

ASA Risk Management Committee Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2018

Present:

Linda Corbett, Chair
Leslie Johnson
Pat Dunham
Michelle Hudson (Staff)
Dolores Abernathy (Staff)
Rick Kelsey (Staff)

The meeting started at 1:30PM MST

Background Check Compliance Issue

There is a current issue with a Club not properly adhering to the Risk Management Policy specifically ensuring that all Team Officials (Coach, Manager, etc.) complete the appropriate background checks, and pass.

The Committee discussed this and determined that the lack of adherence constituted a violation of ASA Policy, and potentially Bylaws, and agreed to refer the matter to the State D&R Committee for additional action.

Medical Release Form Retention

As part of a current Risk Management issue, ASA Staff were asked for parent signed copies of the ASA Medical Release form. After research, ASA Staff advised the Committee that it is not practice for ASA to receive or maintain these documents. These are documents that are completed and kept with the team/Club.

The Committee's recommendation/direction included:

- ASA to create a standard Medical Release form for all Clubs to complete. This was based on the determination that there are a "few" versions available.
- Ensure the document that is created is reviewed by appropriate subject matter experts
- Follow-up with US Soccer to determine if the State Association should keep these documents. Also, follow-up with US Soccer on the overall Medical Release documentation and Process.

Insuring of ASA Registered Players who participated in non ASA or US Youth Sanctioned Events

There are a number of events that are sanctioned by non-US Youth organizations and there have been questions relating to insurance coverage for the registered player.

Key points from discussion:

- After reaching out to other State Associations it was determined many insure registered players as long as they are participating in an "Unrestricted Tournament"
- Possibly update the ASA Policy to stipulate insurance claims will need to be filed with the sanctioning organization of the event if a player is dual registered.
- Should a checklist for determining insurance coverage be created? Elements of the checklist could include:
 - Confirmation that the event is sanctioned as a US Soccer Unrestricted event
 - Was the event referee assignor certified by US Soccer
 - Was the referee certified by US Soccer

Final recommendation/direction is to review the current medical release form. Also, discuss with current insurance provider relative to the creation of an insurance checklist.

But overall, insurance coverage of properly registered players is, and should be viewed as a Member Benefit.

Players Playing in more than 2 Games in a single day

Discussed adherence to Bylaw 809 Section 1 (“No youth player/team will be allowed to participated in more than two games per day or the equivalent regulation time thereof for that specific age group”). There were reports that teams participated in an ASA sanctioned league game as well as two non-ASA sanctioned tournament games in the same day, ultimately violating the Bylaw. The talking points discussed included:

- Instead of “chasing” the potential violating coach/team put together a “re-education” plan on the Bylaw and provide that information to all coaches and teams.
- Investigate if verbiage should be added to the Code of Conduct and/or Medical release documentation

Background Check – Lifetime

The question presented to the committee was if they felt there may be an appetite for exploring a new background check process that would be more real time. The discussion points included:

- The cost would increase so we would need to determine the price point and possible process changes
- Is it possible to have it shared across sports?
- What would the impact be on Recreation Coaches? Could there be multiple processes for the types of coaches (Competitive v. Rec)?
- Who provides this type of service?

Final recommendation/direction is to investigate the possible services that are available and present to the committee.

SafeSport

The committee was advised that ASA Staff is creating a manual process for ensuring SafeSport training is completed. This process will be presented to the BOD at the next BOD meeting and then executed, based on BOD approval.

The committee supported the current direction and advised to move forward.

Clubs that *DO NOT* register their In-House program with ASA

There are a number of Clubs who do not register their In-House programs with ASA. While this goes against the US Soccer Policy that requires all members be registered with a US Soccer Member (US Youth, US Club, SAY, AYSO, etc.) it is still taking place. The discussion points surrounding this included:

- Confirming that those Clubs not registering with ASA are not using ASA sponsored Certificates of Insurance to secure fields.
- Ask Club to ensure that their In-House registration form specifically calls out that ASA is not the sanctioning organization.
- Follow-up to determine if there is any “implied” risk for ASA when Clubs take this position with their In-House programs.

Athletic Trainer Risk

Discussion regarding the risk assumed for contracted athletic trainers (AT’s). Specific discussion points included:

- What is the risk for ATs for treating injuries to an athlete that were sustained during practice, away from the event that the AT is contracted to support?
- What is the protocol if an event AT identifies that a player should not return to play? What documentation is used to protect the AT and ASA if a coach or parent/guardian disobeys the AT?

Final recommendation/direction is for League Staff to work with the ATs to develop an appropriate process and controls to document and ensure appropriate risk is accounted for.