



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
November 13, 2005

The New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on November 13, 2005 at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Rochester, NY. President Sandy Ostebo called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Introductions

President Ostebo introduced State Office Operations Manager and Risk Management Director Dan Watson, State Office Assistant Jenny Cole, and the following attending NYSWYSA Board Members:

- Mike Radecke – 1st Vice President
- Matt Dimas - 2nd Vice President, Southern Tier District Commissioner, Adjudication Committee & Audit Committee Chairman
- Larry Evarts - Recreation & TopSoccer Director
- Tim Mellander - Registrar & Data Base/Web Site Management Director
- Kevin Arnold – Binghamton District Commissioner
- Roger Best - Rochester District Commissioner & Acting Secretary
- Kevin Perrigo – Departing Syracuse District Commissioner
- Greg Firenze – Newly Elected Syracuse District Commissioner
- Rich Wagner – Twin Tiers District Commissioner

1. Credentials Report

315 of the 512 available membership votes (10% {52} needed for a quorum) were represented. Therefore, a quorum was present to conduct business with a simple majority of 158 votes required to pass an item.

2. Agenda Approval

A motion by Peter Clark (Eastside S. C.) and seconded by Dan Phelps (Greece Cobras S. C.) to accept the agenda was approved by a voice vote of the membership in attendance.

3. November 21, 2004 NYSWYSA AGM Minutes

The minutes stood as presented to the membership.

4. Reports of Officers

a. President Sandy Ostebo

Sandy spoke briefly on the following **actions taken & policies/bylaw amendments** adopted since the last AGM:

- New Board of Directors (BOD) with integrity.
- Loss of Chevrolet's Sponsorship & Region 1 underwriting the cost of a new vehicle.
- Elimination of BOD stipends, reduction of BOD Internet service, phones and meeting attendance.
- Signing of two year marketing and planning contract with Varsity Publications.
- New agreement with Pullen Insurance with better coverage @ the same cost this year, but with a \$.05/player increase to be requested for next year.
- Survey identified 4 areas to focus on: Coaching education, RosterPro training, personal meetings with clubs by Glen & Sandy to discuss issues and concerns and coordinate meeting with Demosphere to implement RosterPro changes.
- 1st NY West Network publication sent out.
- Awards Luncheon and new NY West Hall of Fame.
- Bylaw changes: NYW or NY West used vs. NYSWYSA; Roll Call replaced by Credentials Report; reduced Board size from 17 to 13 (eliminated ODP Administrator & Director of Indoor Soccer, Director of Risk Management moved into State Office, combined Recreational Soccer and TopSoccer into one position).

Sandy spoke briefly on the **State of the Association**. Last year was chaotic and tumultuous. Although great strides have been taken, there is still much to improve and the feedback of the membership in this regard is needed. The Association needs to reorganize and become more businesslike; improve communications in all



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
November 13, 2005

ways (printed, electronic and verbal), but with balance and sensitivity; focus on the education of coaches, players and parents; provide help to volunteers and administrators, provide education and a statewide mentoring program for the referees; retain and grow membership; improve public relations; re-energize the State Cup and other events such as the AGM and Awards Banquet; market and sell its assets.

Sandy also stressed the importance of registering club and league officers in RosterPro so they can be contacted when the need arises and they are covered by insurance. Sandy closed his report by presenting the State Association's new Mission Statement: **"NY West is a not-for-profit service organization dedicated to provide its players, coaches, volunteers, referees and administrators with a safe, fair, organized, open and diverse environment where the sport of soccer can be learned and enjoyed at every level – not only for a game, season or a career, but for life"**, Board Outreach Motto: **"Who can I serve – how can I serve?"** and Marketing Slogan: **"Kicking into Gear"**

- b. **1st Vice President Mike Radecke**
 - **State Cup:** Report accepted without questions.
- c. **2nd Vice President Matt Dimas**
 - **Adjudication:** Report accepted without questions.

5. Reports

- a. **State Director of Coaching:** Report accepted without questions.
 - **Small Sided Games**
- b. **Olympic Development Program (ODP) Administrator:** Report accepted without questions.
- c. **Registration & Data Base/Website Management:** George Hebert (Penfield Strikers S. C.) asked how the RosterPro List is used. Tim Mellander explained that only last names are used and no email addresses or phone numbers are divulged. Only bonded mailing houses are used if the list is used. The list goes to our National affiliate where it may be used.
- d. **Recreational Soccer, TopSoccer & Soccer Start:** Reports accepted without questions.
- e. **State Office:** Report accepted without questions.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. **Full90:**

President Ostebo reported that the book is closed on Full90. They remain as a sponsor with a link to their website from the NYSWYSA website.

7. New Business

- a. **Financial Report 2004-2005**

An accounting firm prepared the Financial Report. Gary Levine (Rochester District Youth Soccer League {RDYSL}) asked how much money is in the State Association's Reserve Fund? Mike Radecke responded that it is approximately \$300,000. Nick Pianella (BC United S. C.) asked what the reserve is for and how is the amount determined? Sandy Ostebo said that these questions would be answered at a later date by a fiduciary process being worked on by Curt Regruit. Sandy also stated that the \$37,000 deficit for 2004-2005 came out of the Reserve Fund.
- b. **Budget Resolution 2005-2006**

A motion was made by Peter Clark (Eastside S. C.) and seconded by Curt Regruit (Penfield Rangers S. C.) to accept the proposed 2005-2006 Budget. The motion was approved unanimously by a show of hands by the attending membership.



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
November 13, 2005

c. Insurance Fee Increase Proposal for 2006-2007

Proposal: \$.05/player for 2006-2007

A motion was made by George Hebert (Penfield Strikers S. C.) and seconded by Holger Stave (Canandaigua Area Youth S. L.) to accept the proposed fee increase.

Discussion: President Ostebo explained that the fee increase is needed to cover the extra cost of the current liability (\$2 million sex abuse liability {was \$1 million} & \$9 million liability aggregate (was \$3 million) and retain the \$100 deductible. In response to a question by Sean Gleeson (Fairport S. C.) about coverage, President Ostebo stressed the importance of having the names of volunteers on RosterPro. In response to a question by Gary Levine (RDYSL) about where to find information on the insurance policy, President Ostebo took an “action item” to make sure it is available and clear.

Voting Results: The motion passed by an overwhelming show of hands of the attending membership negating the need for a paper ballot.

d. Player Registration & Insurance Fee Increase Proposal for 2006-2008

Proposal: \$.50/player for 2006-2007 (raises total Registration & Insurance Fee to \$7.50)

\$.50/player for 2007-2008 (raises total Registration & Insurance Fee to \$8.00)

Note: This increase would include the previously approved \$.05 Insurance Fee increase.

A motion was made by Bob Weller (Salt City S. C.) and seconded by Peter Clark (Eastside S. C.) to accept the proposed fee increase.

Discussion: Sean Gleeson (Fairport S. C.) asked how much revenue the increase would generate and why it is needed. He also advised that no decision should be made until the \$300,000 NYSWYSA Reserve Fund is understood. Mike Radecke responded that it would generate \$36,000 per year and is needed to prevent running a deficit for 2006-2007. Gary Levine (RDYSL) stated that more advanced notice of proposed increases is needed. President Ostebo stated that the NYSWYSA doesn't always have much advance notice of increases in National Fees.

Voting Results: The motion was defeated by a majority vote of the attending membership (112/315 approved, 148/315 opposed and 55/315 abstained).

After the vote, there was more discussion about the NYSWYSA Reserve Fund. Hugh Goodrich (Baldwinsville S. C.) asked how other State Associations' cash reserves (amount & purpose) compare to the NYSWYSA. President Ostebo stated that this type of information is not freely shared and is not available. Gary Levine (RDYSL) said he would like to see a plan for the Reserve Fund and Peter Ramin (CNY United S. C.) suggested that the NYSWYSA put together a plan in the next 4-6 months to present to the membership. A special meeting was suggested at which time a fee increase for the 2007-2008 season could be revisited.

Johnny Sinclair (Soaring Capital S. C.) stated that he didn't feel the fee increase being requested was excessive. A motion was then made by Mike Russ (Lancaster S. C.) and seconded by Paul Gustava (Canandaigua Area Youth S. L.) to accept a \$.50/player Registration & Insurance Fee increase for 2006-2007. The motion passed by an overwhelming show of hands of the attending membership negating the need for a paper ballot.

e. Election of Officers (2 year term)

President: Gary Levine (RDYSL) nominated Sandy Ostebo and Chris Chilano (Genesee Youth S. L.) seconded the nomination. Bill Testa (Greece Buccaneers S. C.) nominated Larry Evarts from the floor and Bill Lafferty (Greece Girls S. L.) seconded the nomination. After his nomination and in response to the membership questions, Larry indicated that he was asked to run for the position, spoke of his credentials and experience and his goals if elected. After considerable discussion, Gary Levine called to question and Sandy Ostebo was re-elected President by a majority vote of the membership in attendance.



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
November 13, 2005

2nd Vice President: Gary Levine (RDYSL) nominated Matt Dimas and Holger Stave (Canandaigua Area Youth S. L.) seconded the nomination. Since he was the only candidate for the position, Matt Dimas was re-elected 2nd Vice President by acclamation.

Secretary: George Hebert (Penfield Strikers S. C.) nominated Curt Regruit (Penfield Rangers S. C.) and Gary Levine (RDYSL) seconded the nomination. Since he was the only candidate for the position, Curt Regruit was elected Secretary by acclamation.

f. Awards

President Ostebo announced the following Recognition Awards:

Bill Fahey, departing **State Youth Referee Administrator**, for his many years of service to the NYSWYSA.
Kevin Perrigo, departing **Syracuse District Commissioner**, for his many years of service to the NYSWYSA.
Paul Beck, departing **Secretary**, in abstention, for his service to the NYSWYSA.

8. Good and Welfare

9. Adjournment

President Ostebo thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.