

Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
March 19, 2003

Present: S. Bloom, S. Gorman, C. Goldstein, N. Hart, J. Scarpaci, H. Blatt, J. Burrill, J. Linnehan, T. Filippetti, S. Smoller, J. Gondek, R. Braney.

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of February BOD minutes

Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Howis Blatt to accept the minutes. PASSED unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

Jim Gondek's report was submitted in advance via email, and is appended to these minutes.

Reports of Program Managers

- State Cup – John Burrill reported on the change to the transfer rule.
- Instruction – Report from Howie Blatt submitted via email and appended to these minutes.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported the planning for the District Select Program is well underway with tryouts scheduled for two weekends in May.

Soccer for Hope

Carl Goldstein informed the board of an event involving the Boston Breakers who will conduct a clinic for children in Worcester for the benefit of children with cancer. 50% of the revenue raised in this activity will go to cancer issues and 50% will go to the local community. The date of this event is June 19. The cost is \$35 per player to attend the clinic. The focus of the event is players between the ages of 7 and 11 years old. John Burrill suggested using the ODP players on scholarship to help on the clinic. The board asked Carl what he wanted Mass Youth to do. Carl will look into this further and get back to the board with a specific proposal.

State Cup naming – Girls' U-18

John Burrill moved, seconded by John Linnehan to name the Girls' U-18 State Cup after Judy Withington. Motion PASSED unanimously.

New Video Project

John Burrill suggested we need a consensus of what we want to propose to Joi so she can prepare a budget. John suggested 10-15 minutes showing the kids in action for the most part. He added that perhaps we could have Jay Heaps, Tracy Ducar, Joe Cummings, and other professionals who have come through the Mass Youth system add commentary. The purpose of the video is to help us market ourselves to potential sponsors for the field complex.

Additional discussion revolved on the committees organized for this project. The committee to work on fund raising will be chaired by Paul Irwin and will identify target corporations to solicit for sponsorship. This committee will work with the marketing committee, chaired by Joe Nagle.

It was suggested that we need a proposal for plans, permitting, etc. requesting bids for initial plans, engineering designs, etc, but also we must ask for estimates of the total cost. We need to solicit sealed bids that will be opened at the next board meeting following the solicitation.

The board discussed the issue of inviting new bids or remaining with Carroll Johnson. Carl suggested we see if our data needs upgrading. Carl still has reservations on spending \$500,000

without knowing if we can raise the necessary money for this project. Carl Goldstein moved, seconded by Nancy Hart to authorize the board to spend up to \$25,000, as needed, to find out and bring back to the board the total cost of this project, a fund raising plan, and a financing plan. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by John Linnehan, reconsideration of the vote at previous special meeting to spend up to \$500,000. Both motions were withdrawn upon re-reading the minutes from the special meeting which show a caveat that the numbers must be acceptable before the money is expended.

The request came again to solicit bids for design and construction, such bids to be back in time for the April board meeting.

Follow up on "Attitudes Are Contagious" Video Project

John Burrill asked how we determine the video is actually being used. John asked if the leagues committee could come up with suggestions. Perhaps we can use the CED's to see if the videos were used. John Linnehan said he felt it is best if the impetus comes from the league presidents instead of the Mass Youth office or board.

Old Business

- Carl Goldstein questioned the validity of the vote last Saturday at the special meeting to refund the entire \$1 per head assessment to the membership, stating the banks may not allow it. *Sid Bloom moved reconsideration, seconded by Skip Gorman.* The motion failed.
- Workshop – Skip Gorman thanked everyone for their hard work. 27 vendor tables were sold and there were 398 paid attendees.
- State Head Coach selection – there are three finalists, two from out of state. They will participate this weekend in licensing courses so the selection committee can observe them in action. The committee will then interview the candidates and meet to discuss their reactions. Howie Blatt hopes we can reach a decision by April 1.
- Marketing position – Jared asked where we were in this process. Jim Gondek replied that the committee was still reviewing resumes.

New Business

- none

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

Executive Director's Report

March 17, 2003

January activity within the office was relatively high, especially considering the season.

- This is the time of the year that ODP activity is requiring increased support from the office staff. In late February there was a meeting with selected team managers. Invoicing for ODP payments has begun. Thus far we have received 64% of the team fee invoiced amounts. The Rider Cup invoicing will take place early March with a due date of April 5th. We will be providing Jared with periodic reports to document payment status of the

players. ODP uniforms have been received from adidas and have been separated in accordance with team allocations. The players have also received specific information relative to scholarships and ad sales.

- We have entered the busiest time of the year for the instructional program and we are busy getting course instructors assigned and course material out to the instructors. Tara has created a detailed CED email listing for three leagues and is working with the development coaches for a similar list for the other leagues.
- Every member of the office participated at the workshop with Dennis and Al working on the logistical issues and Rich, Tara, Jillian and Rachel coordinating registration as well as serving as seminar presenters.
- As we gear up for spring registrations, we have mailed registration packets to all organization registrars. The registration deadline for the spring season is mid-March. Immediately following the deadline, we will begin preparing reports for the League registrars indicating which organizations have submitted spring registrations and which have not.
- We are also in the process of merging our database from the fall with our aggregate database. This will serve as the new master for mail list rentals and *Bay Stater* mailing.
- Activity has picked up with permission to travel. There appears to be an increased number of teams (principally MAPLE) traveling to tournaments in March to get ready for the spring season.

In general areas:

- The video "Attitudes Are Contagious" has been reproduced (15,000 quantity). We are currently in the process of distributing to our Leagues. Region 1's distribution is complete. We are also starting to fill other national orders.
- The sale of land to Hirsh and Harper is temporarily delayed. Both parties have been required to make deposits that will be non-refundable if they fail to close.
- We have closed the application deadline for the Marketing position. More than 140 applications were received. A committee has been established and we have begun to review the resumes to reduce the candidate list to a manageable number for more detailed examination by the committee.

Instructional Program Report – 3/17/2003

- The Instructional Program continues to run smoothly during this interim period while we continue to actively seek a new State Head Coach/Director of Coaching. February has been a relatively quiet month in the Instructional Program. Weekly Development Coach meetings continue as the calendar for the spring begins to fill-up with courses and other activities.
- The Mass Youth Soccer Workshop was a great success. The entire Instructional Staff is to be commended for their marketing efforts and for putting together a great group of clinical presenters. The staff worked hard on the day of the workshop to provide quality presentations and to oversee other scheduled events, making sure the sessions ran smoothly and on-time.
- The State Head Coach/Director of Coaching hiring process continues. Three finalists have been identified. We hope to offer the job to one of these candidates before April 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howie Blatt
VP of Instruction

