

Mass Youth Soccer Board of Directors Meeting  
November 20, 2001

Present: S. Bloom, C. Goldstein, T. Castle, J. Burrill, J. Linnehan, S. Gorman, N. Hart, J. Nagle, S. Smoller, J. Gondek, R. Frongillo.

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM. A quorum was declared present.

**Acceptance of October BOD minutes**

*John Burrill moved, seconded by John Linnehan to accept the minutes. PASSED unanimously.*

**Executive Director Report**

Jim Gondek submitted his report via email in advance; a copy is appended to the minutes. Jim also announced the recipients of the Coach of the year, Volunteer and Parent of the year, and this year's Hall of Fame inductees. Boys' Coach of the year – Joe Flynn of Marlboro; Girls' Coach of the year – John Ford of Braintree; Volunteer of the year – Mark Dewire of Waltham; Parent of the year – Joseph Silk of Worcester. Hall of Fame inductees are John Davagian and Paul Irwin.

**Email addresses**

*John Burrill moved, seconded by Tim Castle, that, effective immediately, all organizations that wish to register with Mass Youth Soccer must provide an email contact in order to register. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Reports of Program Managers**

- State Cups – (see report in addenda)
- MTOC – nothing new to report.
- Instruction – submitted report at meeting:  
Development coaches and Dean have been putting a network together of local town and club coach education directors. In an effort to broaden this network, a meeting and clinic is planned for all existing town and club coach education directors and presidents as well as league presidents. The meeting is scheduled for Sat. Dec 1 at Wheaton College. The annual instructors' meeting will be Dec 8 in Milford.  
Two regional youth conferences have been set (like mini symposium where each development coach puts on a one-day clinic. One clinic will be in Lowell Jan 12; the other will be at Massasoit Community College March 23.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart attended the Tide American Cup tournament in New Hampshire.
- Indoor – Greg Avakian has resigned. Discussion followed regarding a successor and whether the position is still required.
- Referees – Rich submitted his report via email (attached). He added that the re-certification clinics were currently under way. The Referee Committee requires in order to take the grade 8 course a referee attain the age of 15 or have at least one year's experience at another grade.

**Web Update**

Jillian Pierce is the office contact for updating the web page. Jillian's email address is [jpierce@mayouthsoccer.org](mailto:jpierce@mayouthsoccer.org)

**Proposed Mass Youth Soccer/UNICEF Festival Day**

The technical staff suggested running a festival day involving a day of futsal games at various indoor facilities around the state, the proceeds of which would go to UNICEF with the specific

request the money be used to provide soccer equipment where it is needed. *Tim Castle moved, seconded by John Burrill, to accept the proposal.* Motion passed 6-1.

### **ODP Coaching Selection Ratification**

The following slate of coaches was presented to the board by the ODP staff and Dean Conway for ratification:

U-13 Boys – Brett Jacobs coach, Mario Prata asst.  
U-13 Girls – Glenn Cristofori coach, Jackie Shannon asst.  
U-14 Boys – Tucker Reynolds coach, Greg Cosgrove asst,  
U-14 Girls – Eric Stallings coach, Mike Bergstrom asst.  
U-15 Boys – Mike Kersker coach, Jaros Scarparci asst.  
U-15 Girls – Brenda Van Strehlan coach, Lee Pippen asst.  
U-16 Boys – Tony Martune coach, Gary Crompton asst.  
U-16 Girls – Jason Dewhurst coach.  
U-17 Boys – Ralph Ferrigno coach  
U-17 Girls – David Morris coach.

Discussion on the issue of using development coaches for ODP teams followed. *John Burrill moved, seconded by Tim Castle, that the board ratify the slate of coaches as presented. Sid Bloom requested a “friendly amendment” that the coaches must sign a commitment to be available for the entire season, tournaments, and I.D. camps.* The amendment was accepted and the motion passed 4-2-1.

### **Old Business**

- Tim Castle inquired what was the status of the marketing position being considered. It is on the “back burner.”
- John Burrill is still working on his video project.

### **New Business**

- Email service: *John Burrill moved, seconded by Skip Gorman, that MYSA cancel our CompuServe service by the end of the year.* Motion passed unanimously.
- John Burrill commented the Bay Stater is much better. He also expressed a desire to receive the auditors report in a more timely manner so we can provide the information to our members. Carl Goldstein reported the audit report would be available in January. He expects to be able to send the information to the membership the beginning of March.
- Nancy Hart proposed we do what New Hampshire does – run the AGM, banquet, and symposium all on the same weekend.
- The Adidas coaches convention will be in February. Those program managers wishing to attend should make their requests.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Smoller,  
Secretary

Addenda:

### **Executive Director’s Report**

With the Fall season winding down, we have been able to catch our breaths a bit and get caught up on some administrative issues. The following identifies some of the issues that have involved staff support:

We have completed the initial phase of the project to redesign our web site. Virtually everyone on staff provided support in gathering materials to be posted, modification of text to facilitate the actual posting and proofing the pages once they were on line. The amount of material and forms reviewed, developed, etc resulted in this project occupying a significant portion of our time.

The most recent issue of The Bay Stater was published, pretty much concurrent with the web activity. While I am convinced it was the right decision to use the paper to announce the launch the new site, the fact that both deadlines were nearly identical caused its own set of complications.

We have completed the first phase up updating our database records. Letters were sent out to all organizations validating data and invoicing outstanding balances due.

We secure the final payments of the special assessment. ODP tryouts were completed and supported by office staff. We are in the process of sending out the notification letters.

We have created a new database for The Bay Stater mail list. The paper is now being issued to more than 135,000 households. Additionally, we have a process established to internally adjust the mail list for address changes, deletions and additions.

We are preparing to support the Annual Awards Banquet on December 2nd.

We are also working with the technical staff to develop a binder to be distributed to all organization coaching coordinators at the December 1 gathering.

In terms of other projects:

Work is proceeding on securing the necessary background support material to support this year's financial audit. Our target is to have this material available for the auditor by the end of November.

A series of meetings was held with representatives of Meredith & Grew. We provided them with background information about the site, access to all prior testing and other documentation and a list of individuals with whom we had prior discussions. In addition, we are working with them to develop marketing material.

I have been asked to attend a special session of the Governor's Council on Health & Fitness to discuss issues relating to health and fitness of the Commonwealth's youth. That meeting will be held on Saturday, December 1st.

We are establishing a formal process to regularly update the web site. The site will be reviewed weekly to ensure old information is removed, and we will be continually looking for current information to post. In addition to regular updates, we will shortly begin the next phase of the web development project that will lead, in part, to the ability of our members to complete forms on line without having to download and print.

Jim Gondek

### **SYRA Report**

The Massachusetts State Referee Committee has been focusing on its registration and re-certification season which began on 11-Nov-2001 and will continue until 01-Jan-2002. A postcard mailing was prepared and distributed to all 4,300 referees announcing the schedule. The MSRC website, [www.massref.net](http://www.massref.net), has been updated with information about this educational season.

With SRA Al Cosentino, I attended the SRA/SYRA Workshop in Colorado from 19-Oct-2001 to 21-Oct-2001. The program covered many policy statements, previewed a new educational video on off-side, and provided a great opportunity to learn about other state's programs. The US Soccer referee registration program was introduced and distributed.

I wrote and submitted articles for the November Bay Stater regarding referee registration and recertification. I gathered an educational piece for inclusion as well.

The quarterly MSRC meeting was held on 25-Oct-2001. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the Recertification Clinic schedule as an educational vehicle. Also discussed was a renewed focus on grade maintenance requirements. We reviewed a September letter to state level and higher referees regarding a requirement by Mass. Amateur that all higher level officials referee at least ten amateur games per year. Coincident to the meeting, several referees took a written exam for upgrade.

I was unable to attend a Leagues Committee meeting as yet, but John Linnehan attended an MSRC meeting. I wrote and distributed a policy statement regarding an age limit for candidates interested in a grade 8 referee certification.

I have worked with the MSRC Treasurer to try to produce a more useful reporting tool for the program directors of the referee committee. This is a work in progress.

Richard Frongillo

### **State Cup Report**

The only state cup item for this month is that applications for Cup ( 13-19) together with payment in full are due to me by December 15.

John Burrill