

**Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association
State Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2007
Wisconsin Dells, WI**

In Attendance: Peter Mariahazy – President, Terry Donini – Vice-President, Toby Whipple – Secretary, Yvonne Bennett – Executive Director, Beth Bishop Perrigo – ODP, Sandy Cowan – Stateline, Howard Hoffman – Midway, Jay Kemp – Metro, Chris Lay – MAYSA, Ken Ward – Waukesha, John McCue – Southwest, Roger Koessl – Kenosha, Ken Pieper – Northwest, Sue Walter – State Youth Referee Administrator, Philip Sherwood – Ozaukee, Nathan Thompkins – Racine, Ann Girard – East Central, Drew Dion – Milwaukee Kickers, Carl Micke – WSA Board Representative, Ken Voigt – WSA Board Representative

MORNING SESSION – Strategic Planning Updates

Revisions were made to the WYSA Vision and Mission Statements. The agreed to updated statements are as follows.

Vision Statement:

To create an environment that inspires a lifelong passion for the sport of soccer.

Mission Statement:

We promote the sport of soccer through a fun and safe environment by fairly and consistently providing programs to our membership in partnership with our affiliated organizations.

AFTERNOON SESSION – Actual WYSA State Board Meeting commenced at 1:38 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Approve the June 16, 2007 State Board Meeting minutes with corrections. Tony Wicenski's name was added as League Director of the SECL. Other minor misspellings were corrected. – Moved by Ken Pieper (Northwest), 2nd by Ken Ward (Waukesha).

Motion Passed

Financial – Budget Update

Peter Mariahazy and Yvonne Bennett presented highlights and updates to the 2007-08 Budget in the absence of Kurt Sonnentag (Treasurer). Yvonne Bennett will be working with Kurt and Kayla on how various budget items are coded. There will be various revisions made in how things are being coded for the 2008-09. Yvonne will be working on the 2008-09 Budget and presenting it to the Board for approval in February 2008.

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Executive Director / Staff Update

Yvonne Bennett presented a written report and indicated that she is working closely with our current staff to direct change as needed. There will be some reassignment of responsibilities. Yvonne is also working to get our Human Resource area in order.

Website Updates

Yvonne indicated the website will be moved to a content management type system, which will allow us to get updates onto the website in a more cost efficient and timely manner. We are also prioritizing the enhancements we would like to make to the website with Hammerhead. Peter indicated that we are looking at member portals for our member clubs and portals specific for our member families. This is also a sponsorship opportunity. Jim Launder would also like to start put coaching videos and other coaching information on the site in the future.

Soccer Start

Nathan Thompkins has gone to the USYSA headquarters to learn how this program is being run in other parts of the country. He is in the process of identifying areas and ways that we can implement this program in Wisconsin. He is also looking at possible funding opportunities.

Wisconsin State Championship

Carl Micke advised the Board that the Wisconsin State Cup has been renamed as the Wisconsin State Championship series. This is the branding that the USYSA wants us to use. The round-robin format has been very well received by the participating teams. Carl is looking for ways to create more of a tournament atmosphere at the State Championships. Everyone needs to promote this premier event and volunteer to help.

Competition Report

Terry Donini presented a written report showing the number of teams that we administer in our leagues. There are currently two FC Milwaukee teams from Wisconsin that are participating in the USSF Academy program. There are 63 clubs around the country that are participating in this program. Wisconsin currently does not have any teams playing in the USYSA National League. FC Milwaukee had one team that is advancing to the National Championship series.

Terry indicated that the timeliness of getting our league schedules out in the future will improve. He is working closely with Bryan Flanagan and Yvonne to implement improved procedures and timelines.

Tournament Sanctioning Committee

Sue Walter advised the Board that the Tournament Committee met and decided that the WYSA will no longer sanction any tournaments on State Championship weekends. Delavan-Darien has indicated that they will not move their Comet Classic tournament off Memorial Day weekend and will run unsanctioned. Sue indicated that referees will not

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be covered by USSF insurance if they work this tournament and they are not to wear their USSF patches.

Beginning in 2008 all tournament referee assignments must be reported to the State Referee Committee in Arbitrator.

New Clubs Update

WYSA has sanctioned three new clubs. Three clubs in the Wausau area have merged into one new club called Marathon County United Youth Soccer Club (MC United), US Palermo and Heart of the Valley.

2008 WYSA Annual General Meeting

Motion: The 2008 WYSA Annual General Meeting will be held on March 8, 2008 in northeastern Wisconsin, either in Appleton or Fond du Lac. Moved by Sandy Cowan (Stateline), 2nd by Terry Donini (VP). *Motion Passed*

Midway District Report

Motion: That the Midway District Report as written and presented be entered into the minutes. Submitted and moved by Howard Hoffman (Midway), 2nd by Terry Donini (VP). *Motion Passed*

Parent Education

John McCue made a presentation on his thoughts regarding parental education. He wants parents to be educated with written materials, videos and other more dynamic training. Such as possibly putting theatre type groups together to go around the state and put on skits to educate parents on proper sideline conduct, rules, etc.

Academy Update

Terry Donini presented a report on discussions that he and Jim Launder have had regarding academy type teams. Academies are identifying players that are capable of playing at a higher level. Terry and Jim are looking at how the WYSA could possibly sanction good academy type programs and how they are being run. There was discussion about what are we really trying to accomplish by looking at these programs. Are we trying to establish an elite program for younger players? Peter Mariahazy indicated that we are not trying to establish a new program just define and possibly sanction what constitutes a good academy program.

2008 USYSA Workshop – Pittsburgh, PA

Peter Mariahazy indicated that WYSA would put a bus together to transport people to Pittsburgh for the USYSA Workshop, if there is enough interest.

U20 & U23 Adult Leagues

Peter advised that there is ongoing discussion on a national level and at the state level about how the youth association could move forward with administering leagues at the U20 and U23 age groups.

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USYSA Directors Cup

Peter informed the Board about the formation of the USYSA Directors Cup, which has received mixed reaction. Regardless, the competition is moving forward. Each state will have to determine how teams are sent to this competition. Terry Donini is to look at establishing this procedure. The Board consensus was to lean toward sending the State Premier League champion or runner-up.

Travel Pass Costs

Motion: That Travel Pass costs are not refundable. Moved by Ken Ward (Waukesha), 2nd by Sandy Cowan (Stateline). *Motion Passed*

Eastbay Contract

Motion: Approve the Eastbay contract as submitted and direct Peter Mariahazy to enter into the proposed sponsorship contract. Moved by Ken Pieper (Northwest), 2nd by Sandy Cowan (Stateline). *Motion passed*

Motion: To adjourn the meeting by Ken Pieper (Northwest), 2nd by Howard Hoffman (Midway). *Motion Passed* (The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.)