

**Mass Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting March 11, 2017  
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel – Leominster, MA**

**Call to Order**

Bob Trudeau, President of Mass Youth Soccer, called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

**Introductions and Welcome**

Bob Trudeau welcomed the membership to the AGM and took a few minutes to introduce Mass Youth Soccer board members, staff members and league presidents in attendance. Bob also recognized Nancy Hart in her absence and thanked her for her tireless efforts and work on behalf of Mass Youth Soccer. The membership honored Nancy with a long, sustained applause. Bob extended a broad-based thank you to the many parties involved in a whirlwind year of changes in the soccer community during 2016-2017.

**President's Address**

Bob noted the significant feedback from the membership that drove changes in services and programs during the past year, including in the District Select Program, Town Select League, Adult registration, Player Development program, and the return of the annual Mass Youth Soccer Workshop. Bob also noted the year-long efforts of the Board to realign priorities and activities to improve the programs, services, and efficiency of the organization.

**Sponsors and Partner**

Bob urged attendees to recognize and frequent the sponsors and partners noted on the Mass Youth website and AGM booklet.

**Credential Report and Establishment of a Quorum**

Bob Trudeau then asked for a credential report. The total membership represents 346 voting members (organizations), 857 votes representing organizations, leagues and board members. Attendance of 7.5% of voting members, 26 members, represents a quorum.

Present at the meeting are 53 member delegates representing 200 votes. A quorum was determined to be present to conduct business. A majority vote for the meeting was established as 101 votes, and a 2/3 majority vote was determined to be 133 votes.

**Approval of the 2016 AGM Minutes**

**Jeff Chambers moved, seconded by Derek Smith to approve the minutes from the March 2016 AGM. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.**

**Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business.

**Reports of Officers**

Financial Report for 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year Presentation of the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget

**Financial Report**

Derek Smith, Treasurer presented the Financial Report and reviewed the statement of activity & proposed budget. The Financial Report was divided into two segments: review of the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2016, followed by review of the Board approved Budgeted Statement of Activities for fiscal year 2017. Derek reminded the membership that 2016 was the first that the adult registration fee was implemented and that 2017 is the first year that the new player registration fee will go into effect – both in accordance with previous AGM votes.

**Directors' Reports**

All Directors' reports appear in the booklets that were distributed at the registration desk. Russ Wolf, newly appointed SYRA, spoke to the membership about the role of SYRA and his vision for

recruiting, retaining, and developing referees. Russ' infectious energy and passion were undeniable in his request to the membership to work cooperatively with him in his goals and to contact him at [syra@massref.net](mailto:syra@massref.net).

### **Executive Director's Report**

The ED Report is located in the AGM booklet. In addition, Mike Borislow thanked the membership for their attendance at the meeting and noted special thanks to the Mass Youth staff, especially Maureen LaRoche, Tara Petricca, Ian Mulliner and his Technical Staff, Tamie Endow, Rob Holiday, Lynn Gugliuzza, Terri Filipetti, Rachel Woo and Mary Relic. Mike noted the overwhelming success of the Mass Youth Soccer Workshop, originally expected to yield approximately 250 attendees, but more than 400 were in attendance. Mike recognized Ann Shapiro from Methuen who was named Massachusetts and Region 1 Administrator of the Year. Mike spoke Dick Threadgould's efforts to maintain the fields, noting that although the snow removal budget was looking good, the impending weather regarding reorganization of functions within the office and field staff, as well as a new member (replacement) to the instructional staff. Mike Borislow added some additional comments about Mass Youth's credential (adult registration) process were recognized by US Youth Soccer as being having the best coaching staff in the nation. Some effort was necessary this year to bring various insurance policies up to date, including for directors, officers, crime, and liability policies. From a compliance standpoint, approximately 20,000 adults have completed adult registration, the processes for which have been enhanced as a result of coordination with DJCIS (Mass Department of Justice Criminal Information Systems). Mike also noted that more than 22,000 tag holders and lanyards were shipped out in accordance with the credentials requirement effective this Spring. Mike also noted that registrations went down slightly from the previous year's 158,000 children were registered players during the previous year

Additionally, Mike Borislow reported on efforts to support legislation to allow for child labor laws to recognize/grant young referees to work and be paid for their services.

With respect to the player development initiatives from US Soccer, Mike reported on a succession of consultations with US Soccer addressing the impact and tweaks/changes including goal sizes, age groupings (Mass Youth going to class year for recreational programs and club level programs going to calendar year), Recognize to Recover ("R2R") guidelines and implementation of heading policies, etc.

### **Election of Officers**

Mike turned the meeting over to Bob Trudeau and David Dalrymple, chairperson of the Nominations Committee, who introduced the prospect and process of elections, noting that the by-laws do not allow nominations from the floor.

The Nominations Committee members are:

David Dalrymple  
John Carver  
Dana Santilli  
Donna LaRoque  
Brad Shores

One (1) candidate for Director (David Amidon)

**Motion by David Dalrymple, second by Brad Shores to nominate by acclamation David Amidon. Motion passed with a voice vote.**

Six (6) Director Candidates for four (4) open C-Level Director positions:

Howie Blatt                      Roger Kahlon  
John Linnehan                  David Martinez  
Rachel Moo                        Thomas Ringler

Prior to voting, Mike explained the voting procedure to the membership. In order to be elected, a candidate needed to receive a majority of the available votes at the AGM (98) until all four positions were elected. If a position was still open, but a majority vote was not obtained by a candidate, even though their vote tally may be the highest among the remaining candidates, the candidate was not elected and a new ballot vote needed to be taken.

One ballot cast for the four open and available C-level Director positions, and the elected directors by majority vote were as follows:

Howie Blatt  
Roger Kahlon  
Rachele Moo  
Thomas Ringler

Mass Youth Soccer staff acted as vote collectors and counters for the elections. The independent observers of the vote count were Steve Smoller and Jeff Chambers.

**Jeff Chambers moved, seconded by Dan Bielines that the election ballots be destroyed. Motion passed on a voice vote.**

### **New Business**

Ian Mulliner conducted an enlightening and informative presentation about why kids play and quit soccer, emphasizing the coach's role in providing a positive experience for our children. Not surprisingly, Ian stressed the coaching education pathway as a means to ensure that coaches satisfy their role effectively from a developmental perspective. Ian noted Mass Youth's plans to leverage the existing NSCAA's existing courses (e.g. 4v4, 7v7, and 9v9 courses) until US Soccer's newest offerings for grassroots training and development are official. Ian commented the expectations for Mass Youth to work with the Director of Soccer Coaching programs

### **Good of the Game**

Mike noted that Ray Robinson, Chair of Disabilities Committee was in attendance, taking the opportunity to comment that Deaf Soccer is a new part of the family of U.S. Soccer. Also July 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> in Kissimmee, FL is the Power Chair Soccer World Cup.

### **Adjournment**

Bob Trudeau thanked the membership for their attendance and participation in the 2017 Mass Youth Soccer AGM. Bob noted that Mass Youth Soccer is held in high regard both at the regional and national level, and it is only through strong and vigorous membership participation that the Association can sustain that status. **Bob requested a motion to adjourn; so moved by Dan Bielen, seconded by John Ostrom. Motion approved by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM. Respectfully

submitted,

*Caryn Goulet*

Caryn Goulet  
Secretary/Clerk  
Mass Youth Soccer Association