6th.
3. No other significant payments to be made until the next ticket payment is due.

ii. Business License Renewal

1. Kourtney renewed the business license registration on Friday, we are set for the next five years. Reminders are set to go to the board email for the next renewal.

iii. Board Member Activation

1. There have been some times where outside of game day, there are hits and misses regarding attending volunteer events, tifo, watch parties, etc. Kourtney is asking for more participation from all board members for various events, slack discussions, etc. Members have noticed a lack of directors at events and have asked Kourtney about it.

b. Communications

i. No updates.

c. Community

i. Next event is Top Soccer - our volunteers will be buddies with the athletes who need support. We still have room for a few more volunteers! The event is on 4/11/26.

ii. We also have Earth Day clean up at HCS on 4/19/26, there is still one spot open.

d. Creative

i. Looking to start the Pride tifo soon, as soon as we get the art back which may be this weekend. Hoping to start tracing next week.

ii. The Stay in the Game tifo had a lot of really good feedback, we received emails from parents about how excited their kids were to go to school and work on it, from teachers saying how engaged the students were, etc. We will look to do something similar again next year.

e. Gameday



- i. Paco said thank you to all of the volunteers that came out to help out with the last two matches, especially those that stayed late to take down banners and clean up. We encourage folks to come out and help and also to come out for Meet the Teams, we would love to have more of a presence for that.
 - ii. Paco said we're continuing to work with Andrew and the front office for the Hard Hat Honoree. We've been going through the list of supporter groups. The first as LaGuardia 96 and the second match was the GCGBAGs. Allison nominated two youth from the CRIS community. Paco is continuing to reach out to supporter groups throughout the rest of the first half of the season.
 - iii. Some things will be changing as part of the run of show in the upcoming games as the front office has heard some of the feedback from the fans.
 - iv. When it was Hard Hat Hero, Paco thought there was criteria for how to select an honoree, Paco would like to find that criteria if anyone has it in their files.
 1. Kourtney said that there is still a Hard Hat Hero nomination form on the website from 2024.
 - v. Paco and Ashley are still working on making more videos, if anyone else would like to be a part of the videos, please reach out to one of them.
 - vi. Paco said that banners for the 4/12 match will still be at 12PM. He is trying to work with Jarad to figure out the Wednesday game on 4/22, we may leave the banners up from one match to another or try to get volunteers in early to hang banners.
 - vii. Justin is working on the Randy Sims Parking Spot Procedure, he has been trying to figure out if there has been a formal nomination or selection process. Last year seems to just have been a name being drawn at tailgate. Justin would like to work on getting a more formal process in place going forward, so that there isn't any risk of favoritism. He will work on getting this figured out in the next week or so.
 - viii. Justin said that tailgate lot cleanup is scheduled for 10AM-1PM this Saturday 4/4/26. Bethany asked if he would like communications to put something out on socials, Justin said sure.
- f. Merchandise
- i. Membership kits: T-shirts and bags are officially in! I'm planning to have all kits sorted and sent out by the 2nd-3rd week of April. We won't be doing a formal packing party, but a few members of Nine 6 Mafia have generously offered to help, so this should come together pretty quickly with just the two merch items.
 - ii. Order delays: I had a bit of a rough couple of weeks and fell behind on regular shop orders, thanks for your patience there. I made a big dent last week, and with a lighter day on Tuesday, I expect to be fully caught up by mid-next week.
 - iii. Pride merch planning: Looking ahead, I had proposed ordering 500 t-shirts at around \$10/shirt, with a retail price of \$25-\$30 + shipping. I'm not sure if budgets were officially approved and we can move forward? I also think it'd be



great to donate a portion of proceeds to an organization of Emily's choosing, as her sister is in the process of designing the shirts. One question here: how has this been handled in the past? Do we typically have artists sign something granting us rights to use and sell their artwork, or has it been more of an informal/verbal agreement?

1. Emily said we're good there.
- iv. Kids Club: Brad, as we discussed, I have a few potential partnership leads for Kids Club. Would you prefer I continue running with those, or would you like to take point? Just want to make sure I'm not stepping on toes. My goal is to have this ready to launch in early June as a "school's out for summer" type promo.
 1. Brad said that he's ok with Melanie taking the lead on it since she has started the communications.
- g. Partnerships
 - i. Brad said the next watch party is at Seventh Son, they'll have the upstairs open for us with the sound on.
 - ii. Brad asked if we want to put together official watch parties for the Open Cup matches or just encourage them to go to our partners to watch.
- h. Travel
 - i. Collin read Kurtis' updates

New Business

- a. Supporters Group Application
 - i. Brad asked if the applications are intended for just new groups or for all groups.
 - ii. Norm explained that this has come up because some supporters are unhappy about the tailgate parking situation.
 - iii. The proposed application questions are:
 1. Name of group
 2. Statement of Purpose.
 3. Do you have a social media presence? Please include.
 4. Explanation of involvement in supporting the Columbus Crew.
 5. How does your group support the community?
 6. Statement of new membership pathway.
 7. Number of current members?
 8. Number of members who are Nordecke members?
 9. Do you acknowledge that SG representatives receiving Nordecke benefits must be a Nordecke member?
 10. 90 day cure period to receive SG benefits.
 - iv. Comms will draft something to send to all of the SGs to start an email campaign to get more complaints to the front office about needing more tailgate parking spots.



- v. Ashley asked how the applications will be reviewed. Kourtney said the applications will be sent to her and then the board will review. Bethany said that she talked to Nick about creating an application form on the website that will send the submission to Kourtney.
- vi. Chris LaMacchia asked if this is an application to be a supporter group for parking or just to be a supporter group in general.
- vii. Norm said that part of the way we recognize supporters groups is by hanging rail banners supporting them in the stadium. If any supporter groups want to submit art or a banner for review, we would love to have new art to hang.
 - 1. Emily asked if we got caught up on creating a pride version of each supporter groups banner. Norm said that we did get caught up last year, however an inventory has not been done this year.
 - 2. Norm said that beginning of May, we should go through what art and banners we need ahead of Nordecke pride night.
 - 3. Paco asked if we had more Pride flags somewhere as we're running pretty critically low on Pride flags in the stadium. There are a lot of Pride flags in a bin at tifo.
- viii. The board will vote on the motion in slack regarding the application questions.
- ix. Brian Lenoy asked if the application is for all supporter groups or just new groups.
 - 1. Kourtney said that it is just for new groups, it will not be applied to already recognized groups.
 - 2. Comms will set up a Google Form for existing supporter groups to update their information with the Nordecke.
 - 3. Norm mentioned reviewing and updating the website information for the different supporter groups as well.
 - 4. Nick suggested reviewing the information annually for updates, Kourtney suggested doing it before the season starts.
 - 5. Brian suggested starting a \$25.00 annual donation fee for supporter groups with the funds going towards tailgate supplies such as NA beverages, etc.
- b. NWSL Statement Review
 - i. Is anyone else available to go to the City Council public hearing on Monday from 3-5PM with Emily? Paco can attend with Emily.
 - ii. The board and comms will work on editing the statement and and release the written statement tomorrow mid-afternoon. The board and comms will also work on written comments for Emily, Paco, and Ashley at Monday's City Council public hearing.

Open Forum



- a. Brad said that he and Kurtis had an online meeting with members of the Cincy Pride about putting together a supporter vs supporter derby. It would be a home and home format mirroring HIR, looking for approximately 20 supporters from each group, co-ed format, minimum number of women on the pitch at one time to keep things more equal, agreed to have professional officials, time would be looking to have it the day before each HIR is match, venue is TBD, but the FO was excited about the idea previously and may give us the option to use HCS, otherwise we'll look at local high school or soccer facilities. A nominal ticket price or suggested donation would be charged, that money would go to the home supporter groups organization of their choice. Both sides suggested having the match called by recognizable voices, such as maybe Chris Doran. They also discussed doing a joint merch item as well. Post match celebration would be the home team inviting the other team to their local supporters bar. They would also come up with a traveling trophy, they also discussed talking with the farmer who owns the HIR sign about providing financial assistance for upkeep but allowing the aggregate winner to paint the sign in their colors. Kourtney asked Brad to make it a discussion point in the next FO monthly meeting.