



New York State West Youth Soccer Association
Board of Directors Meeting
September 18, 2004

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

1. Roll Call:

Present: Gary Acker, President
Bob Sokolinsky, 2nd Vice President
Susan Gurak, Treasurer
Tim Mellander, Registrar
Larry Evarts, Recreation Soccer Director
Glen Buckley, State Director of Coaching
Dave Matthews, ODP Administrator

District Commissioners:
Roger Best, Rochester
Roger Jank, Buffalo

Office Staff:
Omer Doron, Executive Director
Dan Watson, Operations Manager
Donna Mizerak, Bookkeeper

Absent: Suzanne Messina, Secretary
Teresa Doermer, TOP Soccer Director
M. Shane Cook, Binghamton District Commissioner
Matt Dimas, Southern Tier District Commissioner
Kevin Perrigo, Syracuse

Guest: Jeff Skeen, Full90 Sports, Inc., San Diego, California

2. Full90 Sports, Inc. Presentation:

- a. Jeff Skeen from Full90 Sports, Inc. gave a presentation on Full90 Sports, Inc. Headgear, which comes in three adjustable sizes and four colors, providing rationale for the utilization of its product.
- b. Jeff has been involved in the development of head protection gear for the past 20 years — including bicycle helmets, equestrian helmets, hockey helmets, and in-line skate helmets.
- c. Jeff began developing soccer head protection gear when his daughter incurred her third head injury.
- d. After his daughter's fourth career-ending injury, Jeff assembled a team of experts to develop headgear for soccer players.
- e. The U.S. Soccer Federation allows the wearing of protective headbands.
- f. Jeff distributed a notebook sharing company information regarding Full90 Sports, Inc. including pictures of pros and kids wearing the headgear, a paper on the myths of head injuries, and a study indicating that 60% of collegiate and high schools players incur one or more concussions per season. The most common concussion is from two players hitting their heads when both are attempting to head the ball at the same time.
- g. Full90 Sports, Inc. would like the NYSWYSA to strongly encourage all players in the State Association to wear the headgear with the hope that the headgear may eventually become compulsory.



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- h. The average retail price of the Full90 Sports, Inc. Headgear is between \$25 and \$29. Wholesalers in many cases are selling it to clubs for between \$16.50 and \$18.
- i. Ten states are currently endorsing and promoting the product.
- j. Pullen Insurance has indicated that they will look into the usage of the product and a possible rate reduction should the NYSWYSA adopt the headgear.
- k. Jeff is asking the NYSWYSA to be the leader in terms of mandating that players utilize the Full90 Sports, Inc. protective headgear.
- l. Highlights of the Terms of Agreement between the NYSWYSA and Full90 Sports, Inc. were distributed and discussed at length.
- m. Jeff provided an overview of the financial status of the company, which appears to be very solid.
- n. High School Associations in California will now allow protective headgear to be worn. This has now expanded to High School Associations across the country.
- o. Full90 Sports, Inc. will have a link on the NYSWYSA Website that will provide information and position papers on the product.
- p. Full90 Sports, Inc. guaranteed that they would produce a video regarding the product and the safety issues that are addressed through correct utilization of the headgear.
- q. Jeff will be at the November 2004 NYSWYSA AGM and a presentation can be made at that time regarding the product.
- r. Bob Sokolinsky made a motion that the Full90 Sports, Inc. Proposal be accepted by the NYSWYSA Board of Directors to mandate the utilization of the protective headgear by no later than March 15, 2005 for U-15 players and younger pending review of the Full90 Sports, Inc. financial statements. Roger Jank seconded the motion. A discussion took place regarding the cost factors involved, marketing issues and enforcement by the referees.
- s. Three attending Board Members (Roger Jank, Larry Evarts & Bob Sokolinsky) and one absent Board Member (Shane Cook), who submitted a proxy, voted in favor of the motion, no Board Members opposed, and four Board Members (Gary Acker, Roger Best, Susan Gurak & Tim Mellander) abstained. Therefore, the motion was approved. After the motion was passed, Omer met with Jeff Skeen to discuss lowering the mandatory age requirement and it was agreed to make the wearing of the headgear only compulsory for players under the age of 14. The approved original motion was modified accordingly.

2. Financial Report, Susan Gurak:

- a. A copy of the proposed NYSWYSA 2004 – 2005 Operating Budget was distributed. Susan reviewed the profit and loss comparisons to the previous year.
- b. Susan reported that the NYSWYSA is in good financial shape.
- c. Susan will send out a Balance Sheet and a Profit and Loss Statement for the entire year before the review with Mengel, Metzger, and Barr so that everyone has all of the numbers for review.
- d. The budget that was distributed for review is extremely rough, some of which is based on historical information and some on actual information from what has been done. Donna has updated the budget to show the figures through August 31, 2004.
- e. Susan will review the budgeted figures to see if they need to increase or decrease.
- f. Susan requested that all input be submitted to her as soon as possible so that she can finalize the budget.
- g. Susan will have the budget finalized by October 15, 2004 for approval at the October 31, 2004 NYSWYSA BOD Meeting.
- h. Susan indicated that it would be necessary to lease or purchase a vehicle for Glen to replace his current vehicle, which is to be returned in December.



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3. President's Remarks:

- a. Gary attended the State Directors of Instruction (SDI) for Referees/State Directors of Coaching Meeting and State Presidents' Meeting in Dallas. Glen and Bill Pasnak, the NYSWYSA State Director of Instruction for Referees, attended the meeting.
- b. Bill is seeking to have Glen share referee concerns and viewpoints at coaches' meetings.

4. State Cup, Gary Acker:

- a. There is no new information to report on for State Cup at this time.

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

- a. An Adjudication Report was submitted.
- b. At an Adjudication Hearing on August 31, 2004, Scott Sylvester was assessed a nine month suspension for assault. The decision is under appeal to U. S. Soccer.
- c. An Adjudication Appeal Hearing was held on September 11, 2004. Jeffrey Ballard, Fulton United Soccer, appealed a Risk Management Pass denial. The decision was reversed.
- d. Bob Sokolinsky made a motion to accept the "**Bad Standing Policy**" that was submitted to the NYSWYSA Board several months ago including the changes that were submitted by Roger Best. The motion was seconded by Larry Evarts and passed unanimously.

6. State Director of Coaching, Glen Buckley:

- a. Glen submitted a report, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. Glen distributed information on the State Directors of Coaching Meeting in Dallas.
- c. Glen also provided a review of a USYSA Presentation to the Board.
- d. A "D" Course is being offered now, and an "E" Course will be offered at the NYSWYSA AGM.
- e. Manni Clar, Robin Russell (English FA) and Tommy Goodman will be at the NYSWYSA AGM.
- f. Glen discussed the Youth on Youth Program that US Youth Soccer has adopted, which Glen would like to offer/promote. It is for 17 –22 year olds from clubs to educate them on how to coach.
- g. Glen discussed having a forum with Club and League Presidents on Saturday morning at the November NYSWYSA Workshop.
- h. Glen informed the BOD that Tommy Goodman has resigned as the National Director of Coaching.
- i. Glen reported that US Youth Soccer plans to have a Parent Education Presentation on line by 2005.
- j. Glen has a vision of the NYSWYSA having fields of its own in the future and there was a subsequent discussion about the possibility of forming a Steering Committee for the project.

7. ODP Administrator, Dave Matthews:

- a. An ODP Report was submitted that is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. ODP Tryouts will be held indoors.
- c. A discussion took place regarding a future NYSWYSA field facility.
- d. One of the NYSWYSA ODP Staff Coaches, Aria Garsys, has been asked to be the color commentator for the game between the US Womens' World Cup Team and Iceland Team to be held at Frontier Field in Rochester. U.S. Youth Soccer needs to be contacted to list her on the web site as the commentator when this has been finalized.



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8. Risk Management, Dan Watson:

- a. An appeal on a pass that Risk Management had denied was successful with stipulations.
- b. A Buffalo Club coach did not apply for a Risk Management Pass and was not asked for the pass for an entire year. The club reviewed the situation and has decided to take no action. The NYSWYSA will approach the club regarding disciplinary sanctions. If the club does not apply disciplinary sanctions, the NYSWYSA will then decide what actions are appropriate in this situation. Dan will work in conjunction to Roger Jank to be sure that the club takes appropriate actions.

9. TOP Soccer, Teresa Doermer:

- a. A report was submitted that is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. A small session will be held at the NYSWYSA AGM for TOP Soccer.
- c. Arrangements will be made to obtain sign language training to work with deaf children.
- d. Larry reported that he has four parents that are willing to go to a Youth Module, which will be paid for by TOP Soccer.

10. Recreation Soccer, Larry Evarts:

- a. Larry distributed a Recreation Soccer Report in advance of the meeting, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. A Recreation Budget exists at the National Level, which began as of 2003.

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. One club has sent money for the 2004-2005 season, but without data. Tim requested that the Club be contacted for the information.

12. Audit Committee, Matt Dimas:

- a. Susan will meet with the auditor to take care of the review of the financials.

13. State Office, Dan Watson:

- a. Dan distributed a State Office Report, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. Dan reinforced the fact that allowing the District Commissioners to have access to Roster Pro will facilitate tracking clubs who have not submitted information.
- c. Demosphere is willing to do the on-line tournament registration free of charge.

14. Executive Director, Omer Doron:

- a. Omer distributed his report in advance of the meeting, which is available upon request from the State Office.
- b. Omer presented an overview of the library. Materials can be signed out for 14 days.
- c. The Girl Scout Soccer Clinic is a Fun Day that Omer was working on setting up with Sandy. With Sandy's resignation, Omer is somewhat stalled on the project. Omer wanted to involve the ODP program or an elite group from the Corning area. Stations would be set up so that the girls could earn a merit badge at the end of the day.
- d. Omer discussed the merchandising arrangements. Initially, merchandise will be available through the ODP Teams.



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15. Unfinished Business:

- a. The latest Bylaws' revision should be reviewed by all Board Members so it can be voted on at the October 2004 NYSWYSA BOD Meeting.
- b. The Office Lease will be reviewed at a later time when Omer is present.
- c. Indoor Soccer status was discussed at the NYSWYSA Planning Meeting in August. The outcome was that indoor facilities will not be allowed to register players — they must be registered through clubs to better track individual registrations.
- d. Tim will send the Indoor Soccer Policy Statement out to all Board Members so it can be voted on at the October 2004 NYSWYSA BOD Meeting.

16. August Meeting Minutes:

- a. Bob Sokolinsky made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended by Roger Best. The motion was seconded by Larry Evarts and passed unanimously.

17. New Business:

- a. The 1st Vice President vacancy was previously tabled until this meeting. This position will only be vacant until the November 2004 NYSWYSA AGM, at which time the position will be voted upon. Larry made the motion that this topic be tabled until the next NYSWYSA BOD Meeting. Roger Jank seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- b. The Nominating Committee currently consists of Roger Best and Tim Mellander. The positions to be voted on at the NYSWYSA AGM are 1st Vice President and Treasurer.
- c. Bank signatures must be obtained to update the records of the organization. Larry Evarts made a motion to remove past president Tony Buiniskis from the bank signature cards. Bob Sokolinsky seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

18. Good of the Game:

- a. The October Region 1 Meeting is to be held in Delaware.
- b. The US Youth Soccer Convention is to be held in Salt Lake City February 17-20, 2005.
- c. Roger Jank made a motion to accept two new club applications for membership — the Syracuse Salty Dogs, Jr. and the Buffalo United Soccer Club (a merger of the Buffalo Premier Futbol and Buffalo Niagara Soccer Club). Their Bylaws and applications are complete. Larry Evarts seconded the motion to approve these Clubs, which was unanimously approved.

19. Adjournment:

The next NYSWYSA BOD Meeting was set for 10:00 A. M. October 31, 2004 at the NYSWYSA State Office in Corning. The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Messina
Secretary