



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 31, 2004

The Board of Directors of the New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA) held their October 2004, meeting in Corning, New York. 1st Vice President Sokolinsky called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Bob Sokolinsky, Acting President
Susan Gurak, Treasurer
Tim Mellander, Registrar
Larry Evarts, Recreation Soccer Director
Teresa Doermer, TOP Soccer Director
Dave Matthews, ODP Administrator

District Commissioners:

Roger Best, Rochester
Roger Jank, Buffalo
Kevin Perrigo, Syracuse
Matt Dimas, Southern Tier
M. Shane Cook, Binghamton

NYSWYSA Staff:

Omer Doron, Executive Director
Glen Buckley, State Director of Coaching
Donna Mizerak, Bookkeeper

Absent:

Suzanne Messina, Secretary (Excused)

Guests:

Tony Buiniskis, former President of the NYSWYSA, Secretary of the USYSA
Kevin Arnold, Greater Homer Youth Soccer Association, Coach
Mike Radeke, Candidate for 1st Vice President
Gary Levine, Rochester District Youth Soccer League President
Curt Regruit, Penfield Rangers Soccer Club President

A motion was made by Matt Dimas to appoint Bob Sokolinsky as Acting President and table the acceptance of the resignation of Gary Acker from the NYSWYSA Board of Directors until a later time. Larry Evarts seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. September 2004 Meeting Minutes:

- a. Larry Evarts made a motion to table approval of the September 2004 NYSWYSA BOD Meeting Minutes until the next meeting to afford everyone an opportunity to review the minutes. Susan Gurak seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Guest, Mike Radeke:

- a. Mike is interested in running for 1st Vice President of the NYSWYSA. He is from the Buffalo District.
- b. Mike provided the BOD with his background and qualifications for the position of 1st Vice President. He has 30 years of experience in soccer, loves the game and his children are also involved. He is no longer an ODP Team Manager.
- c. The responsibilities of the position of 1st Vice President were shared with Mike.



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4. Financial Report, Susan Gurak:

- a. A copy of the Balance Sheet and Income Statement were mailed out in advance of the meeting.
- b. Susan reviewed the statements.
- c. Susan passed out copies of the 2004-2005 Budget for review and asks that everyone provide feedback by November 7th so that the Budget may be finalized in advance of the November 19th NYSWYSA BOD Meeting.
- d. A vehicle will need to be purchased for Glen, as the Chevrolet Sponsorship that provides a vehicle has expired.
- e. FULL90 Sports, Inc. money is not included in the Budget.

5. President's Remarks:

- a. Region I approved the proposal of increasing the size of a team roster from 18 to 22. This will be passed on to the National Level for a vote. Tony Buiniskis has indicated that the State Associations are overwhelmingly denying this proposal and it will likely be defeated. The vote will be taken at the US Youth Soccer Convention in Salt Lake City in February 2005.
- b. Eleven of the fifteen Region 1 State Association Presidents agreed that they wanted to support the expanded rosters to begin in the 2005-2006 year.
- c. Tony indicated that Regions 2, 3 and 4 were against the proposal. Region 4 is totally against the proposal, Region 3 is 80% opposed, and Region 2 about the same as Region 3. The biggest concern is how it will affect teams in the younger age divisions. This proposal is perceived as an opportunity for coaches and clubs rather than a beneficial action for the players.
- d. A motion was made at the Region I meeting by Bill Thornton, the New Hampshire State Association President, that Region I support a 22 player roster for U-16 and older divisions for all competitions that lead up to the National Championship Competition. The motion was seconded. The vote ended up with 11 State Associations for the motion and 4 opposed.
- e. The Region I Directors League currently allows first through fourth place teams to have a Wild Card to the State Competition. A motion was made to allow fifth and sixth place to obtain a Wild Card. This motion did not pass.
- f. Bob distributed a proposal to establish the position of Parliamentarian. This individual must be familiar with Roberts Rules of Order, the policies and bylaws of the NYSWYSA, and to be able to stop any meeting at any given time to tell the group they are out of order and provide guidance.
- g. Matt Dimas made a motion to establish the Parliamentarian Position as described. Shane Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Matt Dimas volunteered to fill the position subject to the Board's consent, which given unanimously.
- h. Bob handed out a proposal for the establishment of Operational Policies, which go beyond the NYSWYSA Bylaws. Any conflicts with National Association Rules will be resolved by following the higher-level organizational rules. Shane Cook made a motion to establish Operational Policies for the Board of Directors. Roger Jank seconded the motion. The amended motion was passed unanimously. The BOD directed that the ongoing duty of the Audit Committee is review, amend and propose new operational procedures, policies, and by-laws to be maintained in a binder. The Audit Committee was charged by the BOD at this time to operate as such. Bob indicated that he is working on a compilation of past policies and is about half done. When completed, Bob will send it to the Audit Committee.



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- i. Bob handed out a Communication Protocol Proposal. A motion was made by Larry Evarts to accept this proposal and seconded by Roger Jank. It was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.
- j. Bob will present additional proposals at the next meeting, such as having collateral duties assigned according to skill level and/or experience rather than assigned to a specific Board of Director's position. This change will require a bylaw change. He also will bring a proposal indicating what items he believes need to be approved by the NYSWYSA BOD or by the Membership.

6. State Cup, Gary Acker:

- a. No report is available due to Gary's resignation.

7. Adjudication, Bob Sokolinsky:

- a. Bob Sokolinsky distributed an Adjudication Report.
- b. Scott Sylvestry was suspended for nine months as a result of an assault hearing. He is appealing the August 31, 2004 findings. Bob submitted the file to U.S. Soccer Legal Counsel and it was received on time. Scott had 10 days to respond, which he has not yet done. This will then be passed on to the Appeals' Committee.
- c. Bob indicated that he is looking for someone to take over the responsibility of the Adjudication task.

8. Recreation Soccer, Larry Evarts:

- a. Larry will rewrite and distribute a report for the Board of Directors.
- b. Larry reviewed what Soccer Start Funds that are available and reported that the NYSWYSA is a leader in this area.
- c. Larry will apply for any funding that is available.
- d. Region I is making Recreational and Top Soccer DVDs that will be available at the ADIDAS Workshop. Each State Association will receive one free copy and additional copies will be available at a cost of \$3 each.
- e. Glen discussed applying some of the profits from a licensing class to the TOP Soccer and Soccer Start Programs. A discussion ensued, and the Board of Directors requested that Susan Gurak and Matt Dimas sort out the financials and report back to the Board of Directors.

9. TOP Soccer, Teresa Doermer:

- a. Teresa reported that the Rochester, Buffalo, Binghamton, and Syracuse Districts are operating TOP Soccer Programs.
- b. Teresa will have specific reports for each program in the AGM Packet.
- c. Larry and Teresa will meet with the TOP Soccer Coaches that attend the AGM so that Larry can update them on information he received at the Region I Meeting. The coaches will also receive a sign language packet at that meeting to work with players.
- d. The Buffalo TOP Soccer Coach Scot Boniface was nominated and chosen as the recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award.
- e. A TOP Soccer Coach of the Year award will be added to the AGM Dinner for next year.
- f. Wilfredo Carbinal from the Rochester Jr. Rhinos was selected Girls' Coach of the Year, Mark Gorgos from the Susquehanna River United Association was selected Boys' Coach of the Year, Karen McCreedy from Rochester was selected Parent of the Year is, and a decision is still pending regarding the Recreational Coach of the Year.

10. Executive Director, Omer Doron:



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- a. A written report was sent out prior to the meeting, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. The first draft of the Official Handbook is being reviewed and the final print will be available by the end of the week.
- c. A banner has been placed on the NYSWYSA Web Page advertising the Library. Response has been limited.
- d. A new deadline for the ODP group to submit orders has been set so that one large order can be sent.
- e. The on-line psychology class has experienced low enrollment, so Omer is working on developing incentives to take the course.
- f. Omer distributed samples of headgear from companies for examination.
- g. Omer discussed an OCN Sponsorship Agreement. Bob took the action item to further investigate this matter and report back to the Board.
- h. Omer briefly discussed portable goals, which is covered in his report. Pullen Insurance would like the NYSWYSA to adopt a policy on portable goalposts. Glen questioned whether one already exists with the US Youth Soccer/USSF.

11. Registration Information/Web Page, Tim Mellander:

- a. Tim mailed a Registration Report and Registration Numbers in advance of the meeting. A copy is on file at the State Office.
- b. Reports went out to the Commissioners indicating payments from Clubs. Most of those payments have come in since that time.
- c. The RosterPro Program is being expanded to enable cross club searches.
- d. Three sessions on RosterPro will be held at the AGM. One of those sessions will involve using RosterPro. Another session will involve how to get the most from your Club web site. The last presentation will be of a club level version of RosterPro.
- e. The Region I Travel Policy states that there is no longer a need to have the Permission to Travel Form within the Region except for New Jersey and Connecticut.

12. ODP Administrator, Dave Matthews:

- a. Dave sent a report prior to the meeting, which is available from the State Office.
- b. The merchandising information is being compiled and will be reported on at a later date.
- c. Dave has been invited to an Interregional ODP event.
- c. Chris Hershey, the Head Goalkeeping Coach, has also been invited to go down as one of the Regional Staff.
- d. Dave is looking at a new tool for player evaluation.

13. Risk Management, Dan Watson:

- a. Risk Management entries are coming in.
- b. Only small spaces are available at the hotel for the AGM, so limited Risk Management sessions will be held.
- c. Roster Pro has put in a feature that will detect players across clubs. The same tool may be expanded to include coaches, so that a coach will not have more than one pass.
- d. An attempt is being made to contact everyone via e-mail to notify them in advance of the expiration dates for their Risk Management Passes so that they can be processed in advance rather than having them pile up.
- e. Dan is also seeking a method to eliminate coaches who are no longer coaching from the system.
- f. Region I has sent a copy of legislation that was passed preventing people from obtaining a Risk Management Pass from one state when they have been denied a pass from another



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state. This is tracked by the Discipline Action Reports submitted by the various State Associations.

14. Audit Committee, Matt Dimas:

- a. The Financial Review has been conducted, but Matt has not yet seen the results of the review from Mengel, Metzger, and Barr.
- b. Matt intends to contact each District Commissioner to be sure that each Commissioner has confirmed a participant for the Audit Committee bearing in mind the reinforced purpose of the Committee being Policies, Procedures, By-Laws, etc. in addition to the Financial Review.

15. Glen Buckley, Director of Coaching:

- a. Glen submitted a report in advance of the meeting, which is available from the State Office.

16. State Office, Dan Watson:

- a. Dan distributed a State Office Report, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. The Coaches' Handbook will be ready for distribution at the NYSWYSA AGM and the Coaches' Workshop.
- c. Dan is concerned about the Coaches' Workshop and AGM Weekend. Research of the attendance indicates a significant drop off since 1999. Vendor traffic is a significant concern, which Dan is trying to address by perhaps having the NY/NJ Metro Stars come for a demonstration. Larry made a motion to have Dan pursue bringing the NY/NJ Metro Stars in on Saturday morning of the Coaches' Workshop to improve vendor traffic. Susan Gurak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d. Shane made a motion to form a committee to look at how to improve attendance at the AGM. Matt Dimas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. Larry Evarts will chair the committee. Dave Matthews, Roger Best, Shane, Glen, Bob, Gary Levine and Kevin Arnold (Greater Homer Youth Soccer) all agreed to serve on the committee.
- f. The materials for the next AGM Mailing should be submitted by Monday, November 8, so that they can be mailed out by the end of the week.

17. Unfinished Business:

- a. The latest NYSWYSA Bylaws' revision that was distributed to the membership and Board of Directors should be reviewed by all Board Members so it can be voted on in a telephone conference.
- b. The NYSWYSA office lease has a guaranteed five-year renewal in Corning. The Committee formed to review the lease and alternate office space needs to meet as quickly as possible.
- c. Curt Regruit stated that NYSWYSA puts the clubs in jeopardy when they mandate use of headgear. He also expressed concern about the NYSWYSA statement that it "strongly recommends" the use of protective headgear. Bob has indicated that he will check with the attorney to determine whether or not clubs would be liable. Curt also expressed concern that the research is coming from the provider of the gear.
- d. Gary Levine suggests that this issue should be brought to the membership before a determination is made regarding requiring and/or recommending headgear because it presents significant cost. The NYSWYSA should look to the membership for feedback and final approval.



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- e. Tony Buiniskis indicated that US Youth Soccer is not taking a look at headgear at this time. He stated that there is nothing conclusive about headgear from outside sources and there are liability concerns. He further advised that there is a process for approval of far reaching devices such as protective headgear.
- f. The indoor policy issue needs to be resolved. At the NYSWYSA Planning Meeting in August, the BOD agreed that to be covered by the NYSWYSA insurance, any team or player participating in an indoor league of a commercial sports center must be properly registered with the NYSWYSA through a member club of the NYSWYSA.
- g. Roger Best made a motion that any team or player participating in an indoor league must be properly registered with the NYSWYSA through a member club to be covered by the State Association insurance. Bob Sokolinsky seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- h. Club and League bylaws should be collected and reviewed to determine whether or not all of the clubs are in compliance with USSF and US Youth Soccer Bylaws.
- i. Bob suggested that everyone consider ways to bring in new people in to the NYSWYSA to rejuvenate the organization, and consider changing the meeting structure, possibly shorter with group discussions

18. Good of the Game:

- a. The US Youth Soccer Convention is to be held in Salt Lake City February 17-20, 2005. Bob needs to know who wants to attend.
- b. Bob Sokolinsky appointed Dan Watson as the Acting Twin Tiers District Commissioner. The appointment was approved by a vote of the majority of the BOD currently in office.
- c. Northern Chautauqua Soccer Club has committed to the AYSO, but would like to retain their NYSWYSA affiliation solely for the Travel/Competitive portion of their membership, so as to be able to compete in the Southern Tier District Travel League. Their Recreational component has chosen to become affiliated with AYSO. Matt will be contacting the Travel component in order to advise them that new By-Laws and a membership application will have to be re-filed with NYSWYSA.
- d. Clubs registrations and bylaws must be in compliance with the By-Law requirements of the USYSA to be considered an active member.
- e. The Syracuse Salty Dogs Professional Team has folded, so the youth club will now be known as the Syracuse Salty Dogs Futbol Club.

19. Adjournment:

The next NYSWYSA BOD Meeting was set for 8 p.m. on November 19, 2004 at the NYSWYSA AGM hotel. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Messina
Secretary