

Mass Youth Soccer Board of Directors Meeting

September 12, 2001

Present: S. Bloom, S. Gorman, J. Nagle, N. Hart, C. Goldstein, T. Castle, J. Burrill, T. Laine, J. Linnehan, G. Avakian, S. Smoller, J. Gondek, R. Frongillo, R. Braney, C. Callaghan, T. Smith, D. Kasper.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. A quorum was declared present.

The meeting began with a moment of silence in honor of the lives lost on September 11 in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Western Pennsylvania.

Acceptance of June BOD Minutes

John Burrill moved, seconded by Thom Laine to accept the minutes. PASSED unanimously.

New England Revolution

Todd Smith and Dave Kasper met with the board. Todd discussed the October 7 world cup qualifier game and the importance of getting a large attendance to support the US team as well as retain our reputation for supporting the international games in Foxboro. Todd would like to continue the flex ticket program with MYSA. Todd provided the board with his phone number and email address.

Skip Gorman thanked Todd for providing tickets to the winning teams from MTOC and State Cup. Steve Smoller thanked Todd for providing tickets and honoring the teams that earned the sportsmanship awards at MTOC.

Appointment of New Registrar

Cathy Cresta has resigned as state registrar. Sid Bloom recommended Cindi Callahan for the position. *Steve Smoller moved, seconded by John Burrill that Cindi Callahan be appointed state registrar.* Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Jim reported on some staffing changes due to the absence of Ella Russell, who will be out till at least January. Jim reported fall registrations are at 116,000 players and 13,000 adults. Most of the special assessments have been paid; the organizations still unpaid are being contacted again. *John Burrill moved, seconded by Thom Laine that the board consider putting in bad standing those organizations that are still in arrears of the special assessment as of the October board meeting (Oct 17).* Motion passed unanimously.

Reports of Program Managers

MTOC: John Linnehan reported the leagues committee is considering the last weekend in June for next year's MTOC. – June 28-30. Potential conflicts with regionals was discussed. The leagues committee will revisit the dates.

ODP: Tryouts are this weekend. In the discussion concerning carryover fundraising advertising fees, Thom noted that 47 players raised more than the required amount. The issue of grandfathering these players with carrying forward their surplus to following year's costs was revisited. *Carl Goldstein moved, seconded by John Burrill that these players be grandfathered for one year as long as they are still in the program.* Motion passed unanimously. All financial policies for ODP program will be put in writing for all players in the future. This information includes fees, due dates, and penalties for non-payment.

State Cup: John Burrill submitted his report to the board via email.

Referees: Rich Frongillo submitted his report to the board via email. Two Massachusetts referees went to the Nationals.

Instruction: Tim Castle distributed a report from Dean Conway. He requested the board create a marketing/PR position to help promote programs and coordinate for the development coaches. The issue of using development coaches for ODP teams came up. The executive board will make a determination on this issue.

Recreation: Nancy Hart reported the districts program went well. They are considering regional tryouts. Next meeting will be in January. Tryouts will be first two Saturdays in May.

TOPS: Joe Nagle had nothing new to report.

Indoor: Greg Avakian suggested the indoor fee should be raised to cover added expenses. *John Burrill moved, seconded by Thom Laine that the indoor fee be raised to \$25.00.* Motion passed 9 for, 0 against, one abstaining.

Land Update

Kennedy Development pulled out of the purchase at the end of their due diligence period. The executive board is considering several alternatives and will report back in 30 days regarding these alternatives. John Burrill reminded the board that it had voted to retain Grubb & Ellis, but backed off when the Kennedy offer came forward. He would like to retain Grubb & Ellis. *Tim Castle moved, seconded by John Burrill, that we immediately proceed with Grubb & Ellis. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn by Tim and replaced with a new motion that the board not try to sell the land but instead find a broker to sell it, and to come up with a proposal in 30 days. This motion was seconded by John Burrill.* Motion passed 7-2.

Budget FY 2001/2002

John Burrill moved, seconded by John Linnehan to table the budget for a special meeting to consider the budget only. Motion passed unanimously.

John Burrill moved, seconded by Greg Avakian that we continue the temporary budget pending a formal vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Web Proposals

John Burrill moved, seconded by Nancy Hart that we retain the services of Hammerhead International to handle our web page. Motion passed unanimously.

Employee Benefits – Disability Program

Greg Avakian moved, seconded by John Burrill that we accept the recommendation to provide disability benefits to our employees. Based on budget presentation, the board agreed we could afford the program. Motion passed unanimously.

State Team players on District Select Teams

Nancy Hart proposed allowing players on the state team to also play on district select teams with a limit of two such players per team. *Greg Avakian moved, seconded by John Linnehan, that state team players cannot play on a district select team.* A state team player is picked in November and is a player until August. Motion passed unanimously.

Unaffiliated Programs/Players

Greg Avakian removed teams from the fields that were unaffiliated in his league. It was also brought up that some programs affiliate their traveling teams but do not affiliate their in town players. This goes against the policy of affiliating all players in a program. Jim Gondek is trying to catch up on this issue.

Awards Banquet

Jim Gondek requested tabling till the budget is set. Tim Castle suggested finding a sponsor for an award to recognize a town for efforts in education.

Old Business

Tim Castle still wants to discuss the scheduled date for meetings. Nothing was decided.

John Burrill's video project. John lost his 2nd assistant and needs to find a replacement.

New Business

Carl Goldstein met with the accountants and will have a financial statement by Nov 14.

If board members or employees travel out of state and intend to be reimbursed, they must have prior approval by the president.

John Burrill asked what the threshold is for requiring bids on a purchase. Carl Goldstein explained we are going to implement a three-tier level of approval for purchases.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary