

Approved

2006 Annual General Meeting
WI Youth Soccer Association Board Meeting
March 4, 2006
Serb Hall
Milwaukee, WI

Verification of Delegates

Appleton SC-Bill Juen, Ashwaubenon SC-Dana Kaczrouske, Bavarian SC-Tom Zaiss, Brookfield SA – Nancy McGreen (proxy), Burlington Youth Soccer Association -Sandy Cowan, Big Footer SC – Gretchen McCarthy, Cedarburg SC-Mark Schwantes, Chequamegon Bay SA -Hunter Tyler, Club Latino-Bill Sandoval,Chippewa Strikers- Greg Baugher, Coulee Youth Region – LaCrosse-John McCue, Cottage Grove SC- Carl Pulvermacher, Croatian Eagles SC – Joe Schauer (proxy), Depere Select SC -Dale Rhodes, Elkhorn SC-Hoyt Smith, Elm Grove SC-Jim Jacobson, FC Magic SC-Ann Girard (proxy), FC Milwaukee -Larry Pan, Flyway SC- Mark Kelder, Fond du Lac SC- Don Wirtz, Fox Valley Unified SC-Rhonda Graphos, Foxx SC-Scott Nicholas, Green Bay Metro-Dawn King, Hartford United SC-Jack De Selm, Howard Hurricanes SC- Loni McCormick, Kenosha Area Soccer League-Roger Koessel, Kettle Moraine Lazars Soccer Club-Ken Ward, Kettle Moraine Recreational Soccer-Michael Kilsdonk(proxy), Kimberly Area Soccer Association- Sue Ann Evers (proxy), Lake Country United SC- Scott Asher (proxy), Milwaukee Simba's – Bob Jacoby, Milwaukee Sport Club- Bill Pitman, Madison 56ers SC-John Redden (proxy), Madison Celtics – Tok Kim, Magic SC- Bill Stroud, Marshfield SC-Todd Felhofer, Menasha Area SC-Kurt Schodorf (proxy), Menomonee Falls SC-Ed Eastman (proxy), Mequon SC- Scott Engroff, Middleton/Yahara SC-Chris Lively, Milwaukee Kickers SC-Toby Whipple ,Monroe Area Rebel Soccer-Larry Nack, New London Soccer Association-Renee Sullivan, Oak Creek SC-Milan Maksimovic, Oconomowoc SA-Robert Butendorf, Oshkosh United SC- Tom Brauer, Paper Valley Youth SC-Chris Trudell, Parkland SC-Mark Dombrowski, Pewaukee SC-Dave Linsmeier, Polonia Youth SC-Rick Rabiega (proxy), Port Washington SC-Chuck Lanser-Racine Area SA-Lloyd Swager, Racine Spartans – Lauri Millot, Rhinelander SC – Jim Demitrou, Rice Lake SC – Chris Munden, Sauk Prairie Strikers- Joanne Schulenburg, SC Waukesha-Tony Wilcenski (proxy), Slinger SC-Scott Bevers (proxy), Sussex SC-Dave Christofferson, United SC – West Bend-John Berst, United Serbian SC-Nick Stojisavljevic, United Soccer of Allouez -Scott Kraft, Verona Area SC-Scott Clement, Village of Wales-Gail Powell (proxy), Wausau Force SC-Don Hermanson, Waunakee SC – Tom Wilson, Wauwatosa SC- Tom Langer, Whitewater Youth SC-Penny Portman

Sue Walters – State Youth Referee Administrator, Dave Flanagan – Director of Leagues, Mary Clarkson – State Registrar, Marshall Murray – Director State Boys and Girls ODP programs, Peter Mariahazy – Treasurer, Terry Donini - Secretary, Bill Podewils – President, Stuart Jones - Tournament Sanctioning Committee, Ken Voigt - Appeals Chair, Keith McHugh – MAYSA, Kurt Schodorf – East Central, Mike Kasten - Metro District

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Guests: Peter Wilt and Brett Lashbrock- Milwaukee Professional Soccer, Kurt Sonnetag- WYSA Youth Rep to the WSA, Carl Micke -WYSA Youth Rep to the WSA, Ditmar Jovic – Metro Area Ref Unit, Arlyn Clarkson

Introduction of Youth Board of Directors, State Staff, and Bob Hunt introduced as the administrator of the Wi Youth Soccer Association

Old Business

Motion: to accept the 2005 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Sandy Cowan - State Line

2nd Kurt Schodorff - East Central District

Motion passes

New Business

Motion: to approve the Board of Directors actions from June 2005 to December 2005

Ken Ward – Kettle Moraine Soccer Club

2nd Ken Voigt – Brookfield Soccer Association

Motion passes

Constitutional Amendment:

The Wi Youth Soccer Association executive committee recommended a constitutional amendment change under 6003.f. The Four (4) representatives of the WI Youth Soccer Association shall be elected to serve on the Wisconsin Soccer Association Executive Board. Each representative shall serve a two (2) year term, with two (2) Representatives being elected at the AGM in even numbered years and two (2) representatives elected at the AGM in odd numbered years. **These youth representatives shall also serve as members of the WI Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors. These persons will not be voting members of the Executive Committee, but will be voting members of the Board of Directors.**

Motion: to accept the changes in the section 6003.f of the youth constitution

Chris Trudell – Paper Valley Youth SC

2nd Bill Juen – Appleton SC

Motion passes

Bill Sandoval from Club Latino asked if this changes the constitution and bylaws of the youth association and asked for clarification as to how many board members were appointed and elected. Peter Mariahazy, Treasurer, pointed out that there are members on the WSA board who do not hold a position on the Youth board and that it didn't seem to make a lot of sense that they represented the youth without having a direct connection to the youth board. Bill Podewils pointed out that there are 34 members on the youth board, each district has 2 representatives, there are 4 officers that are elected positions, and 8 people are appointed by the President and approved by the youth board of director

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2007 – 08 budget

The current budget has been developed with keeping the current staffing as is in the association office. Peter noted that youth fees have remained stable over the years and that the only increases have been passed along from the national office. He further indicated that the youth board had approved insurance fees up to \$1.80 and we will be able to honor that this period. He indicated that the youth board previews the budget prior to its presentation at the AGM and a yearly full financial review is completed by Clifton Gunderson LLP. Peter indicated the association follows standard practices including having checks signed by executive committee members other than the Treasurer and Bookkeeper, electronic transactions approved by the President and the Vice President, and the Treasurer provides approval of all expenses other than his own, in which case the President does.

Motion: to accept the 2006 budget

Tom Brauer – Paper Valley Youth SC
2nd Kurt Schordorf- East Central District
Motion passes

Referee Fee Increase

The Referee Committee has requested a fee increase since the last referee fee increase was in 2001. In January 2006, the youth board agreed that this increase would apply to all levels, competitions and positions, U-11 and up, in accordance with the guidelines of the Wi Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association, with the exception of the following amendments which are attached below.

U 6/7/8 - \$10 a center referee

U 9/10 - \$12- centers/ \$8 – AR's

Those upper age group level recreational leagues, age groups U15 and above, who play 11 v 11 games, the ability to set fees one step lower than the posted fees.

Motion: to approve the 2006 request for a referee fee increase

Chris Trudell – Paper Valley Youth SC
2nd Don Wirtz – Fond du Lac SC
Motion passes

A request was made for a head count on the vote with the result of the motion passing.

Review of the Mission and Vision Statement and Strategic Plan

The youth Board of Directors have worked diligently on it, the executive committee has been out to the districts to discuss, the six focus areas of the strategic plan are Human Resources, Communications, Marketing and Fund Raising, Member Development, and

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Recreational soccer. Bill offered to address comments at this meeting, suggested that district representatives could also answer questions as they have been involved in the process.

Elections

Bill Podewils called for nominations for Vice President of the Wi Youth Soccer Association

Kurt Schodorf - East Central District, 2nd Sandy Cowan - State Line nominated Peter Mariahazy as Vice President of the Wi Youth Soccer Association.

Bill Podewils calls for nominations three times.

Peter Mariahazy is elected Vice President by acclimation

Bill Podewils called for nominations for Treasurer of the Wi Youth Soccer Association
Chris Lively- Middleton-Yahara SC, 2nd Tom Wilson – Waunakee SC nominated Kurt Sonnetag as Treasurer of the Wi Youth Soccer Association.

Bill Podewils calls for nominations three times.

Kurt Sonnetag elected Treasurer by acclimation

Bill Podewils called for nominations for the Wi Youth Soccer Association
Representatives to the Wi Soccer Association Board of Directors

Peter Mariahazy was nominated by Sue Ann Evers, Kimberly SC and

Ken Voigt was nominated by Nancy McKeon, Brookfield Soccer Association

Bill Podewils calls for nominations three times.

Peter Mariahazy and Ken Voigt were both elected as Wi Youth Soccer Association
Representatives to the Wi Soccer Association Board of Directors by acclimation.

Soccer Kicks for Cancer

Sarah Enwald presented information on Soccer Kicks for Cancer, a fundraising program sponsored by the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society, one of the world's largest charitable organizations dedicated to promote cancer education, education services and research. Historically, they have worked with schools and are interested in getting involved in other associations; Wi Youth Soccer Association became the logical and easy choice because of the large number of soccer players in the state of Wisconsin. Sarah is hoping that all the club will become involved in this program soccer Kicks for Cancer, which is an easy program fund raising campaign to get involved with. Players are asked to get pledges for the number of kicks they get in a 10 day period. As clubs and coaches sign up incentives such as coaching bag and ball may be provided or if pledges amount to over a \$1000 then clubs will get 10% of the pledge money back. If they become one of the top fundraising clubs in the United States that club could receive a visit by members of the US Men's National team. Soccer Kicks for Cancer is endorsed by the Wi Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association.

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Peter Wilt presented information on an agreement that the Milwaukee Professional Soccer, the Wi Youth Soccer Association executive committee and the state board worked over the last 6 months to develop. The details of this partnership include the Wi Youth Soccer Association being granted an ownership stake in the MLS team, having representation on the MLS team's Board of Directors, and relocating their offices to the stadium where the MLS team will play. In return, the WYSA promises to sell a minimum of \$450,000 in season tickets. To help with this effort, each WYSA member will receive a ticket voucher to one MLS game per season and the right to purchase a companion ticket. This will produce the equivalent base of 7,000 tickets for every Milwaukee MLS game.

This partnership will assure that the Wi Youth Soccer Association receives consideration for statewide coaching and youth clinics. In addition, the Milwaukee MLS team will play a minimum of three statewide annual exhibition games, bringing the MLS to parts of the state away from Milwaukee, but not far from the heart of soccer. Finally, the MLS team will designate Wi Youth Soccer Association youth programs as beneficiaries of the team's charitable arm. In a final pledge to the soccer players of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee MLS has agreed to work with Major League Soccer to provide opportunities for alumni of Wisconsin clubs to play for Milwaukee MLS. The goal is to have a minimum of three WYSA alumni to be included at all times on the Milwaukee MLS roster. This final opportunity for Wisconsin youth soccer players provides a very exciting goal for players to work towards.

In an exciting opportunity, the Executive Committee of the WYSA was directed by the WYSA members in a nearly unanimous vote to "take the necessary steps to negotiate an agree with Milwaukee Professional Soccer..." in order to form a partnership to bring to and support in Milwaukee a Major League Soccer expansion team.

Questions from the floor

Will the fact that the various clubs are involved in promoting professional soccer affect a player's high school or college eligibility? NO, player eligibility is affected only if they are playing side by side with the professional players.

How will the WI Youth Soccer Association reach the allotted \$450, 000 in ticket sales? Opportunities will exist through pre sales efforts, a targeted marketing program and other avenues. The Wi Youth Soccer Association won't look directly to individual clubs to fund the sales effort, but will target the membership in the presale marketing strategy. The Executive Committee will be looking into other means to potentially cover the cost. We will be checking with out accounting firm and attorney's on the implications of a non profit association's investment in a for-profit organization and what that means for our associations potential tax liability. Membership card will be used as a marketing tool to add more value.

What are the requirements for the clubs? The youth board of directors has not considered putting a mandate on clubs to sell a certain allotment of tickets nor have they considered

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that clubs will have to come up with a certain amount of money to cover any shortfalls. If there is a shortfall the youth board of directors will come up with a plan to deal with it. All things will be considered, including giving up incentives such as rent, charitable contributions, etc, before going back to the clubs to ask for more money. If we don't sell one season ticket, and the costs were passed on to a the membership it would amount to only a \$7.00 increase per player

It is a creative idea for a youth team to be sponsored by the MLS; MLS already sponsors teams for their Super Y league. In this agreement a Wi Youth Soccer Association team will be sponsored by the MLS team to compete in their Super Y league.

You mentioned \$65,000 has been set aside for office space, what is the build out cost and would be WI Youth Soccer Association responsible for? Build out costs are yet to be determined. Yes, Wi Youth Soccer Association would be responsible for the build out costs. If Milwaukee is granted the franchise, stadium work would need to be started this fall, with the association assuming its office space by the by either the spring or fall of 2008.

In looking at this proposal we need to look at our mission, are we promoting the value of soccer to our youth and adults? This is a major one time chance to promote soccer on a big picture basis in the state of Wisconsin.

Where is the site? Securing the site is the top priority, it is hopeful that it will be inside the city limits, but several sites outside of the city limits have also been considered. If the site is secured the project will go forward in August, if MPS is unable to get the land this project will not move forward. A concern was expressed that if the site is too far south of the City the draw might not be as great for teams traveling outside of the metro area.

With first year enthusiasm we will probably meet the sales goal, but what about the 2nd and 3rd year and if the team performance affects sales, is there an ability to renegotiate and restructure the contract in an effort to meet the goals?

Give us a perspective on season ticket sales in other MLS cities:

The Rampage averaged 500, the Milwaukee Wave average a couple of thousand. Salt Lake City averages between 5-6 thousand season tickets, the MLS league average is between 5-6 season tickets. In this agreement vouchers packages will count toward season ticket sales and with the presale opportunity Peter Wilt sees fans other than youth soccer players looking to the Wi Youth Soccer Association to get the best available season tickets.

Several members indicated that this is a great opportunity for our clubs to have local, accessible and sport specific role models. They indicated that if this is not supported now there will not be a second chance.

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Bill Sandoval speaking as a Wi Soccer Association board member asked how the proposal will affect the Wi Soccer Association and WI Amateur Soccer Association, considering that the Wi Youth Soccer Association is a division of the Wi Soccer Association? Bill Podewils responded that he wanted to see if the membership was interested in going forward before adding this dynamic to the mix.

Are there other precedence like this in the current MLS landscape? This is a new model on MLS level; Peter Wildt indicated that he ran a similar model with the Thunder and the Minnesota Youth Soccer Association.

How will we deal with the equity issues for the whole state? A member indicated that he was interested in the project but has a fiduciary responsibility in considering whether to vote affirmatively for it, while board members are have had time to talk; we haven't spent enough time looking materials to make a sound decision. It was suggested there is a need to delay this so that people have a time to look at the materials, and then bring it up for a later vote. A counter comment was made that we need to trust the youth board and their knowledge of the proposal and move forward with this. If there is an affirmative vote, the youth board will have one last opportunity for input into the agreement. Milwaukee has a long history of supporting soccer in the state. We should move forward and reach back to our rich soccer heritage.

Motion: the members of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association direct the executive committee to take the necessary steps to negotiate an agreement, consistent with the summary presented in the 2006 AGM, with Milwaukee Professional soccer in order to form a partnership to bring to and support Milwaukee a Major League Soccer expansion team

Sandy Cowan - State Line District
2nd John McCue, Southwest Soccer District
Motion passes

With passage of this proposal the Executive Committee of the Wi Youth Soccer Association was directed by the membership, in a nearly unanimous vote, to “take the necessary steps to negotiate an agree with Milwaukee Professional Soccer in order to form a partnership to bring to and support in Milwaukee a Major League Soccer expansion team.

For the Good of Soccer

Bill Podeweils recognized Mike Lekan's seven year association as an Executive Committee member with the Wi Youth Soccer Association. He has served 22 years in the business of soccer with the MK New Berlin SC, Croatian Eagles, Spring City SC, State League Director – Boys, WSA Youth Representative and Vice President of the Wi Youth Soccer Association. Mike commented on his appreciation of having served in these many organizations and on the support he has received from the membership

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Carl Micke reminded the membership that the Fox Cities is host to the Midwest Region regional championship series. He indicated this is the first time that Regional's have been held in Wisconsin.

Bob Jacoby thanked both the Metro District and staff at the Wi Youth Soccer Association for posting and soliciting funds for a former Simba's and ODP player currently facing financial hardship due to the loss of family members. If you have the ability to donate please do so. An account is available at Lincoln State Bank in Milwaukee.

Sue Walters reminded the membership of assignor classes that were currently available

The Wi Youth Soccer Association Coaching Education program is hosting, along with the Youth Soccer Association, a C course hosting at Uhilien Soccer Park.

Motion to adjourn

Dale Rhodes – DePere Soccer Club