

MYSA BOD Meeting
January 16, 2002

Present: S. Bloom, S. Gorman, N. Hart, C. Goldstein, T. Laine, J. Burrill, S. Smoller, J. Nagle, T. Filippetti, R. Frongillo, R. Braney, C. Callaghan, D. LaVersa, J. Gondek.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of December BOD minutes

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

PASSED unanimously.

Announcements

Terri Filippetti, new indoor commissioner, was introduced.

Sid Bloom announced that Al Cosentino was stepping down as SRA as of February 1, 2002. Rich Frongillo has been selected as the new SRA.

Executive Director Report

Jim Gondek submitted his report via email in advance; a copy is appended to the minutes. John Burrill inquired about the meeting held with Meredith & Grew.

Jim reported they have developed a marketing piece that was mailed to keep prospects (users & developers). They expect a firm offer in February. They hope to have the land sold by Fall.

Reports of Program Managers

- State Cups – (see report in addenda)
- MTOC – nothing new to report.
- Instruction – there were 50-60 attendees at the Lowell regional conference.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported the districts program is running smoothly. Information is going on to the web page. Tide American Cup will be in October, she is looking at dates. She is seeking support from the leagues committee.
- Indoor – Terri Filippetti had nothing to report.
- TOPS – Joe Nagle had nothing to report.
- ODP – Thom Laine reported indoor training starts Sunday.
- Referees – Rich submitted his report via email.
- Appeals – Dennis LaVersa reported two hearings were conducted on the previous night. Also, the referee committee had been trying to use the ARAs to help run the program instead of an exec. committee approach, but Dennis feels the trend is moving back toward the exec. committee approach.

800 Number

Jim Gondek brought forward his one-year cost analysis for the 800 telephone service. **John Burrill moved, seconded by Skip Gorman that we keep the 800 phone service.** Motion passed unanimously.

Financial YTD Summary

Carl Goldstein distributed the latest financial report.

Budget Amendment Process

Discussion arose on establishing a threshold figure for new programs to require approval. It was proposed that over \$1,000 but less than \$2500 could be approved by the executive director; \$2500 - \$5000 would require the approval of two officers, and over\$5,000 would require the approval of the full board. **Carl Goldstein moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by John Burrill.** Motion passed unanimously.

Soccer Trophy Case

There had been a proposal a few years ago to establish a trophy case at Foxboro Stadium featuring Professional, Adult and Youth Soccer. This project had fallen between the cracks. The location was discussed, alternatives were discussed, but it was felt Foxboro was still the best location.

Old Business

- John Burrill is still working on his video project. His target is next Fall.
- Jim Gondek reminded program managers their reports for the AGM mailing are due.

New Business

- Koerper Scholarship – John Burrill said the funds from this scholarship should be utilized.
- New Sponsors
Sid Bloom announced there are four new sponsors with USYS: Kohl's Department Stores, Florida Orange Growers, Band Aids, and Blue Cross.
- Web Page hits
Jim Gondek will be providing monthly reports on web page activity.
- Symposium
Will take place Feb 9 and 10 at Brandeis and Wheaton College
- December workshop
Sid Bloom announced that a targeted project will be conducting a workshop in December, hopefully the first weekend.
- Referees
Rich Frongillo wants strong communication between the referee committee and the MYSA BOD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

Executive Director's Report

January 16, 2002

Memo To: MYSA Board of Directors

From: Jim Gondek

Subject: Executive Director Report for BOD Meeting – January 2002

With the start of the new year, the office has focused on several projects that are not necessarily time sensitive. The holiday season kept outside pressures to a minimum. A summary of activity follows:

- We updated the mail list for *The Bay Stater*. We merged registration lists from the last three soccer seasons, eliminated duplicate entries and then attempted to get the list down to one per household. At the same time, we had a number of address changes/deletions that were incorporated. The new list was used with the January issue of the paper.
- The January issue of the paper is now on the streets sporting perhaps the targets use of color yet to date and a couple of new features. I continue to get good support from the *Patriots Football Weekly* staff, making the publisher job a bit easier.
- We are starting our next phase of web development. This segment will allow us the opportunity to have a number of our forms to be completed on-line with the capacity to email them to us. Concurrently, we will also be looking to implement credit card payment features to facilitate advance registration for courses and programs.
- The project to transfer email accounts out of CompuServe has been accomplished.
- The office is preparing to support several instructional initiatives in the coming months. Regional Coaching Conferences have or will be held in four geographic areas of the state. The program for the Coaching Symposium is set. Finally, we are gearing up to staff a growing number of coaching instruction courses that will take place in February and March.
- Sid, John Davagian and I met with Meredith & Grew to review a number of issues including four suggested site plans preliminarily designed to give prospective developers an idea of what space accommodations are available on the site.
- The Executive Committee met earlier this month to concentrate on planning events for the coming calendar year.
- Indoor training time slots were secured for the ODP teams, coach notification letters sent out, player information packets were prepared and mailed to all players and the ODP invoices were mailed to the player's parents.
- The audit is well underway. We are looking for a preliminary draft to be completed and forwarded to us for early February with an overall objective of having a final audit by February 21st.
- The date of the Annual General Meeting was rescheduled to March 23rd and it will be held at the Sheraton Framingham. At the time the original date was preliminarily set, I was unaware that Sid would be out of the country.
- We received a \$5,000 grant from Blue Cross/Blue Shield to help fund player development clinics in the Boston inner city area.

State Cup Report

to all

Total cup applications (except for the U-12 who are not due until 4/29) 250 - which represents an increase of about 12 % over last year - notwithstanding the increase in fee.

Seedings, brackets, rules and roster procedures have been distribution to all teams

Still no word from UMass for either Cup or MTOC.

john burrill

SYRA Report

An SYRA Report January 14, 2002 o After a brief hiatus over the end of year holidays, the Massachusetts State Referee Committee (MSRC) resumed support of its registration and recertification season. Nine of the original twelve clinics have been held to date with the remaining scheduled on 1/19 and 1/20. The clinics continue to be well-attended (nearly 2500 referees so far) and many positive comments have been shared. I have attended all but one session to date, presenting an administrative segment to all attendees regarding the need to increase one's level of professionalism as a referee. The rate of incoming e-mail has been heavy with many inquiries related to the recertification process, upgrading, and testing. Having mentioned it in my last report, I should note that pre-printed registration forms from US Soccer started to arrive Massachusetts referees around the fourth week of December, almost two months later than we had hoped. At the most recent clinics, the vast majority of referees had their form. o The MSRC financial database with an expanded chart of accounts was returned to the treasurer before the holidays. o I wrote an article, edited a few other articles, and pulled together a referee calendar of events for the January issue of the Bay Stater. o I attended the January 6th meeting of the Leagues Committee. Several issues and frustrations were shared by the presidents during the meeting; in particular, there seemed to be a common perception that the MSRC is out of touch with the needs of the leagues. This meeting was a decent first step in rebuilding a relationship between the two committees which will allow the MSRC to prove that the reality is different from the perception. I sent a follow-up note to the Leagues Committee expressing my interest in working together with them. o Preparations for the January 23rd meeting of the MSRC have begun. The agenda will be quite full. o I met with MYSA President Sid Bloom and Mass Soccer President Larry Frisoli, and was later offered the position of State Referee Administrator to replace current SRA Al Cosentino who is resigning as of January 31, 2002. Accepting the SRA position, I will continue my SYRA duties until a new SYRA is selected. I do not believe that there is great urgency in finding a new SYRA, but the search for potential candidates should begin.