

~APPROVED~

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association
State Board Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2009
Appleton, WI

In Attendance: Peter Mariahazy – President, Terry Donini – Vice-President, Toby Whipple – Secretary, Yvonne Bennett – Executive Director, Howard Hoffman – Midway, Peter Saemann – Metro, Chris Lay – MAYSA, Ken Ward – Waukesha, John McCue – Southwest, Sandy Cowan – Stateline, Ernie Englund – Kenosha, Ann Girard – East Central, Nancy Stolte – Milwaukee Kickers, Beth Bishop Perrigo – ODP (arrived at 9:15 AM), Ken Voigt – WSA Board Representative, Ken Pieper – Northwest (left at 12:30PM), Sue Walter – SYRA (left at 12:00 noon), Carl Micke – WSA Board Representative, Nathan Thompkins – Racine (arrived at 9:15 AM)

Guests: John Janasik – TOPSoccer; Nancy Ziaja – Milwaukee Kickers

Absent: Kurt Sonnentag – Treasurer, Philip Sherwood – Ozuakee, Arlyn Clarksen – WSA Board Representative

The meeting was called to order by WYSA President Peter Mariahazy at 9:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve the minutes from the October 18, 2008 State Board Meeting. Moved by Sandy Cowan (Stateline), 2nd by Peter Saemann (Metro). *Motion Passed*

President's Update – Peter Mariahazy

Motion: That player roster transfers be limited to three per team within a club, per WYSA registration year. This policy applies to all teams (recreational and select). Transfers over the limit must be approved by the WYSA District. This policy takes effect once the roster is set and approved by the District Registrar. Moved by Carl Micke (WSA Board Representative), 2nd Ken Ward (Waukesha). *Motion Passed with one no (T. Donini).*

Peter distributed the new “Try Your Best” video and thanked John McCue for his efforts on this project. Copies are available for purchase from the State Office for \$5.00.

Competitions Update – Terry Donini (VP)

Terry provided a verbal update on a number of state initiatives including the state leagues and state championships. He also provided an update that the state leagues will be reviewing policy on promotion and relegation and competitive level of all teams. The desire is to not dilute the local and district leagues.

Treasurer's Report – Peter Mariahazy and Yvonne Bennett (in Kurt's Absence)

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Yvonne presented a memo update to the budget that was distributed prior to the meeting pertaining to employee medical and dental insurance cost increases and how it will effect the 09-10 budget, which is a \$13,625 increase in that line item. She updated the Board that WYSA will be reducing the medical coverage and moving to lower the percentage that WYSA pays towards the monthly premiums. Coverage/benefits are being reduced effective March 1, 2009 and the employer contributions are being reduced effective August 1, 2009.

Peter and Yvonne reviewed the 09-10 Budget Summary, which was distributed to the Board on January 14, 2009 in accordance with the WYSA By-laws and Rules (#6012).

The proposed budget did not include any strategic initiative items. Peter suggested that such items be handled on a case-by-case basis with reserves to cover initial project costs. If they will be continued, they would be incorporated into the budget process for the following year.

The board had a lengthy discussion regarding the current economic environment and the concern for drops in membership.

Motion: To approve the 09-10 Budget with the following changes. To increase player fees to \$9.50 for recreational players and \$13.50 for competitive players (both prices includes \$.20 for player insurance. Additionally, increase all WYSA team league fees (except the new Western Wisconsin Classic League) by \$50 per team for teams that play a full-season (spring and fall) and increase by \$25 per half-season (spring or fall) teams. Increase the tournament sanctioning fees to \$100 above the highest per team registration fee and increase the per team fee \$2 to \$10 and increase the Employee Health and Dental Insurance line item to \$68,000. Moved by Ken Ward (Waukesha), 2nd by Chris Lay (MAYSA). *Motion Passed with Sue Walter (SYRA) and Sandy Cowan (Stateline) abstaining.*

The Board agreed to revisit the budget in Fall 09 to address any issues relative to membership decline if we experience such a trend.

Executive Directors Report – Yvonne Bennett

This report was sent to the Board in written format 10 days prior (1/28/09) to the meeting. There were no questions or comments from the Board members.

Referee Committee – Sue Walter (SYRA)

Sue passed out to the Board an update on what has been happening on the State Referee Committee to include recommendations relative to use of agreements for use between competitions and referees as independent contractors. The Board also became aware of the position by the Referee Committee that the Arbiter be used for all games, including recreational games, utilizing licensed referees. This would include in-house, club leagues. Concern was expressed that many referees at that level of competition are youth with limited to no access to the internet which is necessary to work with the Arbiter.

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There was huge concern expressed by Board members that Certified Referee Assigner courses are not be scheduled by the SRA. Sue stated that there would be additional courses “when SRA Joe Krzyzaniak decided to have them.”

A proposal was distributed prior to the meeting in the Board packet to raise referee fees.

Motion: To approve the referee fees as presented from the State Referee Committee. Moved by Sue Walter (SYRA), the motion died due to lack of a second. (Sue left the meeting after the motion died.)

League One Player Registration Implementation Update – Peter Mariahazy

Peter advised the Board that clubs will be allowed a transitional period to switch to the League One registration system, however any additional costs would be incurred by the club. Peter indicated that there will be five training sessions held throughout the state on how to utilize the system. Clubs are not required to use the “Club Reg” (player registration) component of the system at this time, but all player registration information must be downloaded to the League One system by the individual clubs.

USSF Application & WSA/WASA Update – Peter Mariahazy

Peter advised the Board that a new application for independent membership is being presented to USSF. He is also interviewing attorneys to pursue action against WSA with the State of Wisconsin.

Legislative Update

Peter indicated that he did not have an update regarding legislation pertaining to the sales tax issue and independent contractor status for coaches and referees.

For the Good of the Game

Peter handed out a proposal from the Chicago Red Stars Partnership with WYSA. Board members should review the proposal and provide input to Peter for possible future action.

Nathan Thompkins advised the Board that he will be conducting an Urban Soccer Symposium at Uihlein Soccer Park on March 28, 2009. He is pursuing a mini-pitch grant with USSF for a couple Futsal size fields in the Milwaukee area.

Peter advised the Board that USYSA has a task force looking at developing its own referee certification program. There will be further discussion at the USYSA Workshop in San Jose, CA in March 2009.

Yvonne updated the Board that she and Jim Launder had a meeting with Marquette University pertaining to their desire to put up an air-dome over one their fields. They were looking for some financial help from WYSA for development. Yvonne advised them that WYSA was not interested in participating financially or moving our business offices at this time; but would be interested in possibly renting space for clinics, ODP, etc.

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Yvonne notified the Board that the new e-mail version of the WYSA “Soccer Post” newsletter has been launched. Staff will send out this newsletter on a quarterly basis.

Terry Donini informed the Board that WIAA does not appear to be pursuing its proposed club sport participation rostering rule.

Motion to adjourn. Carl Micke (WSA Board Representative), 2nd by Sandy Cowan (Stateline) *Motion Passed* The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.