



Minutes of the November meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018
beginning at 7:30 PM at Sheraton Wilmington South, New Castle, DE

Presiding: Megan O'Donnell
ED/Secretary: Laura Sturdivant

Other Officers, Directors, Ex-Officio and Staff members present:

- Scott Lobdell, John Weaver, Brent Feldman, Fran Kulas, Chad Reed, Tom Antonelli, Josh Katz, Stephanie Parker, Rebecca Mais, Tom Pal, Garth Messinger, Jr., Mike Kleinert

Clubs Represented: Concord, DEFC, DE Union, DE Revolution, DE Rush, Henlopen, Kirkwood Soccer, River, Western Sussex Youth SA

Affiliates & Independent Teams: none

Confirmation of Previous Minutes-approved

Treasurer's Report-written reports

- Treasurers' report filed for audit

President's Report-Megan O'Donnell

- See attached report
- Megan presented our Mission and Vision Statement. It is constantly being "tweaked" as the soccer landscape is constantly changing
- DYSA is looking to offer more options for our recreational players. This year we will have the Mickey Wherry 3 v 3 and are looking for a club to host the Target Cup in the fall
- We have hired a Sponsorship & Marketing Manager. Terry Reed comes to us from Henrietta Johnson Medical Center where she served as their Fundraising Manager and HR Manager for 15 years. She brings a wealth of knowledge to the table.
- Friday, April 20 the East Region will issue a press release regarding the bid awards for the 2019/2020 President's Cup location and the 2019 NCS Regional Event.
- DYSA teams need to support these events
- We need solutions to help the teams support the events

Technical Director-written report

Referees-no report

Executive Director-Laura Sturdivant

- Delaware Cup has 18 teams registered. Many age groups are uncontested
- U12B and U13B will play round robin and a final. U17B will play a final
- All finals will be May 12 at a location to be determined
- Finalists for the U12 and U13 boys will represent DYSA at the President's Cup
- Blue Star/US Connect-if you have not reviewed the webinar, please do so. It is located on our website. All clubs will need to use the system to register their players with DYSA. If you have not done so, please contact Craig Garifo at craig.garifo@bluestarsports.com by the end of the month. Each club will need to sign a Merchant Agreement to use the system.
- Registration for the 2019-2020 season will begin in June/July. All coaches, travel and recreational will need to complete a back-ground check, Sexual Abuse Training and Concussion training. More information will be released over the next several weeks.
- ITC requirements are changing-see report
- The US Soccer Federation has a minimum of Standards and Certifications that all members must comply with. Currently, we do not have a policy on prohibiting physical and sexual abuse. I am working with the Federation to create this policy.
- Laura reviewed the new legislation for "Safe Sport". See attached report

Director of Competitions-Laura Sturdivant/Scott Lobdell

- See State Tournament report for State Cup info
- Mickey Wherry 3 v 3 will be held at KSC on May 20th
- Cost per team is \$75 for a maximum of 6 players
- Open for ages 8U to 16U, travel and recreational divisions
- Registration will close on May 11th

Direction of Recreation-Brent Feldman

- Interclub kicked off 2 weeks ago
- This year scores for 12U's will be kept
- Some scores have been "run up". Brent has communicated with a few coaches on how to prevent. Points are taken away for scores that are "run up"
- Target Cup-looking for a club to host along with DYSA on Nov 11-12
- 4 fields are needed. Boys play on Sat and girls on Sun.
- Target also needs an area for the "village"

Commissioner-John Weaver

- John communicated that "Safe Sport" is nothing new in DE. Clubs should not be worried about the new law, however, we all need to be conscious of abuse and take the new law seriously. If you witness abuse, you are obligated to report to the proper officials.

TopSoccer-John Weaver

- John attended sessions at the US Youth Workshop in January
- DE clubs are doing a phenomenal job with their programs
- John had asked Peter Bussa to attend the East and South Region TopSoccer Symposium, however, he was unable to attend. John indicated that he is very passionate over the program
- For a small state, DE has many participants

Old Business

- **none**

New Business

- Megan reviewed the attached ODP Tournament, President's Cup and NCS regional event fees. With the changing landscape of soccer, US Youth Soccer is trying to make all 4 regions similar with the events.
 - A discussion amongst the attendees regarding entering teams in DE State Tournament. Some of the reasons clubs did not enter teams is: value of what they are getting for the cost, conflicting weekends for US Youth and US Club events, Barboursville is too far to travel, tryouts for the following year are held before regional events
 - Scott did remind all that the one fee they are paying, is for a state level tournament and a regional tournament
 - Tryouts being held earlier and earlier each year. Clubs need to educate parents regarding receiving an offer and only having 48 hours to choose a team. If the club that has made the offer really wants a player, they will wait for the player to decide. Most often than not, the player has already decided to leave a team for another.
 - Chad Reed asked if we could hold a state tournament for ages 8U, 9U, 10U and 11U like EPYSA does.
- Discussion regarding ODP with Mike
 - Question was raised on how many teams, number of players and gender of the players participating
 - Suggested that no tryouts be held. Club Technical Directors will identify and send their "best" players to ODP. Limit training and players would participate in the tournaments and camp
 - Soccer landscape has changed. Players joined ODP for the training as the club coaches were parents. Clubs are doing a better job at developing players as most clubs have paid/professional trainers
 - Technical Directors would like to see less training.
 - Create a North, Central and South training centers. Have club coaches help with the training
 - ODP should be more of an identification program
 - Clubs need to promote the program to their players. DYSA needs to add testimonials to website

- DE has players in the regional pools. Patrick Short is captain of the 2002 regional team.
- We had (3) 2001 female players-Kira Short, Rachel Finelli and Macy Ramsey go to Scotland with the regional team

Good of the Game

- nothing

The next meeting will be held on June 20 at 7:30 PM at a location to be determined