



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Board of Directors Meeting
July 20, 2003

The Board of Directors of the New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA) held their July meeting in Corning, New York on Sunday, July 20, 2003. Tony Buiniskis, President, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Anthony Buiniskis, President
Gary Acker, 1st Vice President
John Pecchia, Treasurer
Larry Evarts, Recreation /TOP Soccer Director
Teresa Doermer, Risk Management Coordinator
Millie Blaakman, ODP Administrator

District Commissioners:
Sandy Ostebo, Twin Tiers
Roger Jank, Buffalo
Roger Best, Rochester
Matt Dimas, Southern Tier

Office Staff:
Sandy Ostebo, Interim Executive Director
Dan Watson, Operations Manager

Absent: Bob Sokolinsky, 2nd Vice President
Suzanne Messina, Secretary
Tim Mellander, Registrar
Kevin Perrigo, Syracuse District Commissioner
Shane Cook, Binghamton District Commissioner
Glen Buckley, State Director of Coaching

Shane Cook sent a copy of an e-mail proxy via Gary Acker. A discussion took place regarding the validity of utilizing an unsigned proxy. Matt suggested that the group conduct votes on issues as may be necessary today. The outcome of the votes will be pending subsequent clarification of the proxy issue.

2. Meeting Minutes:

Tony suggested that minutes be transcribed in the State Office, sent to the Secretary for any clarification and then to the Board Members. This is the process that is used at the National and Regional level. It was suggested that the minutes be placed on a password protected or secure web page for Board Members to review for approval before being sent out.

A motion was made to delay the approval of the minutes. Corrections should be sent to Sue by Friday, July 25, 2003.

3. President's Remarks:

- a. Tony's report was distributed prior to the meeting for review and is available from the State Office.
- b. Tony attended the Snicker's Regional Competition of Region 3 in Greensboro, North Carolina. He stated that Region 3 does not have U-12 & U-13 divisions in Regional Competition and begins with the U-14 division.
- c. The financial approach to the Regional Competition was also different. Region 3 does not take a cut of the profits from the Regionals, but actually provides monetary assistance in the operation of the Regionals. The money stays with the Host Committee and Host Association.



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- d. Region 3 provides a Hospitality Area for the Staff that is working at the Competition, as well as the visiting State Association Presidents.
- e. The Region 3 Complex that hosted the Competition was the best setup Tony has seen. Field drainage was such that the workers went out with 4-foot wide roller squeegees to roll the fields after a major storm system with torrential rains passed through the area for an extensive period of time. The games went on the next day without a hitch.
- f. The local Greensboro Youth Soccer Association built all of the fields.
- g. A discussion took place regarding the location of the State Office. The State Association is entering the fourth year of a five-year lease. The Complex is up for sale, but the potential buyers have not yet been identified. The possibility exists that the buyers will want the buildings vacated for their own use. A suggestion was made that we engage a local realtor in searching for a different location. Tony has also been approached with offers of a location in Rochester for the State Office.
- h. Considerations for any location of the State Office will include rental cost, cost per square foot, people & staffing issues, and possible training issues. Before any move is made, it should be preceded by the determination if it makes sense in terms of cost.

4. 1st Vice President, Gary Acker — Snicker's State Cup, Executive Director Search:

- a. Gary discussed Snicker's State Cup issues. One referee, who was brought in from out of State, requested to be paid for the mileage round-trip from Indiana to Buffalo. This referee was also sent as a representative of the NYSWYSA to the Regional Tournament. Bill Fahey has requested that the NYSWYSA pay for 304 miles of travel for this referee. A discussion took place regarding the expectation that the referees are only obtained from within the NYSWYSA, unless approved by the BOD in advance. Matt Dimas made a motion that the mileage will be paid from Rochester (the referee's hometown). John Pecchia seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- b. Damage was incurred to the fields at the West Seneca Soccer Complex on Saturday of Snicker's State Cup Finals due to the rain. The host organization is asking for \$1,500 to recoup some of the cost of the repairs. The Board will review payment for damages once the receipts for the repair have been submitted.
- c. The bid sheet for hosting the NYSWYSA Snicker's State Cup Finals for the next two years is posted on the NYSWYSA web site.
- d. Gary expects the bid sheets to be turned in by the end of July.
- e. It was suggested that a Committee be formed to assess the format of Snicker's State Cup. The group is asked to come up names of individuals who will be willing to sit on this Committee. This issue will be discussed at the Planning Meeting in August.
- f. Gary named the non-NYSWYSA BOD individuals for the NYSWYSA Executive Director Search Committee that were recommended to him by the Board Members on the committee: John Boyle (Syracuse District), Pam Humphrey (Binghamton District), Liz de Vasquez (Buffalo District), and Steve Bonser (Rochester District). Larry Evarts made a motion to approve the four individuals selected by Gary. The motion was seconded by Sandy Ostebo and unanimously approved.
- g. Roger has received 55 resumes to date—29 out of New York State, 6 out of Pennsylvania, 3 out of Ohio, 2 out of Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, and 1 out of Indiana, Minnesota, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Singapore and Pakistan.
- h. Gary will be contacting the non-NYSWYSA BOD Executive Director Search Committee Members to let them know they have been selected and to set up a conference call to lay the ground rules. Gary recommends that applications be accepted until July 30, 2003. Applications must be post-marked by that date.

5. 2nd Vice President, Bob Sokolinsky, Adjudication:

- a. Bob distributed a copy of his report in advance of the meeting for review, which is available from the State Office.



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- b. Another referee assault case has come up since the issuance of Bob's report. The Adjudication Committee has suspended the player from playing pending a hearing of the case. Tony will send Bob an e-mail asking him to establish a committee to review this case.

6. State Director of Coaching, Glen Buckley:

- a. Glen sent out a report in advance of the meeting, which is currently being revised and will be available from the State Office.
- b. Glen's report briefly touched on ODP, which is covered in Millie's report.

7. ODP, Millie Blaakman:

- a. Millie reviewed the ODP Report that she distributed.
- b. The 2002-2003 numbers for ODP participation showed an increase. The 1984-85, 1987, 1989 and 1990 Girls' age groups all increased in numbers.
- c. Decreases occurred in the 1986 and 1988 Girls' age groups.
- d. The Boys numbers decreased in the 1986, 1987 and 1988 age groups.
- e. Many more players were pulled into the Pools for evaluation this year.
- f. The general consensus on the Boys' side was that the camp was run in a better format — the Regional Coaches actually ran training sessions this year.
- g. The administrative side of ODP this year has been a high maintenance year. Parents are not educated in the level of understanding and commitment required by them to participate in ODP.
- h. Tony briefly discussed the necessity of running an ODP Tournament Weekend with other States.
- i. ODP still seems to be lacking the ability to attract the top players in the various age groups. Conflicts with Club Teams, travel and expenses are cited as reasons why players are not coming to participate. Tony has verified that the other Regions have indicated that they are experiencing the same difficulties.
- j. Sandy attended the ODP camp at Binghamton University last week and was very impressed with the training, and the participants indicated that they are satisfied with the process.
- k. Matt discussed investigating a Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio ODP event out towards Erie.

8. TOP Soccer, Recreation Soccer, Larry Evarts:

- a. Larry distributed a TOP Soccer Report, which is available at the State Office.
- b. Several grants were received this year. The grants included the Chevrolet-Uni Royal Grant for \$1,000, the US Youth Soccer Adidas Award for \$3,600 in cash and \$6,000 in equipment, the Niagara Pioneer Soccer Club donated \$1,000 for Top Soccer, and \$600 from The Children's Guild. Tony asked the Salty Dogs to donate his \$100 ticket monies to Top Soccer.
- c. All of the summer programs are growing, so the funding is well timed.
- d. Reports must be submitted for some of these grants by October 15, 2003 and January 15, 2004. Adidas is due by September 15, 2003.
- e. Copies of what the monies were awarded for are available from Sandy Ostebo.
- f. The Flower City Soccer League entered two teams in the Tide America Cup. They will also enter teams in the Chevy Cup.
- g. Information and pictures will appear on the NYSWYSA web page next week.
- h. The mailings done from the State Office increased the entries for the Tide Cup and the Chevy Cup.
- i. Teresa and Larry will have details for the TOP Soccer Symposium available after discussing the details with Glen. They will put together a book to give out to the coaches and take them out to lunch. They are planning a four-hour event.

9. Risk Management, Teresa Doermer:

- a. Teresa indicated that this area was quiet at this time.
- b. A brief problem took place with Volunteer Select, which Sandy addressed and solved.



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- c. Donalynn Ostebo is able to process information very quickly, so all is running smoothly.
- d. Teresa asks that everyone review the e-mail she sent out regarding an on-line program that is very secure and provide feedback to her. The vendor would like the blessing of the NYSWYSA on this program.
- e. Tony indicated that he and Angelo Grande have discussed the continuation of payment for mileage and Risk Management presentations by the NYSWYSA to Clubs.
- f. Discussed the need to have a person who will be the central spokesperson for this topic on the NYSWYSA BOD.
- g. Concern was expressed regarding the passes of coaches not being checked by referees. Coaches are not being removed when they do not have up-to-date passes. This will be addressed when referee contracts are negotiated.

10. Registration, Tim Mellander:

- a. Tim distributed the Registrar's Report, which is on file at the State Office.
- b. Many of the registrations came in after the deadline, but paid registrations do appear to be on track. Registration data appears to be coming in more slowly.
- c. Matt is concerned about the decrease in player registrations. There is a discrepancy in the paid registrations and the data submission. Matt anticipates being 70 percent lower from his District in the 2003-2004 year. Matt is unable to determine exactly what areas in which the members feel they are not receiving support. Some Clubs feel the insurance that the School Districts have in place adequately covers their players and do not feel the need to pay for player insurance. They feel there are few injuries and are willing to risk not paying for the insurance.

11. Web Page Information, Tim Mellander

- a. Tim mailed his report to the BOD for review. A copy is on file at the State Office.
- b. Tony requested an update on banners for sale on the NYSWYSA web site to be shared at the August 2003 meeting.

12. Audit Committee, Matt Dimas:

- a. Matt is setting up meetings of the Audit Committee either this week or early next week through Donna in the State Office. Audit bid proposals will be accepted through August 15, 2003, so that they can be reviewed to have a recommendation for the NYSWYSA Board at the Planning Meeting in August. Matt would like to award a contract in early September with work to begin in late September or early October. The audit tasks should be completed by the end of October or early November so that the NYSWYSA Board of Directors can review the audit results before the NYSWYSA Annual General Meeting in November.
- b. John made the Board of Directors aware that audit fees have increased 20 percent to 30 percent over the previous year due to the increase of minimum industry requirements for how audits are conducted.

13. State Office, Dan Watson:

- a. Dan sent out a report, which is available at the State Office.
- b. July is the heaviest month for reviewing tournament report submissions.
- c. Dan reviewed topics for the Coaches' Handbook that is being worked on as part of filling the NYSWYSA's advertising responsibilities to Chevrolet.
- d. Dan distributed sample handbooks that were produced by Varsity and is open for any additional topics that anyone feels should be covered.
- e. There are now three paid vendors on board for the AGM Coaches' Clinic. The second contact to past vendors and new prospects is being mailed early in August.
- f. An ODP mailing will be sent to the younger groups at the beginning of August.



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- g. The State Office is also looking at a sample addresser that will enable the office to address envelopes, labels, flats and various other pieces to prepare for the fall.
- h. Millie requests that the information regarding the Academy and ODP be mentioned separately so that people recognize that they are two separate programs.

14. State Office, Sandy Ostebo:

- a. Sandy sent out a report for review prior to the meeting, which is available at the State Office.
- b. The NYSWYSA has been able to maintain insurance rates at a reasonable rate.
- c. The discussions with Score are complete and the final package is being submitted. Mazamba is revising theirs for resubmission. Tony is continuing to have conversations with Adidas and expects to continue those discussions this week. A letter has been sent to Adidas outlining the expectations of the NYSWYSA.
- d. Tony emphasized the importance of each individual reviewing the contracts in depth when they are sent out so that the best possible arrangements are made with the vendors to best serve the organization.
- e. Score at this point has met all of our criteria, Mazamba is revising their package, and Adidas has not yet been heard from.
- f. Price is only one consideration in the choice of vendors. The quality of the merchandise and the ability to deliver in a timely manner will be major considerations.
- g. Discussions took place regarding hiring an employee to handle Risk Management Pass processing as well as training a back-up person.
- h. Sandy indicated that the policy is almost complete regarding procedures to rescind a coach's pass. This should be ready for the August Planning Meeting.

15. Financial Report:

- a. John distributed the Financial Report to the Board.
- b. The 2004 Budget is the approved budget that the organization has been working under.
- c. John discussed the 2003 Approved Budgets, the Actuals, and the Bottom Lines.
- d. The NYSWYSA has stayed within the 2003 Budget.
- e. The proposed budget is a break-even budget that John reviewed in depth with the Board of Directors.
- f. Suggestions were given to John for Proposed Budget Revisions. John asks that comments and suggestions be sent to him for further revision.

16. Old Business:

- a. Tabled until the next meeting.

17. New Business:

- a. Tabled until the next meeting.

18. Future Workshops/Conventions

- a. The USSF AGM and the USYSA AGM is in Chicago from August 14-17, 2003. US Youth Soccer will pay for all but the first night of the AGM for Tony. Gary will also be attending the AGM. Due to budgetary constraints, Tony and Gary will be the only two representatives from the NYSWYSA.
- b. The NYSWYSA Planning Meeting to be held at the Airport Holiday Inn in Rochester August 23 and 24, 2003.
- c. The Region I Fall Meeting is October 17-19, 2003 in New York City.
- d. The NYSYSA AGM and Workshop will be held November 21-22, 2003 at Total Sports Experience. Hotel arrangements have been made at the Airport Holiday Inn.



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- e. The 2004 Adidas Workshop will be held February 19-22, 2004 in Boston, Massachusetts.

19. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Messina
Secretary