Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting  
January 15, 2003


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

Acceptance of December BOD minutes

John Burrill moved, seconded by Nancy Hart 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. Jim added the Hirsch purchase & sale agreement was in progress and he hoped it would be signed by the end of the week.

Reports of Program Managers

- Instruction – Report from Howie Blatt submitted via email and appended to these minutes.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported the boys’ and girls’ U-15 and U-17 teams from Canada that participated in the Districts Tournament last year are going to participate again this year.
- TOPS – Joe Nagle was asked what TOPS programs are running across the state. Joe mentioned he cannot make any headway in western Massachusetts, there is a group in Lowell very well organized that added soccer to the rest of their year-round programs. There are programs in Winchester, Wilmington, Lowell, Acton, Hingham and Rockland. Joe suggested Eli Wolf from Northeastern University for participation at the workshop.
- ODP – Jared Scarpaci reported that he had met with the leagues committee and had a question & answer session. Jared distributed copies of the player packets that were distributed to all of the ODP players. It is very comprehensive and covers all aspects of the program. There will be a coaches’ meeting Feb 1 at which time Jared will distribute manuals. Jared reported the father of ODP player Mike Spiek died in the recent airline crash in North Carolina. John Linnehan moved, seconded by Skip Gorman that we provide a scholarship for Mike to be charged from general funds and not to the ODP budget. Motion passed unanimously.
- SYRA – Marc Lamoureaux reported there are 3 recent clinics left, they anticipate 3000 certified referees this year. There were 12 clinics conducted in all. Marc is working on referees for State Cup and MTOC. The leagues are being asked to nominate referees for MTOC. There are new ARAs and they are being trained in the mechanics of the program. There will be a grade 11 and assignor’s course offered at the workshop. Grade 11s are going to be bridged to grade 9

401(k) Plan Change

Jim Gondek explained that federal laws required certain changes be made to our plan. Our insurance company has developed a prototype amendment to bring its plans into compliance. John Linnehan moved, seconded by Jared Scarpaci that Mass Youth Soccer’s Board of Directors hereby adopts the plan changes required by the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, accepts the restated plan adopting those changes and authorizes its President and Treasurer to take the necessary steps to effectuate this resolutions. Motion passed unanimously.

Workshop Update
Jim Condeki updated the board on the progress on the workshop planning. Tom Goodman from
the National instructional staff and Nancy Feldman from BU were scheduled for the coach training
sessions. The Revolution may provide a coach, depending on their schedule. The time slots are
being finalized, and a letter is being sent to all leagues presidents promoting advanced
registration. The development coaches are also promoting the workshop. Skip Gorman reported
seven new vendors and six regular vendors have signed up, so we reached our goal in this area.
The banquet will begin 6pm on Friday, February 26.

Video Project Update

John Burrill presented the fourth draft of the video to the board. Larry Hamon, a USYS board
member at large, is championing the project and is proposing USYS contribute toward funding
the project. Tony Buiniskis, national chairman of recreation, also supports funding the project.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- Three Massachusetts ODP players made the national team – Ashley Phillips from the
  Spirit, Jaime Gilbert from the Stars of Massachusetts, and Meghan Cook from
  Greater Boston FC. Jared Scarpaci moved, seconded by John Burrill to give $300 to
each player to help offset expenses. Motion passed unanimously.
- Free Kicks, our new email newsletter, will be emailed the Friday after the AGM.
- Nominating Committee – Sid Bloom appointed John Burrill chairman of the
  nominating committee.
- Rules Committee – Sid Bloom appointed Steve Smoller chairman of the newly
  created rules committee.
- Kidsafe – John Linnehan asked about the status of this program. Sid Bloom
  suggested we consider outsourcing the research as other state associations do. It
  would cost approx. $5 per coach for a two-year pass.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

Executive Director Report
December 15, 2002

The December/January time frame is a relatively slow period for the organization. The number of
contacts made with the office for things such as permission to travel, insurance certification forms
and even routine questions slowed appreciably.

- We have reviewed our registration files to determine what information might be missing.
  For example – the required certification forms, registration disk, etc., and have been
  following up with organizations to obtain this information.
- Using the registration disks that have been submitted for the Fall season, we are creating
  a new master membership database. This will be used to create a new mail list of
  households for The Bay Stater, as well as a new mater used for mail list purposes. The
  new master file should be ready for processing by the end of the month.
Since database requirements are becoming more commonplace, we are sending Rachel Woo to a two-day Access training session. This will allow us to process a number of routine requests internally.

The office is getting a number of calls regarding the registration package called Soccer Trac. This is a proprietary package that is no longer being supported. We are starting to explore alternatives so we can respond to inquiries.

We have identified a few situations where organizations double reported registration data. We have coordinated refund efforts with Carl.

ODP player packages were mailed to the players. Scholarship requests have begun to be received.

On the instructional side, we have supported the two December programs – one for Coach Education Directors and the second for the Instructional Staff.

We have revised procedures for course reservations. These are distributed to those individuals responsible for site selection and scheduling.

In general areas:

- We have begun discussions with our liability carrier to determine process and costs of reviewing the self-funded medical claims. This will take this function out of the office, especially for more complex claims.
- We have had a few inquiries from member organizations dealing with bonding. Rich is exploring with our insurance carrier what those options and costs might be.
- The purchase and sale agreement with David Hirsh has been developed and forwarded to Hirsh for signature.
- The deadline date for submission of resumes for the Director of Coaching vacancy has passed. Approximately 35 resumes were received, with about a dozen of those representing international candidates. The review process has begun.
- Working with John Burnill, we have developed cost estimates for the production of the video. Sid has coordinated activities with US Youth Soccer, who may use the video as a recreational program project.
- Ray Cabral has been providing coverage for Jackie Shannon's assigned areas.
- We continue to support the efforts to finalize details for the March 1st Workshop.
- The Free Kick, an online electronic newsletter had its debut in December. The next issue will be February, and subsequent issues will be published in the months that The Bay Stater is not printed.

Instruction report – 1/13/2003

- Happy New Year!
- Since I will be in Kansas City for the NSCAA Conference, I will not be in attendance at the Wednesday, January 15th, BOD meeting. I plan to meet with State Head Coach/Director of Coaching candidates that will be attending the NSCAA conference while I am out there.
- The roster of presenters for the MYSA Workshop “Coaches Clinics” is coming together. So far Tom Goodman, Nancy Feldman, and Dusan Obsajnik have all given verbal commitments with Tom Goodman offering to do two sessions if necessary. Glenn and Mario explored having Jeff Pilt, Ed Tremble, and a Portuguese National Coach as presenters, but all have gotten back letting us know that they will be involved that weekend with their own organization's events. We have yet to hear from Bob Jenkins and Sue Ryan. Thanks to all who have been networking and contacting the various advanced-level clinicians. We are hoping to finalize the list of presenters within the next week. The Development Coaches and I will be meeting at the Royal Plaza Hotel on Tuesday, January 21st, to assess the facility and what the needs will be to create an environment for successful clinical presentations.
BOD 01/15/2003

- Weekly Development Coach meetings have been focusing on a review of the past year's events and current program offerings. Goals for the upcoming year are also being explored. Implementation of the monthly "Soccer Nights" concept (BTW more than a dozen of these have already been scheduled), revising the 3-Year Plan, and creating an "instructional" connection with MAPLE is all being discussed. We are also looking at "who the training competition is", as we see more and more area "training" offerings in the various soccer periodicals. This will be important as we look ahead towards a full-time marketing person. Ray Cabral has been working hard to let people in his region know that he is now their Development Coach. He has been contacting local soccer leaders, attending local and league BOD meetings, running licensing courses, and facilitating specialty clinics and 3-Year plans. We are all working hard to keep the Instructional Program running smoothly while we seek a new State Head Coach/Director of Coaching.

- A series of six Regional Conferences are coming up within the next month. In addition to using those conferences to educate and connect with local coaches, we will also be using them to, more directly, market the upcoming Mass Youth Soccer Workshop. I will be attending at least four of the six conferences specifically to market the March 1st workshop.

- I will be meeting with the Development Coaches, Tara Pierce, and Jim Gondek on Tuesday, January 14th, to discuss possible 3-Year Plan revisions to make them more "administrator-friendly". We will also be reviewing the overall success, and future, of the 3-Year Plan concept.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howie Blatt
Mass Youth Soccer VP of Instruction

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of January BOD minutes

John Burrill moved, seconded by Skip Gorman 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

- SYRA – Marc reported that invitations are going out to referees for MTOC. The sessions for the workshop are all set.
- Instruction – Report from Howie Blatt submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Workshop Update

Skip Gorman reported the workshop is just about set. The coaches sessions will be run one at a time instead of doubling up. The schedule begins later in the morning than earlier planned. There are 144 attendees registered to date. There are 20 vendor tables sold to date. Jay Heaps will be the keynote speaker at the Awards Dinner Friday night. Hall of Fame inductees will be Dean Conway and Joe Cummings. Joe will also serve as emcee.

Video Project Update

John Burrill reported that the video was well received at the Adidas workshop in Indianapolis. The region 2 referee administrator used a portion of the video for his presentation. Copies were provided to the regional directors and state association presidents. Region 1 gave us $10,000 and purchased 2000 copies. The focus now is on how to distribute the video to our leagues. John Burrill moved we distribute 2000 copies to our leagues, Skip Gorman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Land Sale update

Jim Gondek reported the due diligence period expired and the $25,000 deposit is ours. We plan to close the week of March 10. Hirsch hopes to begin construction in April.

Financials

Jim Gondek reported the financial reports by programs are going out using a new format. We will be getting monthly reports by program. We currently have 135,000 players registered.

Budget Variance – Instruction-Printing

We have been running a lot more E & F courses than projected and we’ve run out of inventory of manuals. Jim Gondek suggested we vote to approve going over budget to print more manuals to realize a savings in total cost of printing, since the manuals can be used next year as well. John Burrill moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to approve spending $15,000 over budget for printing the manuals. Motion passed unanimously.
Constitution and bylaw changes

Jim will send the text of the changes with the financial reports the end of next week. Section 300 small sided guidelines as voted by region 1 should be included in the text to be sent out.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- Nominating committee report – John Burrill reported all Incumbents are running for re-election and there will be one opponent for secretary.
- USYS fee increase – Sid Bloom reported that USYS proposed at the presidents’ meeting a $.50 increase in 2004. Region 1 does not support this proposal.
- Region 1 field complexes – Bob Palmiero, region 1 director, wants to build region 1 fields at state sites. Kirkwood, DE is one designated site. Massachusetts is under consideration for an additional site.
- Field Site meeting – John Burrill suggested we have a special board meeting devoted solely to discussion of field complex to develop a plan for fund raising as well as construction. He added we should also reclarify our role as a board. The date and time for this meeting was set for Saturday, March 15 10:00 at the state office.
- Web Page – Steve Smoller requested we review alternatives when our present contract with Hammerhead comes up for renewal. Steve feels we should be getting more features for our money, the page should be more user friendly, easier to navigate, and should have a better bulletin board/forum section as other associations have.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

Executive Director Report – January 2003

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

- The staff is gearing up for an expected high instructional course activity in March. We already have two weekends fully booked. Tara meets regularly with the Development Coaches to ensure that all details are coordinated.
- The office staff is prepared to support the Awards Banquet and the Workshops. Most of the office staff will be making seminar presentations at the Workshop.
- Registration for the Spring season is starting. A registration reminder packet was mailed to all organization registrars reminding them of the reporting deadlines and providing them with copies of the forms they need to submit.
- We sent Rachel Woo to a two-day Access class to make better use of office personnel in our database management. A new master data base has been created and will be the basis of future mail lists for both the newspaper and mail list requests.
- Mailing were done to all League and organization presidents providing them of the specifics of the upcoming AGM. A follow-up mailing is planned for February 21st.
- Tara, Howie Blatt, the Development Coaches and I reviewed the specifics of our three year instructional plans. It was decided to drop future ales of these plans on the basis that they are cumbersome to administer and minimize an organization’s ability to respond
to changing needs in the instructional area. In lieu of the three year plans, the Development Coaches will concentrate their efforts in structuring a year long instructional development plan, and use this as a base for adjustments in future years as an organization is able to assess new coaching instruction needs.

In general areas:

- The Purchase and Sale Agreement with David Hirsh was completed. We are currently in the stage of due diligence (expires 5:00 p.m. on February 18th). After the due diligence period ends, the $25,000 deposit is non-refundable. Subject to no termination notification from Hirsh, we plan to put the sale proposal forward at the Annual General Meeting on March 4th.
- The Video Project came to an end with a successful debut at the US Youth Soccer Workshops in Indianapolis. From all accounts, the video was the “show stopper”. Region 1 voted to reimburse Mass Youth Soccer a total of $10,000, and they will also purchase 2,000 videos. Currently, we are designing the back cover for the video and securing cost estimates for reproduction of the video in VHS and CD format in quantity.
- The next issue of the Free Kick is scheduled for February. The next Bay Stater will be published in March and assignments will soon be handed out.
- The preliminary interviews for the Director of Coaching position are nearly done (the last will be on February 21st). The current plan is to then recommend the finalists to the Executive Committee.
- The Marketing Director position was finalized and posted. The application deadline is February 28th. We currently have more than 100 applicants.

Instruction report

- Attended the NSCAA Conference in Kansas City with our three Development Coaches. While there, two candidates that applied for the State Head Coach/Director of Coaching position were given preliminary interviews. The Development Coaches attended a variety of clinical workshops and seminars. Also while there, we were able to firm-up commitments from Tom Goodman, U.S.Y.S.A. National Director of Coaching, and the Boston Breakers (Pia Sundhage) as presenters for our upcoming Mass Youth Soccer Workshop. Time was also spent exploring the various vendors’ interests in participating in our Mass Youth Soccer Workshop.
- In mid-January, we accomplished our goal of putting together a confirmed roster of clinical presenters for the Mass Youth Soccer Workshop. Pia Sundhage (2 floor sessions...1 of them with the Boston Breakers), Tom Goodman (1 floor session and 1 seminar), Nancy Feldman (1 floor session), and Dusan Obsesnik (2 floor sessions - goalkeeping). Based upon input from the clinicians, one GU14 ODP team (Sundhage), one GU17 MAPLE team (Feldman), and one BU12 Town Travel team (Goodman), will be used as demo teams. Teams have already been arranged. Dusan Obsesnik will be bringing in demo goalkeepers of his choosing. Thanks to all who helped us to network and build this list of advanced-level clinicians.
- The Development Coaches, Tara Pierce, Jim Gondek, and I, met on Tuesday, January 14th, to discuss the 3-Year Plan. We reviewed how the current plans were working to explore the success of the concept and the potential need for revision. In the end, we unanimously decided that the plans were too costly and too difficult to manage over lengthy 3-year periods. We discussed a revision that would use the same concept, but keep plans to a 1-year maximum. This revision will hopefully keep these plans more administratively manageable. Existing 3-Year Plans that have been pre-paid will continue to be honored as originally agreed upon.
- Regional Youth Conferences were held in Wilbraham, Pittsfield, Lowell, and Newton. The Wilbraham and Newton Conferences had 50+ coaches at each. The Wilbraham and
Pittsfield Conferences provided an opportunity to establish an increased presence in the western part of the state. I attended all of these conferences to support the development coaches, become more familiar with the membership, and to directly inform the membership of the upcoming March 1st Mass Youth Soccer Workshop. Direct feedback, from area coaches attending, was consistently positive. A new C.E.D. came onboard during our conference in Pittsfield. She has already contacted us to schedule licensing courses.

- The Instructional Program appears to be running smoothly while we seek a new State Head Coach/Director of Coaching. Jim Conde and I met with the Instructional Staff to establish clearly defined interim roles. This was an effort to establish an interim support system, maximize communication, and minimize confusion within the program during this transitional period.

- The Instructional Staff has unanimously decided that SOCCER LINK, our newsletter to Coach Education Directors (C.E.D.s) should go electronic. Electronic distribution through e-mail attachments and a link of its own, on the Mass Youth Soccer web site, will increase distribution and save both printing and postage costs. Folks interested in a hard copy can print the document directly from the web site. Reedswain, a current sponsor of SOCCER LINK, was contacted for their approval of this change. They fully support the new format.

- While attending the USYSA Coaches Convention in Indianapolis, two of the Development Coaches and I attended an all-day "Director of Coaches" meeting led by Tom Goodman, the new USYSA National Director of Coaching. The meeting offered a half-day mini-course in conflict management and a half-day opportunity to explore various other issues. One of those issues was an exploration of what the various states are doing with the current USYSA Youth Module Curriculum. USYSA is looking to revise that curriculum in another attempt to create a national standard for coach training. As a potential foundation for that revision, Tom Goodman is reviewing our Mass Youth Soccer coach training materials. We will be following-up on that with Tom Goodman when he attends our Mass Youth Soccer Workshop on March 1st. From group discussions with the various State Head Coach/Directors of Coaching attending that meeting, it is clear that our Instructional Program continues to be "cutting edge".

- Also while at the USYSA Convention in Indianapolis, three more State Head Coach/Director of Coaching candidates were interviewed, this time by the entire four-member search committee. The process is moving along "carefully" with the hope that we will soon be able to identify the most appropriate candidate to fill that position.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howie Blatt
Mass Youth Soccer VP of Instruction
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
March 19, 2003


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

Acceptance of February BOD minutes

Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Howie 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 Burtill 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 Burtill 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 Burtill moved, seconded by John Linnehan to name the Girls’ U-18 State Cup after Judy Withington. Motion PASSED unanimously.

New Video Project

John Burtill suggested we need a consensus of what we want to propose to Jol 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.


- 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
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting  
April 23, 2003


Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of March BOD minutes

Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart to accept the minutes. PASSED unanimously.

Executive Session

The board went into executive session for a brief discussion.

State Head Coach

Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart that the board ratify the decision to hire Michael Singleton as state head coach. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report

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

Regarding ODP, Sid Bloom wants to make sure no one attends Ryder Cup who has not paid on time. Those who applied for a scholarship and did not get one will be given three months to pay their fees. Carl Goldstein suggested sending a warning letter giving the others who are late three weeks to pay in full or they cannot play.

Capital Campaign

Sid Bloom introduced Paul Irwin, president of MAPLE who will serve as chairman of the capital campaign committee. Paul had some questions concerning the direction he should take, what the pitch is going to be, what is the total cost of the project, how much can we pay for and how much will be financed. Carl Goldstein feels we’ll have estimates of the total cost within 30 days. Carl would like Paul’s committee to develop a list of potential corporate sponsors. Paul suggested chairing a meeting of the other committee chairmen involved with the field project. This meeting will consist of Paul Irwin, Joe Nagle, John Burrill, Carl Goldstein, Sid Bloom, and Jim Gondek.

Reports of Program Managers

- MTOC – the leagues committee met and discussed the $1 assessment to the membership. The committee wants the entire assessment returned to the membership. At MTOC the committee will introduce a “final four” concept for those teams making it into the semis. Those teams will receive special T-shirts. The Sportsmanship Award T-shirts will also be different from the regular tournament T-shirts. Nick Priot will chair the Sportsmanship Award.
- Instruction – Report from Howie Blatt submitted via email and appended to these minutes.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported she has ordered all of the districts uniforms and will be meeting with the girls’ and boys’ administrators tomorrow.
- ODP – Jared Scarpaci reported the scholarships were taken care of. At the Border Cup tournament at Keene State in NH Mass teams did very well, winning almost all of their games. Jared is developing a new brochure. The prototype is on the web page. Jared would like to revisit the player priority guidelines. Nancy Hart moved,
Financial Overview

Carl gave a short analysis – we are in good shape. The issue of affiliation fees came up. Many town organizations are not affiliating all of their members. Affiliation revenue is significantly less than last year to date.

Land Project Update

Hirsh wants to close before May 9. We have had a few meetings with consultants and contractors. Cutler & Associates will either bid on the project or serve as clerk of the works.

*Carl Goldstein moved, seconded by Steve Smoller, that, subject to bank approval, and upon completion of the land sale, we refund the $1 assessment to the membership, provided they are affiliated and in good standing.* Motion passed 6-0-1.

New Video Project

John Burrill proposed a budget via email as well as an outline of the content. Paul Irwin's committee will provide input.

Advertising Super Y League

The Cape Cod Crusaders ad in the Bay Stater proposes advertising the Super Y League tryouts. Sid Bloom does not want to advertise the Super Y League, since it competes with USYS programs. Terri asked if we have the right to refuse ads. Jim Gondek responded we do have that right. John Linnehan asked if Mass Youth has a position on the Super Y League. *Carl Goldstein moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, that we support Sid's decision on the ad.* The motion passed 6-0-1.

Thorpe Bad Standing – Removal

Jim Thorpe was placed in bad standing last year due to non-payment of ODP fees. His mother wants to get him out of bad standing by paying the outstanding debt this year. The board voted 7-0 not to remove him from bad standing.

PVJSL Bad Standing Hearing

Jim Gondek reviewed the issue between a coach from Agawam and the Pioneer Valley league involving his suspension, appeal and resulting action on the part of the league. There are many conflicting factors in this issue and it is unclear if the process was followed correctly. *Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, that we appoint a new appeals committee to hear the appeal of Costa vs. Pioneer Valley Soccer League, to be heard within 15 days, with all correspondence to be via certified mail.* The motion passed 7-0.

Old Business

- Marketing position – Skip Gorman asked the status of the search. Jim replied the committee is trying to narrow 155 applications down to approx. 35 candidates.

New Business

- Boston Breakers advertising – Sid Bloom announced that the Breakers and Mass Youth have bartered advertising and we will receive two field boards at BU field for Breakers games.
Meeting adjourned at 10:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT
March 2003

We have entered one of the busiest times of the year from the standpoint of office support, with registrations and program support exerting significant time demands on the staff.

- Spring registrations were due in mid-March. We have been tracking the organizations with the attempt to identify those organizations that have not yet submitted Spring registration data. Thanks to the efforts of the several League registrars, we have gotten good results in our follow-up efforts.
- In addition to the affiliation reports, we have also been following up with organizations to obtain missing or incomplete paperwork, or to obtain the disks for the database. This audit element helps us validate the registration information we receive from the organizations.
- Instruction activity for March was extremely high. This placed demands on getting instructors to cover all of the courses. In addition, it required extensive coordination to ensure that course material was prepared and shipped to the course contacts.
- Office support for ODP spanned several areas. We have been invoicing all players for the team and Rider Cup fees. In terms of team fees, we have collected 81% of invoiced amounts. Rider Cup invoices were sent out in mid-March. Several families are awaiting final determination of the advertising accounting and scholarship determination prior to making payment.
- In terms of the ODP ad project, most of the ads were received prior to April 1st. The next task is to prepare the ads for submission to the printer. The goal is to secure the final proof by mid-May.
- ODP uniforms were received, sorted, screened and delivered to teams prior to the Border Cup.
- Our KidSafe organizational files are regularly updated to reflect new registrations and returned to the organizations for verification. As a result of the Workshop and the article in the last issue of the paper, we have increased attention being paid by the towns and clubs. We are able to respond to their requests for reports within two business days. CORI submissions to the state are done on a regular basis.
- We had 130 requests for permission to travel in March. Of these, 22% were considered “Late” (less than two weeks prior to travel).

On more general issues:
- We have heard from Hirsh that he hopes to close earlier than planned. WE have been trying to advance the closing schedule that was originally developed. In part, we are dependent on getting releases from both Region 1 and BankNorth.
- A series of meetings were held with engineering groups. Carl coordinated a meeting with Cutler Associates and I participated in a follow-up meeting with them at the office and conducted a tour of the lab to be developed. Additionally, I had follow-up appointments with the two firms that had provided us with input for our special meeting. Both are interested in providing additional information, although all parties indicated a need to review the development work, files, environmental reports, etc that had previously been done. I have been coordinating this with John Davagian.
- I also met with Paul Irvin to provide him with an overview of the prior work that had been done with respect to the capital campaign and to provide him with some contact information. Paul identified a few items that I needed to obtain for him.
• At Carl’s request, I attended a meeting he scheduled for Soccer for Hope. The intent is to develop a program that will be run in Worcester.
• I also attended a meeting of several non-profit organizations that was examining the issue of youth obesity and ways to provide programs to combat it. The primary benefit from that session was the development of contacts of other educational organizations within the state that may prove to be program partners.

**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 MYSA 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
MYSA VP of Instruction
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
May 14, 2003


Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of April BOD minutes
Deferred to June meeting.

Reports of Program Managers

- State Cup – John Burrill reported that Cup was in its final stages. Challenge round games nearly done. Lots of offsite matches permitted due to ACT/SAT testing. The Region 1 summer league has a total of 70 boys teams and 56 girls teams (with 11 B and 8 G teams from Massachusetts).
- MTOC – John Linnihan reported that the draws and schedules were done and he further outlined what elements had been settled by the Leagues Committee gearing up for the weekend’s activity.
- ODP – Jared Scarpaci described the process used to collect amounts past due. Carl commended Jared on the tremendous job done to reduce receivables in just 8 days. Jared also touched on the efforts getting ready for Rider and indicated that Fall 2003 tryout dates have been set.
- TOPS – Joe Nagle reported that the inclement weather was having a significant impact on the state’s TOPS programs. He said that at present there are 6 active organizations and 7-8 others that don’t want to be identified.
- SYRA – Marc Lamoureux indicated that Mass will be sending 11 referees and 2 assessors to Rider and 15 referees and 3 assessors to the Region 1 tournament. He outlines steps for the upcoming MTOC tournament. He also said that we had 2 referees do quite well at the Region 1 Director’s League in Kirkwood.

Financial Discussion

Carl provided an overview of the budget process and timetable and that the budget committee was scheduled to meet at the end of May (May 26th). The purpose of the meeting was to establish the budget process to be followed.

Video Project Update

John Burrill reported that the new video project was underway, Joi was planning to be here over the Memorial Day weekend and the following week, and that a schedule was being planned. In additional to game footage from tournaments and training, Joi was planning to interview pros players such as Jay Heaps and Tracy Ducar.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,
Jim Conde for
Steve Smoller,
Secretary
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
June 18, 2003


Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Acceptance of April and May BOD minutes
John Burrill moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Mario Prata – report on Portugal Trip
Mario took a boys’ U-13 team to Portugal. Among the events during the trip there was a tournament. His team was divided into two teams. They played each other in the final for the trophy. Mario presented the tournament trophy along with a silver plate and banner that the team had received from their hosts to the Mass Youth board.

Executive Director report
The report was submitted via email and is appended to these minutes. Jim added that he had contacted five business colleges with the job description for marketing director. The colleges will post the job descriptions on their bulletin boards.

Reports of Program Managers
- State Cup – report submitted via email and appended below.
- MTOC – John Linnehan reported the committee is praying for good weather. They had lined up Devens as an alternative site, but had to commit by Tuesday and did not feel they could do so.
- Instruction – report submitted via email and is appended below. Howie added that the development coaches thanked the board for the bonuses they received. Mike Singleton will have the development coaches oversee the part-time instructional staff. He is reviewing the specialty clinics and manuals. Tom Goodman, national director of coaching, will visit Massachusetts July 1-3.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported the districts program starts July 5.
- ODP – Jared Searpaci reported most of Ryder Cup got rained out, so most of our teams did not get to play much. Mike Singleton watched the teams and feels we do not have the best talented players in the ODP program. The ODP directors from northern region 1 are planning to meet in the fall and, perhaps, have an event with some area colleges. The teams would play the college teams and the coaches can scout the players.
- SYRA – Rich Frongillo reported Brian Hall was in Massachusetts and attended the first week of State Cup. USSF has eliminated grade 11. John Linnehan commented on the miscommunications between the referee assignors for MTOC and the leagues. Both groups are hoping to rectify the situation in the future.
Financial / Budget overview

Carl distributed projections on the budget to date. We are in very good shape.

Land Sale Update

We have sold the parcel of land to David Hirsch. The money is being wired to our bank. We should net $930,000 after commissions are paid and costs are covered. This completes step one. Paul Irwin’s committee is meeting tomorrow night to begin step two. Work has commenced on the video to be used for fund raising. The committee is working with the consultants to get estimates on the total cost of the project. Region 1 may want to develop part of the site.

US Soccer/US Youth Soccer AGM issues

Sid Bloom reported on the agenda for the upcoming annual meeting of these two groups to be held in Chicago. There is a $.50 fee increase being proposed. Region 1 has decided to oppose this increase. The rationale for the increase is to replace revenue from loss of national sponsors. The consensus of the Mass Youth board was to vote no on the increase.

Election of officers: Tony Buiniskis, of New York West, is running for 1st Vice President, opposing the incumbent, Evelyn Gill. Sid would like to support Tony. Steve Smoller moved, seconded by Nancy Hirt, that Mass Youth vote for Tony Buiniskis. Motion passed unanimously. There are two candidates for Treasurer, Dennis Brunfeld of West Virginia, and Perry Alexander from Kentucky. The board suggested the decision be left to Sid.

Old Business

- None.

New Business

- Calendars – J.m requested program managers provide dates in a timely fashion to prevent conflicts.
- July meeting – John Burrill moved, seconded by Terri Filippetti, to cancel the July board meeting. Motion passed 7-1.
- Region 1 league – John Burrill is director of the girls division of this league, which competes with the Super Y league. Upon assuming the position, there was no structure provided. The division is up and running with 15 teams from Massachusetts.
- Adidas Workshop – Skip reported we would be able to offer a $25 fee for one-day visits to the workshop. We are providing one of the two breakfasts. Due to logistics of having to drive to Boston and pay for parking, we may not have the Mass Youth AGM take place as part of this event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary
Addenda

1. Executive Director Report
June 16, 2003
Memo To: Board of Directors
From: Jim Gondek
Subject: Executive Director Report – May 2003

During the months of April and May, the office supports several programs as well as remaining involved in its normal business activities. The following summaries current activity:

- On the Instructional front, even though we have moved past our traditional busy season, we use these weeks to catch up on the issuance of instructional licenses. In addition, the planning process has begun for our annual Coach Education Week that takes place in August. This year, we will stagger the "week" of instruction over a three week period and will utilize three sites, including one in Western Mass.
- In terms of the ODP Program, it has been a particularly busy period. Working with Jared Scarpace, we have reduced the outstanding receivables for amounts due. During this time period we are also required to provide Region 1 with a list of players to attend Rider. The work on the ODP Yearbook comes to a conclusion with the development of the layout, proofreading and authorization to print. We are also working on the ID Camp receivables (about $8K), making sure no player with an outstanding balance is allowed to go.
- Working with Carl and Sid, the office was also involved with a registration audit to identify areas for follow-up. This included a three-year comparison, by town, of registered players and adults. We also prepared a comparison of players by town, based upon their League participation. This gave us some interesting data as well as helping to verify affiliation compliance. We also provided the Leagues with periodic updates.
- At the request of John Burrill, the office provided administrative support for the 2003 Cup event.
- We have begun discussions with a third party administrator to assume responsibility for evaluating and making benefit determinations with regard to our self-funded medical plan. The expectation would be to have this service (currently projected as no added cost) in place to start the next fiscal year, adding an element of claim review expertise and removing a task from the office, freeing up additional time.
- We will soon begin issuance of the Fall 2003 registration packets, making some changes that surfaced as a result of the registration audit that had been conducted.
- We have started to prepare for the administrative tasks associated with the District Select program – uniform distribution and team fee collection.
- The Memorial Day weekend is a busy tournament season. We processed 79 permission to travel requests.

On general issues:
- The land sale closing for the Hirsh property was postponed and rescheduled a couple of times. It is now set for June 17th.
- Efforts to move forward with plans to fund/construct the soccer complex on the remaining land have heightened. Paul Irwin is chairing a committee to revitalize the capital campaign effort. Carl Goldstein is working to secure additional information to assist the group get a better handle on the projected costs for the project. A couple of preliminary meetings have already been held to enable group to proceed in timely fashion once the land sale closes.
- The budget process for next fiscal year has begun. A meeting of the Budget Committee was held in late May. Program Managers have received their budget worksheets, and budgets are to be submitted to my attention by June 30th.
- The May issue of The Bay Stater featured special supplements for State Cup and MTGC, as well as a Club tryout advertising supplement. Ad revenue generated for the issue exceeded $39,000.

2. State Cup Report
June 15, 2003
From: John Burrill
Re: Snickers Massachusetts State cup 2003
Report
On a bright and sunny Father’s Day Sunday June 15 the 2003 edition of the Massachusetts state cup championships were concluded. We had no problems to speak of and this ran just as expected.......oops that was last year’s line. I think the operative words are that state cup mercifully came to a conclusion.

Weather
This area of the tournament needs substantial improvement. The weather was lousy throughout, worst every, with matches cancelled due to unplayable fields and loss of fields for the semi final and final. While the actual weather on finals weekend was good all the weather leading up to finals weekend was terrible. This cause a substantial disruption of the tournament, however despite all the problems we managed to survive, get all the matches on time and our state champions are excellent representatives of our state. We did some damage to the fields at Umass but this was really out of our control. Some fields at Umass are still unplayable and this could cause a serious problem for MTOC.

Numbers:
This year we had a total of 259 compete in state cup, an all time record when you take into account the elimination of the U-12 age group. A total of 277 Cup matches were played

Format.
This was year one of playing the 13’s & 14’s in the fall and I believe this worked quite well. It was also the first year of expanding the brackets for the 15’s – 18’s. This was probably not a good idea and I expect Terri will review the matter before making a final decision. My recommendation would be to go back to just an 8 team round robin format.

Seedings were done in early September (for the 13’s & 14’s) and late December (for the 15’s & above) based on prior year’s results and by a blind draw. I think it was improved over the previous year but some minor tinkering is still necessary. As it turned out approximately 75 % of the top 4 seeds made it into the semi finals.

Again this year there was minimal conflict with either the town league programs or the ODP program. I think coaches made a sincere effort to avoid conflict and we were able to keep some of the bigger town leagues updated with the scheduling of matches. This seems to work quite well

Due to the way the calendar fell this year we had more than our share of problems with high school graduation and both sets of college entrance exams, SAT’s & ACT’s. This coupled with all the cancellations from June 1 caused a greater number of matches to be played off site and much more work in scheduling.

Administration
With a new registrar coming on board it took a while to get up to speed but the addition of Kitty was a real benefit to the program. Her attention to detail and her follow up and follow through skills made things go quite smoothly. Again this year we made things a bit more difficult for her by permitting teams to submit rosters on the day they played. This gave team maximum flexibility and once everyone got used to the process, it went
well. This single biggest problem again this year remains the fact that people either fail to read, read poorly or pay no attention at all to the paperwork requirements. I do think this year we identified the correct people but things had to be repeated far too many times and folks asked questions that were answered in the distributions. I suspect this area will continue to be a headache. I have no current solution for folks reading skills or attention to detail.

Kitty did an outstanding job and had a staff of well-prepared volunteers to assist her. We eliminated several unnecessary steps as far as team registration goes and that went very well.

Terri Filippetti while in training to sit in the big chair kept track of all the yellow and red cards (far to many) as well as did the tabulations for the Fair Play awards (always my favorite).

The Region 1 paperwork requirements were a bit of problem as so many teams had to do the work which turned out to be unnecessary given that they are not moving on. But it does make things much easier for the teams going to Regionals. We were able to file all paperwork with Region 1 in a timely fashion.

The administration of off site matches turned out to be no problem.

One of the biggest plus continues to be the state cup score site on the web. This enabled us to keep everyone informed of the results on an up to the day basis and everyone seemed to appreciate this. A very good investment indeed. We were even able to post scores from Umass.

All information was distributed via e-mail and this system worked well. With few exceptions the right folks had the information and were able to act on it. This saved much money in mailings and enabled us to get timely information into the right hands quickly. An e-mail distribution list is essential to running this tournament at this stage.

Rules
This year the rules presented no problems.
Also I removed the cap of goals allowed so we do not have a team advancing which gives up 10 goals in a game but because of a cap only gets 5 recorded against it.

Referees
This area was a real strength of the tournament. Rich Filippetti handled all the assignment of officials for the challenge round portion of the tournament – approximately 140 matches. In all be a very few we had 3 officials for each match and all did a fine job. This was a very large administrative task but Rich handled everything is an outstanding manner. Quite frankly the challenge system would not work without Rich or someone with his dedication and attention to detail.

Marc Lameuoux assigned John Utter as head assigner for the tournament and John did an outstanding job. In his first year as State Youth Referee Administrator Marc did a fine job.
The overall quality of officials was excellent throughout. We have lost some of most experienced officials due their success and advancement. However a new crop are coming along behind and doing a nice job.

The quality of the referees are a real strength of the program.

Competition

The competition was excellent. While there were some mis-matches in the early stages of the challenge round, many games were decided in overtime and some in Pk’s. We moved to the golden goal for all challenge round and quarter, semis and final matches. Everyone seemed to like the system and we had a fair number of matches decided by the golden goal. The competition at the round robin was excellent and we had a few surprises as favored teams were beaten. The semis and finals were very well played and Massachusetts has an outstanding group of teams representing it at Regionals. I fully expect us to challenge for region championships in many age groups.

The competition was without incident this year. Matches were hard fought but within the rules and there were no incidents of any kind to report.

Site

Umass was once again the site however 8 fields on main complex were taken out of service so we had to use field on the main complex and well as fields behind the football stadium. These are ok and having two sites did not prove to be a problem. We were even able to accommodate the Amherst Youth program as well. The fields were in the best shape they have been in years. The condition of the goals and nets were an issue. Much work needs to be done to rehab the goals and I have spoken to the administration staff about that. We went out and purchased several more sets of new nets so the condition of the nets has improved markedly. But the goals are in need or repair.

Since this should be the last year of field rehab (unless they want to do the fields behind the football stadium) we should be all set for next year and can play most all the matches on the Boyden complex. We did have to disrupt the Amherst Youth program somewhat but all seemed to go alright. Our main contact, Al McKinnon, is retiring and I have no idea who his replacement will be. While we have an excellent working relationship with the administration at Umass time will tell with the new person. Or at least we did until this year with all the rain we did do some damage to the fields. I suspect given some dry weather and care they will all come back in good shape.

We used Umass kids to help on a contact basis and they did an outstanding job.

On Monday, June 9 I made the decision not to use the Umass fields for the semi finals and finals. Many were quite helpful in assisting me to secure additional fields and by Wednesday I had 6 fields at 5 locations for Saturday and 5 fields at 4 locations for Sunday. On Friday I made the decision to move from the 2 field complex due to weather, and I was able to secure a new field for matches on Saturday and Sunday.

We ended up using: Plymouth North High School, a grass field in excellent condition, Juventus Park in West Springfield, another grass field in terrific condition; Holyoke High School, Mansfield High School and Umass-Lowell all three new field turf fields and in excellent condition. All matches went off without a hitch, each location was fully
staffed and the semi finals and finals were all played on terrific playing surfaces. There was added cost with this move, I expect no refund from Umass, however we did save on hotel expense, trainer expense and some incidental monies as well.

Trainers
Kathy Boyd of the Umass staff handled this and they were outstanding. We had ample staff on site and they were able to respond quickly and effectively when necessary. Many favorable comments were made about Kathy and her staff.

We were required to have a trainer at Umass-Lowell however the other sites went without a trainer and only 1 injury (a cut) required a hospital visit.

Concessions
UMass services provided these. The food was ok but a bit pricey for some. Most felt $3.00 for a hot dog was a bit much. I did pass this along but prices remained the same.

We had two vendors selling various items, which seemed to be very well received.

Awards presentation
Even with the weather this was a real highlight. Kid and parents were very proud and the ceremonies were done with some style and pizzazz. Each site ran a presentation ceremony and Judy Withington, girls 18, John Matias, girls 17 and Jack Ullathorne, girls 14 attended the appropriate ceremonies.

The named cup presentations were again a big hit and permitting the teams to keep the trophy for a year went over quite well.

Medals were again given to the top 4 teams.

Pop Up Tents
These were outstanding, looked sharp and saved us money all in one. They are easy to put up and with sandbags are safe. This was a good investment.

Staff
This again was the real strong point of the tournament. There is just an outstanding group of folks who contributed their time, effort and dedication to make the event a success. Everything went off without incident and basically on time. Paperwork was accomplished with a minimum of disruption and hassle and the positive upbeat attitude of the staff prevented problems before they arose.

Kitty Connors, Ross Weaver, Paul Irwin, Kathy Irwin, Dave Westbury, Terri Filippetti, Rich Filippetti, John Utter, Rich Frongillo, Kathy Kelly, Jim & Marlene Gondek and Jillian Pierce and several others were instrumental in making the tournament a success and putting up with me. Of particular note are Kitty, Terri, Ross and Dave who basically did all the work and left nothing for me to do which fortunately I did not manage to mess up. They all managed to make me look good – a difficult task indeed.

Changes in the works for next year
Terri will be in charge.
Our State champions are
BOYS 13 INTER SC BOSTON
BOYS 14 INTER SC BOSTON
BOYS 15 INTER SC BOSTON
BOYS 16 FC GREATER BOSTON BOLTS
BOYS 17 FC GREATER BOSTON BOLTS also won Region 1 Director's league
BOYS 18 TRI VALLEY EAGLES
BOYS 19 FC GREATER BOSTON BOLTS
GIRLS 13 FULLER HAMLETS
GIRLS 14 WESTERN UNITED
WILD CARD SOUTH SHORE SELECT
GIRLS 15 WESTERN UNITED
GIRLS 16 NOR'EASTER
GIRLS 17 SOUTH COAST SCORPIONS
GIRLS 18 STARS OF MASS
GIRLS 19 FC GREATER BOSTON BOLTS
Fair Play Winners 2003
BOYS
U-13 INTER - blue
U-14 Western United
U-15 South Shore United
U-16 MPS
U-17 Juventus
GIRLS
U-13 Nova
U-14 Crusaders
U-15 Western United
U-16 Sporting Cristale (WI)
U-17 Spirit of MASS

TITLE SPONSOR
Snickers was once again the title sponsor for the event and is the national sponsor. Snickers was again most helpful and makes a positive overall contribution and impression. They provided water coolers for the winning teams and fair play awards for all age groups.

John burrill

3. Instruction Program report
Instructional Program Report – 6/16/2003

- Our new State Head Coach/Director of Coaching, Mike Singleton, joined us at the beginning of June. He has been working hard to familiarize himself with our existing programs and to get to know the Mass Youth Staff and Board of Directors. We warmly welcome Mike to the Instructional Program Team.

- All three development coaches have asked that I convey their sincere thanks and appreciation for the recent gifts given by the Mass Youth Board of Directors Executive Committee for their performance over the past 6 months, during the absence of a State Head Coach/Director of Coaching. Throughout that period, all three coaches stepped-up consistently to make sure that the Instructional Program continued to do it’s job of offering high quality programs to our membership without interruption. It is important to mention that both Tara Pierce and Jim Gondek provided tremendous support to the Instructional Program throughout this period. They are to be sincerely thanked as well...

- The development coaches, Tara Pierce and Dean Conway, have all been working cooperatively over the past month to pull together the GOALS Program for this year. Sites so far set-up are Lowell, Lawrence, Cambridge, Somerville, Dorchester, and South Boston. An additional site that is currently being explored is Worcester. I have asked Dean Conway to work with Mike Singleton to assist in the process of familiarizing and integrating Mike into this year’s GOALS Program.
• Planning has been completed for the August Coach Education Weeks. Sites planned are the Park School (Brookline), Lawrence Academy (Groton), and a fully donated location in Hampden, the Thornton Burgess Middle School.

• Planning for next soccer year’s Regional Youth Conferences (4?) has started. Consideration is being given to the idea of integrating the annual C.E.D Meeting with one of these conferences.

• The next issue of the Soccer LINK, our newsletter sent out to all of our Coach Education Directors (C.E.D.s), will be coming out in the next week or so. This is the first issue that will be sent out electronically. The decision to go electronic was made with the idea that this would enable Soccer LINK to reach more people, help our C.E.D.s to more easily distribute LINK, and save considerably on printing and mailing costs. Our corporate sponsor for LINK was contacted for their approval of the format change. Originally the hard copy of Soccer LINK went out only to our C.E.D.s who were then responsible to distribute the info along to their local coaches.

• Tom Goodman, USYSA Director of Coaching Education, will be coming to Massachusetts during the first week in July. Mike Singleton and the Instructional staff have been working to put together three “coach nights” during which Tom will do floor demonstrations, a Power Point presentation, and Tom and Mike will lead an open discussion session with those in attendance. Wilbraham, Salem, and Stoughton have been chosen as the three sites for these events and they will take place on June 30th, July 1st, and July 2nd. This will also provide Mike an opportunity to gain some exposure to our membership.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howie Blatt
MYSA Director of Instructional Programs
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
July 28, 2003
Special Meeting

Present: S. Bloom, S. Gorman, C. Goldstein, J. Linnehan, J. Scarpaci, R. Robinson, T. Filippetti, H. Blatt, S. Smoller,

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was declared present.

**Steve Smoller moved, seconded by Skip Gorman, to go into executive session.**
Motion passed unanimously.

The board came out of executive session at 8:55 PM. The board voted unanimously to ratify the decision of the executive board to hire John Burrill as Mass Youth Soccer executive director.

Terri Filippetti resigned her position as at large board member.

**Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Steve Smoller, to elect Terri Filippetti National Cups director.** Motion passed 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
September 17, 2003


Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Introduction of Catherine Pacilio
John Burrill introduced our new marketing director, Catherine Pacilio.

Acceptance of August board meeting minutes
Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Howie Blatt to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director report
The report was submitted via email and is appended to these minutes. Additionally, John commented that registrations are not as far off as was anticipated. John will be reviewing registration numbers to make sure adults are being registered as well as players.

Reports of Program Managers
- State Cup – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- MTOC – The dates for MTOC will be last weekend in June. John Linnehan is waiting for the permits from UMASS.
- Instruction – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes. Additionally, Howie will be reporting each month with which towns the development coaches are interacting. Evaluation forms on the coaching courses are now available on the web page. Mass Youth Skills Academy – applications are available on the web page. Mike Singleton is heading up a program to provide a consistent U-6 presentation to be available for all town organizations. Mike is also working on parent education to promote small-sided soccer.
- Recreation – We have 44 applications so far for Tide Cup. There are still some openings.
- TOPS – no report
- ODP – tryouts went smoothly, There will be an ODP event the weekend before Memorial Day. This event will provide a chance for college coaches to scout the players.
- SYRA – no report

Executive Session
At this point, the board voted 5-0-1 to go into executive session.
Following the session the board resumed the business meeting

Open Position on the Board
So far, we have received 10 applicants for the position who will be interviewed. We hope to fill the position by November.

Thinking Outside the Box
John Burrill expressed concern with the relationship between the board and the leagues committee. He feels the board needs to find a way to improve the relationship. John
suggested we set up a sub-committee to meet regularly with a similar sub-committee from the leagues committee. Sid will establish the sub-committee. John Burrill also suggested setting up meetings with town organization presidents.

Old Business

- Director of Special Programs – lack of attendance and performance. This was discussed and Sid will contact Joe to discuss attendance and performance issues.

New Business

- Small-sided soccer – Mike Singleton explained the status in other states regarding the adoption of small-sided soccer for U-12 and below age groups. Massachusetts is trailing the pack. Discussion followed on the pros and cons of mandating small-sided soccer.
- Free Kick – This information piece will be published monthly on the web page to augment the two issues of the Bay Stater. It is currently reaching 5500 people. John Burrill’s “Play On” will also continue.
- Breakers – Joe Cummings called the office to thank Mass Youth Soccer for all of its help and support for the Breakers.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

1. Report of Executive Director – September Board meeting

First full month on the job has gone well; still learning about the office operation and the many different aspects of the job.

Catherine Pacilio, Marketing Director is on board and getting acclimated – She will be a real benefit to the organization

e-Travel system up and running and receiving positive comments from users

e-Kidsafe up and running. Town coordinators have some questions but as they use the system they will see the positive benefits. Those completing the forms on line – like it

Now working on putting the instructional course evaluation form on line and it should be up and running within two weeks.

A general review of our forms and the information we collect or do not collect will be competed within the next 30 days.

Office renovations and repairs continue and we continue to try to make the office friendlier in appearance and attitude and more open. Expect repairs and painting to continue for another few weeks

We are attempting to unwind our involvement with e-team. John Davagian has sent them a 30-day notice to terminate our contact. There are many suitors waiting in the wings as on-line registration and player registration and scheduling seems to be the next profit center in the world of soccer.

We have finalized our reconciliation of the 02-03 player & coach registration numbers. I will be auditing the numbers in the next week or so to compare with previous years and to see what the player / coach ratio looks like. A quick glance shows some inconsistencies.
We have been flooded with registrations for the 03-04 year and most all organizations have done a very good job at getting the information into us. We have a few that seem to have forgotten and we are following up. Generally 1 call is sufficient to get the initial report and payment. In the budget process the committee and subsequently Board was concerned about a drop in registration for the 03/04 year. A snap-shot in time would suggest we are ahead of where we were last - up in player numbers and down slightly in coach numbers (this appears to be timing issue not a real drop). Our plan is to wait until mid-October before doing an audit and follow-up with towns - we will give them a chance for a second and third submission. We are following up on those that have not sent in anything.

With the help of Carl we have made the decision to move to a DATA Base program for the management of our information. We have been using excel which is a spreadsheet program as our database and it is not adequate for either data collection or generating management reports. The goal is to have one data base which would capture and store all our information and we would be able to get meaningful reports which will assist us in better managing the business. The goal is to have the program installed by December, take 2 months to work the bugs out... and be fully functional for spring registrations.

We will lose Rachel for about a week – 10 days. She was injured during a WUSA game and will require surgery - which will be performed this Tuesday at Newton-Wellesley. She will be on crutches for about 6 weeks - she will unfortunately miss the opportunity to work the women's world cup

The ‘OPEN HOUSE’ has been schedule for Sunday, November 2.

The Baystater hit the streets and seems to be well received. It was a well-done issue.

A review of the mail returns from the Baystater seems to show our updates are not getting into the system and we are paying for ‘returns’, which should have been corrected. I intend to get into this issue soon.

Ross Weaver has offered us another van, which his company is taking out of service. We will have it evaluated to see if it makes sense for us to take it.

The Board’s generous donations to the City Kicks, Cambridge Economic & to New England Scores were very well received and we received thanks from all.

With CDP tryouts the next two weekends, followed by Big Apple and then Tide Cup the staff will be busy helping to support these events.

As of this point in time we have no major court cases or claims. We are named in one suit involving an assistant coach who was in a traffic accident going to get cones for a practice. The injured party sued everyone around including us, however our counsel is attempting to have the suit against us dismissed... I will keep you informed.

We have renewed the Chevrolet contract for another year. 04 are the last year of the national contract and once our present arrangement expires it might make sense for us to shop around a bit to see what we might find.

I have talked with several companies who were interested in submitting a bid for our uniform business – however to date no company has made a proposal. In addition I have not seen a new contact from Adidas but I am following up with them.

We have purchased several lap top computers so if a program manager needs to borrow one just let us know. One will be ticketed for primary use by the development staff.

September is National Youth Soccer month. We are waiting for the Governor to sign a proclamation, which we prepared. Catherine is attempting to get a story on one of the 5PM news shows and we are making contact with some of the major newspapers in the state about this.

When you arrive you should notice a new storage container in the lot. With Skip's help we were able to purchase a used one. We will move all the items stored in the Trailer into the container and the trailer will be hauled away.

On a personal note I continue to meet with board members and league presidents with the goal of meeting with all. Jim continues to be a source of valuable information and assistance.
2. Instructional Program Report – 9/12/2003

- Weekly Instructional Staff meetings have resumed. Meetings have been focusing on the continuing preparations for the "Centers for Excellence", the upcoming annual Coach Education Directors and Instructional Staff Meetings, and preparations for "small-sided" presentations throughout the state. Mike has completed a Power-Point slide show, which will assist in the effort to educate the membership on the benefits of "small-sided" training and play.

- As the fall soccer season begins, Mike and the development coaches have been busy communicating with the membership through literally hundreds of phone calls and/or e-mails, along with face-to-face contacts with local boards, leagues (Middlesex), and coach and parent groups. Programs/communities that have been using the Instructional Program staff for consultation, over this past month alone, are Somerville, Cambridge, Newton, Dorchester, Andover, Haverhill, Fall River, Westfield, Ludlow, New Bedford, Tewksbury, Easton, Waymouth, Plymouth, Sharon, Kingston, Sturbridge, Wayland, N. Attleboro, Middleboro, Walpole, Foxboro, Concord, Springfield, Pittsfield, Northampton, Wilbraham, Groton, Franklin, Randolph, Norton, Maynard, Beverly, Dracut, Grafton, and Billerica. In addition, Mike has been observing and creating connections with the US Soccer Staff coaches at the U14 national camps in Concord, meeting with NE Scores, City Kicks, the Boston Breakers, and Matt Driver of the NE Revolution.

- Mike has just returned from a "Directors of Coaching Conference" in Dallas, run by Tom Goodman, Director of Coach Development for USYSA. At this conference efforts were made to begin the process of fostering more direct and open communications between the DOCs and state and national referee representatives. Also, much of the conference focused on "small-sided" training/play. USYSA has more formally adopted the following guidelines: U6 & U7 = 3v3 (no keepers), U8 = 4v4 (no keepers), U10 = 6v6, U12 = 8v8.

- During the week of August 9-13, Ray Cabral again ran the Mass Youth Soccer Clinic Program...there were about 50 players who attended the five-day program.

- During August and September the numbers of licensing courses have increased. Once again, the Coach Education Weeks were very successful. The process of on-site evaluations of the part-time instructional staff at licensing courses has begun.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howie Blatt
Director of Instructional Programs


Snickers State Cup 2004 U-13 and U-14 applications closed September 1st.

A total of 115 applications were received – the breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Breakdown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls U-13</td>
<td>36 teams</td>
<td>(12 entry games to be played)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls U-14</td>
<td>28 teams</td>
<td>(4 entry games to be played)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys U-13</td>
<td>26 teams</td>
<td>(2 entry games to be played)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys U-14</td>
<td>25 teams</td>
<td>(1 entry game to be played)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Entry games to be played at the higher seed’s location no later than September 29th.

October 4th
Challenge Round 1 will include 32 games played at the following field locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Games</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anna Dias</td>
<td>1 field - 3 games</td>
<td>thank you R. Andre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowden</td>
<td>2 fields - 8 games</td>
<td>thank you R. Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRU</td>
<td>2 fields - 8 games</td>
<td>thank you F. Fernandez</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4
October 25th
Challenge Round 2 will include 16 games played at the following field locations:

- Anna Dias 1 field - 4 games
- Bowden 1 field - 4 games
- CRU 1 field - 4 games
- Plymouth Dome 1 field - 4 games

Challenge Round 3 will be played in the spring at the higher seed.

Applications for U15+ are due December 15th

I have spoken with Al McKinnon at U Mass-Amherst. There is some concern because the field requests from Mass Youth Soccer extend into late June. There is pressure to let National Lacrosse use the fields. I will contact Al in November to get a better feel on the situation.

Terri Filippetti
National Cups Director
Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. A quorum was declared present.
Sid Bloom welcomed the league presidents.

Approval of September board meeting minutes
Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Sale of Land and Update of Field Development Committee
Sid Bloom turned the meeting over to Paul Irwin, chair of the field development committee. Paul brought the board and league presidents up to date on the field project. He showed the redrawn plans and discussed the proposed sale of a portion of the land. John Burrell reviewed the previous attempts to sell the land or portions of it and the resulting failures. He also reviewed the sales that were completed. Paul then resumed his presentation, stating the committee is still analyzing the cost as well as the funding for the project. The present scope is for 16 fields; at least two of which would be field turf. The target is to raise approximately $3 million from friends, family and corporate sponsors. We are removing from the table the concept of a member assessment, since the committee feels we can cover the total cost of the project from the sale of land and the proposed fund raising. Paul plans to hit the streets with his planned presentation in February and wants to complete the fund raising within a year. The target is to begin play on the fields in 2005.

Executive Director report
The report was submitted via email and is appended to these minutes. Also appended are reports from the Office Manager and Marketing Director.

Reports of Program Managers
- State Cup – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- MTOC – John Linnehan reported there would be a new referee system in place. John Utter will be in charge of referees for the tournament.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart reported the Tide Cup went very well. Nancy reviewed the results of a post-tournament survey. 64 teams attended and we had to turn away 30 teams. Next year we’d like to double the size of the tournament, perhaps using two locations. Nancy is considering the last Sunday in September as a date.
- TOPS – Joe Nagle reported he worked with the Lowell group and helped with coaching and equipment issues. Acton-Boxboro has 30-40 children playing there, and the Winchester program is doing well also. Joe announced he is resigning and recommended Joe Bilicki of Winchester for the position. The Lowell group is presenting Joe with an award at their annual dinner. Sid Bloom thanked Joe for his efforts in running the TOPS program.
- ODP – Mike Singleton reported on ODP tryouts.
- SYRA – as submitted via email and appended below
Review of year end financials
Carl Goldstein explained the income statement. We currently have a surplus.

Indoor Insurance Coverage for Players Affiliated with Mass Youth
John Burrill proposed we cover our players even when they are involved with an indoor facility program. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by John Linnehan, to provide insurance coverage to affiliated players and coaches. Motion passed 6-0-1.

Update on New Development Coach Position
Mike Singleton reported we had approximately 25-30 applicants, which have been narrowed down to 5 finalists. They are all strong candidates. He will be interviewing these finalists within the next two weeks and hopes to make a decision shortly after.

Open Position on the Board
The at-large position is open. The Executive board is evaluating the candidates and we hope to have a nomination by the November meeting. The position of Special Projects and Outreach Programs Director is now open and candidates will be evaluated.

Bay Stater – discussion about adding 1 or 2 more issues
John Burrill suggested we consider adding back one or two editions, since the budget now indicates this would not be as difficult as we anticipated. Discussion followed regarding making these restricted issues for coaches only instead of the entire mailing list. Sid asked for the cost of a 16-page issue. John will bring the figures back to the board.

Nominations for Coach, Parent & Volunteer of the Year
John Burrill reported we are not getting many nominations for these positions. He asked the league presidents to get the word out to their members to send in nominations. John added that we currently have only four TOPS programs running in the state. John wants to add 5 more programs. He asked the league presidents to help identify communities in their leagues that are likely candidates for a TOPS program. John suggested we start recognizing a TOPS person of the year. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Joe Nagle, to establish the recognition. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business
- Tide Cup – Nancy reported she got a lot of response for the Tide Cup from the BAYS web site. She suggested we have the leagues post our important items on their web pages.

New Business
- Donation for Lowell TOPS group – Joe Nagle moved, seconded by John Linnehan that we donate $1000 to the Lowell TOPS group (Kids in Disability Sports). The purpose of the donations would be for uniforms. Motion passed 6-1.
- Special Olympics – John Linnehan asked what we’ve done and will do for the Special Olympics program. We have given hats and balls in the past, which was what they requested. This year, they requested water bottles and we provided them.
- National Presidents meeting – Sid Bloom reported on the recent meeting of association presidents. There will be an attempt to keep some vestiges of the WUSA alive for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

**Addenda:**

1. **Report of Executive Director for October Board Meeting**

   This past month work continued on moving more items on line for submission. We agreed with US Youth Soccer to join the on line tournament approval, data base system. It will be ready for our organizations by mid October. We are also working on Out of State player approval forms to go on line as well.

   Analysis of both the 2003 & 2004 registrations submissions continue with the goal of helping every organization to submit timely and accurate data to us.

   Work continues with the Criminal Records board with respect to submissions.

   Work continues to streamline our financial reports and reporting.

   Work has slowed a bit on our move to a new data base system, however we still are on tract to have new program up and running by mid November.

   Notice has gone out to all indoor facilities with respect to possible extension of insurance coverage of indoor play. Responses from facilities has been positive so far.

   Word from Adidas has been very slow coming with respect to a new contact. Sid will follow up while at Region 1 presidents’ meeting.

   Our contact with Active (formerly my-team) is winding down. Active has asked us to reinstate, however we have refused. Matter should be resolved within next 30 days.

   Office renovations continue and should be completed within next week or so. Preparations for the Open house & special meeting are on schedule.

   Both the Big Apple Festival and the Tide Cup were major successes. All the participants had a terrific time and plans have begun for next year. We most likely will combine the Big Apple with the Tide Cup and run them together.

   Meeting has been planned to bring in representatives of the 4 successful Tops Soccer programs to find out what works and how we can expand this program into other communities throughout the state.

   Spanish version of ‘Attitudes’ should be ready to ship next week. We have orders from approx. 250 already. New modified pricing structure put in place - regular version is now $2.50 and Spanish version is $5.00 with shipping charges added into the price.

   John Burrill

2. **Monthly Progress Report**
Richard Braney - Office Manager
Audit: In September we identified items that will need to be accrued for fiscal year 2003. I have also set a date to meet with Carl, Oct. 6, prior to the auditor's meeting Oct. 8.

ODP Programs:

Try-outs have been completed and Jillian will be mailing out the call backs early in October. Coach's contracts are to be mailed in October.

Insurance:
Medical Losses- Continuing to monitor losses placed with Bollinger for payment. Decision as to how to proceed with future losses, will be further discussed and a decision made by December 1, 2003.

Equipment and Crime Coverage Insurance Policies- Last year we received several calls, less than 10, from various organizations. They were inquiring as to coverage available to them for the equipment, both office and soccer equipment), buildings, as well as bonding insurance. I made an inquiry with our Insurance Agent, Gracechurch Insurance, and he has informed us that such coverage is available from Bollinger Insurance. In fact, organizations and clubs can purchase this coverage directly by accessing the web site www.bolingeresoccer.com. I will be reviewing the best way to make this information known to all presidents and review such with the Executive Director. UPDATE- will prepare announcement for Free Kick in December and in the January 2004 Baystater.

REGISTRATIONS:
Registration File- With fiscal year ended we have now finalized our numbers. Players=187,875
Coaches=23,179 –
In the month of October we will continue to review the player/coach ratio for FY '03. Letters will be sent to approximately 25 clubs that appear to lower than the norm.
For FY '04, a letter/email will be sent to all clubs reminding them that the date for sending their final numbers is October 10, 2003. In addition we will be reminding those that sent a check for the estimated numbers but no disk, to do so ASAP. Lastly we will note any clubs that player/coach ratio seems out of the ordinary.

Soccer Trac- We are awaiting some information from Active as to the status of their providing a software package that our clubs can use. (No change)
For the first time we have been able to place all registrations disks received, into our database by the end of September. This is primarily due to having Rachel Woo in a full time capacity, and having the temporary person available to continue working on Kidsafe files.

Kidsafe Files:
Kidsafe Files- A temporary person will be hired in October to begin the process of inputting the information.


- Weekly Instructional Staff meetings have been focusing on final preparations for the seven “Skills Academy” locations (Byfield, Devens, Dudley, Ludlow, Pittsfield, Braintree, Fairhaven) to launch in January. Agendas for the Annual Coach Education Directors (11/22) and Annual Instructional Staff Meetings (12/6) have been finalized. Both annual meetings will be held at the Stacy Middle School in Milford MA.
In addition to face-to-face contacts, Mike and the development coaches, continue to communicate with the membership through numerous phone calls and/or e-mails. In addition they are attending local board meetings, league meetings, and coach and parent group meetings. Programs/communities that have been using the Instructional Program staff for consultation, over this past month are Cambridge, Chelmsford, Wrentham, Grafton, Beverly, Billerica, Newton, Douglas, Wilbraham, Pittsfield, Dracut, Medford, Medfield, Middleton, Lynn, Lynnfield, Reading, N. Reading, Andover, N. Andover, Tewksbury, Pittsfield, Ludlow, Wilbraham, Haverill, Peabody, Wakefield, Wilmington, East Boston, Lowell, Methuen, Hopkinton, Hudson, Ayer, Upton, New Bedford, Fall River, Somerville, Somerset, Hampden, Taunton, Brockton, Hingham, Braintree, Westfield, West Springfield.

Mario Prata and I will be attending a luncheon for the Portuguese community on Sunday, October 19th to thank them for their ongoing commitment and affiliation with Mass Youth Soccer. I will be representing a plaque as well as providing them with scholarship gifts for our upcoming Skills Academy, and revised Specialty Clinics.

Specialty Clinics have been officially restructured and updated. They are now 2 hours in length and cost $150. We have also increased topic offerings to include 21 different topics to make sure there are topics appropriate for all levels of play.

Ray Cabral is working on creating a format in which we can instruct soccer coaching courses to PE teachers as a way of earning the needed PDP's to maintain their licensure.

I served on the FIFA technical committee at the Women's World Cup and helped analyze teams and players for an overall FIFA summary report that will be generated after the close of the tournament.

I continue to work on the "21st Century Player Development Manual" for towns and clubs in Massachusetts. This manual will detail everything from setting a mission statement, to board structure, to recreational program and travel program guidelines, to hiring a Director of Coaching for their association and funding the position without raising player fees. This manual will ultimately be about 70 pages and is about 40% completed currently.

Resumes have come in for the new development coach position and interviews will begin the week of 10/20.

ODP notification has gone out to all players. We have received a very limited number of complaints. In all honesty, I am surprised at the low number of complaints. Final call back tryouts will occur during the next two weekends (10/18 and 10/26). After these tryouts we will have final pools for winter training.

4. Report of Marketing Director- 10/14/03

First month has gone well. I am still in the process of learning different parts of the job and asking tons of questions!

Created new advertising opportunities on web site and Free Kick. In this process put a new advertising info page on website outlining these opportunities including ad opportunities in The Bay Stater. In this process,
standard stipulations and contract ad forms and marketing opportunities guide are being put on the ad info page for people to print/fill out and send into us.

Created general info brochure on Mass Youth Soccer & Member Benefits. It is to be handed out and can be modified for any event.

Governor Mitt Romney signed a proclamation for Mass Youth Soccer declaring September Mass Youth Soccer Month.

A new Holiday Inn Tournament Database is being linked to our website and run on the US Youth Soccer website. It gives clubs/organizations opportunity to fill out electronic permission to Host Tournament form and people in general a place to look up sanctioned Mass tournaments on the US Youth Soccer website. Al Cosentino is running the program and has administrative access to it online, making the process more effective and easy.

My first Issue of Free Kick was sent out last month. For next month hoping to make Free Kick logo more visually appealing and create separate logo for coach’s clipboard section. Created new sections of Free Kick: Coach’s clipboard (all instructional program info) and Soccer News Blurbs & Blips (all short updates/events pieces). Story list for October is as follows and story list deadline is October 17th.

New Holiday Inn Tournament Database
Tide Cup recap
Big Apple Tournament recap
Inspirational Soccer Novel- Dynamo
Coach’s Clipboard
   Coaching Tips
   Coaching Education Course Schedule
Soccer News Blurbs & Blips
   Open House
   US Youth Soccer Workshop
Tournament Schedule

Meeting in few weeks with potential partner, CATZ (Competitive Athlete Training Zone), a speed and agility sports trainer. Hopefully see what they have to offer us as a potential future partner.


The Challenge Entry Round (19 matches) and Challenge Round I (32 matches) have been completed. Challenge Round II (16 matches) is scheduled for October 25th. Matches on the 25th are scheduled to be played at the Plymouth Dome, Bowden Fields and CRU Complex.

Application deadline for the U15s and older is December 15th.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Filippetti
National Cups Director

6. SYRA/SRA REPORT
Overview
Professionalism and progress continue to be the “buzzwords” for 2003. The Massachusetts State Referee Committee (MSRC) emphasized these points at in-service training clinics and in its own operations. The MSRC welcomed new volunteers, hosted more events, and continued to “raise the bar” of the services offered.

State Committee
Registration

Staffing
John Utter assumed the role of SYRA in August. John is assisted by Brian Treanor (Watertown) and Derek Ambrozaitis (Middleboro). The core of the referee committee, Rich Frongillo (SRA), Andy Weiss (Assessment), Ed Rae (Instruction), Rob Akie (Treasurer) notched another year under their belt. Assessment and Instruction programs completed their busiest years ever and continue to expand the offerings for the future. The Committee is searching for a replacement Assignor Coordinator.

Website
The MSRC website, www.massref.net, continues to be the cornerstone of the organization. Dynamic and extensive, it is the place to get information about refereeing in the state. Jeremy Delorey (Waltham) will prove to be an exciting addition to the “web team”. Areas of the website that will see immediate results will be course sign up and administration as well as improved real-time database capabilities.

Notables
We added over 100 registered assignors statewide. The impact to the refereeing community has been both immediate and effective. With the addition of an online database assignors have better access than ever to the pool of registered referees.

The Continuous Education Group Project enjoyed a good start with the kickoff meeting concurrent to the Mass Youth Soccer AGM in March. Subsequent meetings have proved beneficial to this select group. More events are planned to expand their horizons.

MTOC saw the initiation of a Young Referee clinic. All Young Referee of the Year candidates attended both a classroom and field session. This will continue to be a regular part of the MTOC offerings.

We had over 110 educational events across the state, ranging from Entry Level Clinics, to the Massachusetts Regional Professional clinic.

FIFA Referee Brian Hall was the featured clinician at the 2002 State Cup clinic.

The transition from Grade 11 to grade 9 has begun in earnest. Jim Livingston and Ed Rae have developed a strong “bridge” curriculum. The process will be complete Spring ’04.

Finances
The MSRC approved a balanced budget for fiscal year 2004 (9/1/2003 to 8/31/2004). Responding to a $13.5K deficit on $151K in revenue in fiscal year 2003 (lower than the $23K predicted deficit), the MSRC voted to introduce a $5 administrative fee to be collected with annual registration for all referees.

Highlights from 2003

Honor Roll
MSRC held it’s first annual Awards night. The event saw the following people distinguished;
Kevin Sager (Hopkinton) and Mairin Robbins (Mendon) — Young Referee of the Year Awards
Ted Carlson (Bedford) — “Spirit of the Game Award”
Jerry Morin (Salem) — Assignor of the Year
Jim Livingston (Belmont) — Instructor of the Year
Andy Rademaker (Framingham) — Assessor of the Year
Ed Shea (Fiskdale) — Adult Referee of the Year
Bob Purple (Newburyport) and Ed Rae, Jr (Westwood) — Flannery Awards
We continue to have strong representation at the highest levels of soccer. Jenn Bennett (Boxboro) and Rachel Woo (Auburndale) remain on the FIFA appointment list and were named as officials for the 2003 FIFA Women's World Cup.

MLS and WUSA have a strong core of Massachusetts officials on their respective rosters. Jenn and Rachel joined Gus St. Silva (Waltham), Tom Supple (Kingston), Erich Simmons (N. Reading), Niko Bratsis (Norwood), and Claudiu Badea (Brookline) in the regular rotation of these Professional matches. Erich Simmons was one of three finalists for the WUSA Referee of the Year award.

**Tournaments Appointments**

Ryan Davis (Salem) was recognized for his efforts at Youth Regionals. He was appointed as a member of the Region 1 team sent to the Snickers US Youth Soccer National Championships held in July in Maryland.

Our referee crews fared very well at both the ODP Regionals and Youth Regionals.

Kara Honthumb Lange (Natick) and Russ Wolf (Newton) represented Massachusetts and Region 1 at the Premier League Regionals and Nationals.

Nick Malatesta of Worcester and Tanner Glantz of Springfield were selected to participate in the ODP ID Camp to be held at the University of Rhode Island based on their performances at ODP Regionals.

Josh Brothers (Dudley) and Sean Nally (Westminster) whistled at the US Youth Soccer Summer League Finals in Indianapolis. Both received National Finals match appointments.

Respectfully submitted,

John Utter
State Youth Referee Administrator
The meeting was called to order by President Sid Bloom at 3:10 PM. A quorum was determined not to be present, but was expected to be reached. The meeting was started in anticipation of a quorum to conduct business being reached.

John Burrill, executive director, explained the details of the land sale of 10.96 acres to Wagner Automotive, and provided a history of the project, covering the prior plans, proposals, sales, etc. After bringing the members up to date, he explained this was now a scaled down version of the field project with a substantially lower cost. We are now looking at a $6 million cost and we will have $3 million in the bank from land sales, needing to raise an additional $3 million.

At 3:16 a quorum was declared present with 41 delegates having registered representing 122 votes.

Ross Weaver (Fuller Hamlets) moved, seconded by Ray Robinson (Past President), that the membership of the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association, Incorporated (Mass Youth Soccer) authorizes Mass Youth Soccer’s Board of Directors to see approximately 11 acres of land owned by the Corporation in Lancaster, Massachusetts to Norm Wagner Automotive, Inc or his nominee for the price of $2,740,000, such sale to be consummated in accordance with the terms and conditions of a Purchase and Sale Agreement executed by the parties. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Approval of October board meeting minutes

Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Board Member At-Large

Steve Smoller moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to appoint Tim Murphy to fill the unexpired term of this board position. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of New Appeals Committee Chair.

It was announced that Denis LaVersa was resigning as chairman of the appeals committee. Sid Bloom appointed Mike Eschelbacher to fill this position.

Executive Director report

The report was submitted via email and is appended to these minutes. Also appended are reports from the Office Manager, Director of Coaching, and Marketing Director.

Sid Bloom commended John and the staff on planning and conducting an excellent open house November 2.

Skip Gorman asked if there was any response from the indoor facilities to our offer of extending insurance coverage for our members who participate. John Burrill replied that only Fore Kicks had responded.

Reports of Program Managers

- State Cup – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- MTOC – no report.
- Recreation – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- Instruction – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes as part of Director of Coaching report.
- TOPS – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- ODP – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- SYRA – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.

Budget restatement presentation

Carl Goldstein explained the new format of the monthly financial report that will track actual figures with projections and compare them to the budget. It will be updated each month and program managers are expected to track their budgets accordingly.

Update on new development coach position.

Mike Singleton reported he had 6 finalists and had a candidate to propose to the executive board for their approval.
Open position on the board

The position of Director of Special Projects and Outreach Programs is open. Sid Bloom and John Burrill are interviewing candidates for this position.

Nominations for Coach, Parent & Volunteer of the Year

Nominations for these awards have been given to the executive board which will choose the recipients. The awards will be presented at the Awards Brunch prior to the annual general meeting in February. While on the subject of the workshop, Skip Gorman reported plans are running smoothly, he has volunteers lined up. Activities start Wednesday night. The AGM will take place at the Sheraton Four Points in Waltham.

Land Committee Update

Paul Irwin reported the video is being shot now, and filming will take place at the office Dec 6-7. A new logo for the fund raising project has been designed, with a slogan, “A Place to Play”. The elements of the project are coming together. John Burrill added the video would be a two-piece project: one will be a Mass Youth promotional piece, the other will be the fund-raising piece.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- Development Coaches Database – Nancy Hart suggested the development coaches update their database of names for the town organizations, since some were arriving at league meetings with the wrong names on the town packets.

- Todd Smith’s project with Leukemia Society – John Burrill reported that Todd Smith, former general manager of the Revolution, who is currently battling leukemia, has expressed interest in again becoming involved with Mass Youth Soccer. He is involved with a project with the Leukemia Society that offers a fund raising opportunity for both the Leukemia Society as well as participating organizations. Packets are distributed to coaches who give them out to their team. The players solicit pledges from friends and neighbors for extra training, $1 for each hour of training. For each $20 raised the player earns a training video on individual skills and a T-shirt. The coach gets a hat and T-shirt for each ten players who reach this plateau, and the organization gets 10% of the amount raised. Although the program allows for a percentage to go to the participating state association, the board decided they would not accept any revenue from this project. Region 1 intends to roll this project out in 2004. John Burrill suggested he would like to see Massachusetts be the first state to sign on to this project. Steve Smoller moved, seconded by Carl Goldstein that Mass Youth Soccer register to participate in this project. Motion passed unanimously.

- Bay Stater – A proposal to restore two issues of the Bay Stater was discussed. The relative cost of the two issues and whether they should be mailed to coaches only or to all recipients was analyzed. Newsletters to coaches would be substantially less expensive and would deliver important information to those most interested in it. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart to produce two newsletters for the coaches. Motion passed unanimously.

- Super Y League – Skip Gorman asked about the Super Y League. Since it competes with our town leagues and MAPLE, he questions why we were publicizing them. There was an ad in the last issue of the Bay Stater that included Super Y league information. Sid Bloom responded that the ad should not have appeared in the Bay Stater, we do not support the league. Paul Irwin
indicated Mass Pro Soccer has a rule that prohibits dual rostering, and they also discourage participation in our ODP program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

1. Report of Executive Director for November Board Meeting

Analysis of both the 2003 & 2004 registrations submissions continue with the goal of helping every organization to submit timely and accurate data to us. We continue to track slightly ahead of last year in player registrations. Organizations who have not submitted registration information have been contacted and informed they must submit information to us.

Work continues with the Criminal Records board with respect to submissions. We secured our approval to access the records system.

Work continues to streamline our financial reports and reporting. New reports were distributed. Feedback at the November meeting is expected. Both Carl and I are very pleased with the new system and feel it will give us a better look at the organization’s financial well being.

Work has picked up on the move to a new data base system. We are expecting initial delivery within the next 10 days.

All indoor facilities have been sent an indemnification agreement and once executed the facility will be covered by our policy.

A draft on a proposed contract with Adidas has been received and is being reviewed. In addition a proposal from Mazambura has been received and one is expected from Admiral.

Our contract with Active (formerly my-team) is terminated from our point of view and their logo has been removed from our web site. Efforts to ascertain how much money they owe us from year two of the contract and to secure those funds is ongoing.

Office renovations but for carpeting are complete.

The open and house was held and was very poorly attended. A big disappointment. However the membership did approve the proposed land sale to Wagner Automotive, a huge step forward.

We received our new vehicle from Chevrolet.

Activity picked up at the end and we have a representative number of nominations for coach of the year (both boys and girls) and volunteer and parent of the year.
Mass is working with Eastern New York to form a new Northeast Region 1 league for play in spring 2004.

John Burrill

2. MYSA Monthly Progress Report Richard Braney - Office Manager

October 2003

Audit: I have had an initial meeting with the auditor. Initially he was given everything he needed. Since than, he has had additional requests which are being provided for as requested. Workers Compensation will be conducted by the insurance company in November.

ODP Programs:

All tryouts were completed and notification letters were sent out to players. Player packages, including the financial obligation will be mailed early in November. Coach’s contracts were mailed in October.

Insurance:

Medical Losses - Met with the insurance agent, Tony Petruzzi. It was agreed that we would resume handling and paying for all claims as previously done, with the exception for those claims that had no primary coverage. Those claims would be forwarded to Bollinger for negotiation with the provider.

Equipment and Crime Coverage Insurance Policies - Last year we received several calls, less than 10, from various organizations. They were inquiring as to coverage available to them for the equipment, both office and soccer equipment), buildings, as well as bonding insurance. I made an inquiry with our Insurance Agent, Gracechurch Insurance, and he has informed us that such coverage is available from Bollinger insurance. In fact, organizations and clubs can purchase this coverage directly by accessing the web site www.bollingersoccer.com. I will be reviewing the best way to make this information known to all presidents and review such with the Executive Director.

UPDATE - will prepare announcement for Free Kick in December and in the January 2004 Baysater. NO CHANGE.

REGISTRATIONS:

Registration File - Through the month of October we have affiliated 129,534 players with US Youth Soccer. The number we have received payment for through October 31, 2003, both player and coach is slightly higher than that for the same period last year (1,850).

The response to our inquiry as to the player/coach ration for last year was poor. Of the 24 clubs questioned only 7 responded. Two clubs agreed that they owed money and in fact paid the additional. In fiscal year we will be sending out letters in November requesting that clubs explain obvious player/coach ratio problems.

For clubs that paid the estimated invoice but never followed-up with a disk, we will be contacting them in November. There are approximately 35 clubs that have such a situation.

Clubs whose membership is substantially lower than last year as of October 31, will also be contacted to insure that all members have been affiliated.

Access Software - The contract to write this program was awarded to Tinetrix for $4,000. We are expecting completion prior to 12/1/03. NO CHANGE
Soccer Trac: We are awaiting some information from Active as to the status of their providing a software package that our clubs can use. (No change)

Kidsafe Files:
Kidsafe Files: A temporary person was hired to bring this project up to date. We anticipate that she will finish such by mid-November.

Office Procedures:
Steps are being taken to consolidate our chart of accounts.

3. Director of Coaching Report

- Skills Academy Enrollment continues with great success in some areas and limited success in others.

- Courses have been run in Dracut, Winchester, Cambridge, Bedford, Needham, and Somerville in the past month. In addition the instructional staff have visited Amherst, Tewksbury, Ludlow, Pittsfield, Wilbraham, Douglas, North Andover, Peabody, Billerica, Concord, Mansfield, Andover, Beverly, Westfield, Pepperell, Newton, Braintree, Chelmsford, Belmont, and both the South Coast and Coastal League Meetings. Mike also attended the Region I meeting in NY—see separate reports).

- All instructional staff was present for entire open house and all coaches attended Tide Cup. In addition, all instructional staff participated in the Presentation Skills Seminar that John set up. All staff reported feeling the seminar was informative and helpful and feel it will help them in their jobs.

- Coaches have been working on updating our contact list for CED’s and presidents. We now have as much of an accurate list as is possible. This will enable us to communicate with more people and much more efficiently.

- The Annual CED meeting will be Nov. 22nd at the Stacey Middle School. Attendance looks good and is growing. We have a number of MAPLE clubs sending people this year as well—a great development! All preparations have been made and we are giving gear and prizes away to the CED’s as the work they do for us is invaluable and the thanks we give them is minimal.

- A manual covering everything from creating a mission statement to organizing recreational teams, to age appropriate coaching considerations, to helping volunteers, to parent education, to TOPSoccer is now completed. This 75+ page manual is being given to all CED’s at the meeting and will be available for any interested organizations.

- The Instructional Staff meeting is set for Dec. 6th at a site TBD as we were bumped out of Stacey Middle School. This meeting will include the first annual Mass Youth Instructional Staff World Cup 3 vs. 3 tournament!

- I am working on getting teams to demonstrate at the US Youth Soccer Convention in February and have been asked to present at the convention myself.
BOD 11/19/03

- Instructional Coaches will be now be making their schedules weeks in advance and tracking communication and contact history with towns. Tara will be maintaining a database to list where we are going, when we are going, what we are doing there, and who is going as well. Development coaches will be telling organizations a minimum of one month in advance when they will be in the area should an organization wish to use their services.

- The interview process for a new development coach will be finalized this week.

- All ODP pools have been finalized and the indoor schedule should now be complete. We have greatly increased the amount of indoor training time and will have both field and classroom sessions with players throughout the winter.

- The G86 ODP semifinals will be played Nov 22 at 2pm in NJ. Should we win, we will move on to the finals during the first weekend in Dec. These finals have been cancelled 3 times now. 4th time is a charm???

4. Report of Marketing Director- 11/19/03

New graphic logo has been added to Coaches Clipboard section of Free Kick. Also a new monthly story, "Town Tidings" has been created to highlight a local news story from a town organization or league (i.e. new field complex being inducted). November issue of Free Kick will be sent out on November 24th, a week earlier than usual due to Thanksgiving Holiday. The story list for the issue is as follows:

Todd Smith- US Youth Soccer Joins hands with Leukemia Society
Revolution playoff update/season recap
Open House Recap- Land Sale Approval
Injury Prevention- Newton Wellesley Hospital
Coach's Clipboard
  - Skills Academy
  - Coaching Tips
  - Coaching Course Schedule
Soccer News Blurs & Blips
  - ODP update & indoor schedule
  - Instructional Staff Meeting
  - US Youth Soccer Workshop- coaching clinic schedule link
  - AGM annual meeting
Town Tidings

Have been in contact with five IT companies and accepting proposals for the redesign and organization of the Mass Youth Soccer website. By the end of the month should the list should be narrowed down to 2 final possibilities.

This weekend I have started my Grass Root Campaign to reach out and promote Mass Youth Soccer to as many local/town organizations as possible. I plan on attending local board meetings, talking about what Mass Youth Soccer is, what benefits we offer to them, and what info/communication outlets we offer to them. All in attendance will receive info packets, explaining
topics in more detail, in hope they will take info back to their teams. So far from November to the
beginning of March I have 10 visits scheduled.

Creating sponsorship portfolio brief to send to potential strength and conditioning partners.

End of month, begin organizing and planning for the January Issue of the Bay Stater. If anyone
has any stories or suggestions for the upcoming issue, email Jim Gondek.

5. Recreation Report:
Will soon be working on 2004 District Program. We lost some money on the
Tide Cup but everyone had a great time.
Nancy

6. ODP NOVEMBER 2003

- The players for the winter training pools have been selected and the player information
  packet has been sent to them.
- We have added an extensive indoor schedule this year that will be at Stonehill College and
  Nichols College.
- We are currently looking at the tryout process to make it more efficient at an administrative
  level.
- We are revising the ODP coach’s manual.
- Our U17 girl's team is scheduled to play in New Jersey and another site to be determined.
  Jared


The 16 Challenge Round II matches were played, as scheduled, on October 25th. This completes
all State Cup matches scheduled for this fall.

Adele sent a survey to the Region 1 states regarding the U-20's. To date the reply is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Association</th>
<th>Under Men</th>
<th>Under 20 Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Will Offer to the Leagues</td>
<td>Will Offer to the Leagues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern New York</td>
<td>Will Offer to Leagues as long as U-20's remain with the Youth</td>
<td>Will Offer to Leagues as long as U-20's remain with the Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Interested</td>
<td>Interested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York West</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We wait to see if the U-20s will participate at Regionals in 2004?

Application deadline for the U15s and older is December 15th.

Respectively submitted,
Terri Filippetti
National Cups Director

8. Tops Soccer Report

We have two new programs in the works, New Bedford and Hingham. Also Barnstable has expressed some interest. Meetings will be scheduled with both New Bedford and Hingham.

New registrations forms, medical history and releases are being prepared for use. It would appear in the past no such forms were in use.

Also a list of suggestions for local organizers will also be prepared.

John Burrill

9. SYRA Report

Tournaments/Events

Tide Cup and Big Apple Tournaments went well. Will continue to assign through the SYRA in the future.

Good presence at the Massachusetts Special Olympics. Thanks to Essex County’s Jerry Morin for another job well done.

Instruction

As the fall season wraps up the busy season for off the field activities begin for the MSRC;

We have 12 recertification clinics scheduled from now until January 25. Clinics kicked off this past Sunday in Plymouth with attendance up 13% over last year (209 vs 185).

Grade 11→9 transition course at the recert clinic went well. 50 people transitioned from 11 to 9 at the Plymouth clinic.

We project about a 71.5% return rate overall.
Winter is the busy season (roughly 65 classes) for training new referees. We're trying to be more proactive scheduling the entry level instruction clinics by polling assignors regarding their needs now as opposed to them remembering in the spring.

We have a tentative date in February for an Assignor Clinic.

Pre-enrollment for the recerts continues to be a great forecasting tool

**ID Program**

We got off to a fair start with the ID program. We captured data from 8 fall tournaments. Names are being compiled now and we'll be polling assignors over the winter as well. We've already ID'd candidates for MTOC and State Cup 2004.

**Assignor Interaction**

MSRC met with Adult Assignor and Larry Frisoli to proactively work out schedules for conflict weekends next year (MTOC, State Cup)

**Recognition**

Nominations for Young Referee of the Year are currently being accepted.

**Misc**

Mike Singleton and I have agreed to a “referee presence” at the Coaches Staff meeting in December. Details to be worked out.
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
December 17, 2003


Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was declared present.

Approval of November board meeting minutes
Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Skip Gorman to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director report
The report was submitted via email and is appended to these minutes. Also appended are reports from the Office Manager, Director of Coaching, and Marketing Director.

Reports of Program Managers

- State Cup – John Burrill reported there are 170 team applications in for U-15--U-19 which is 20 more than anticipated. The tournament will no longer be called the Snickers State Cup, but will be called the US Soccer State Cup.
- MTOC – John Linnehan reported a sub committee is reviewing the player priority list and the leagues committee is looking at how division two teams are being selected.
- Recreation – Nancy Hart asked about the status of uniforms for districts teams.
- Instruction – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes as part of Director of Coaching report. Howie Blatt attended the Lusitano Dinner which was the night of the snowstorm. Mike Singleton will be sending feedback forms to the towns after coaches have conducted their clinics. These completed forms will help him evaluate both the programs and the coaches. There will be a special coaches clinic January 25 at Atlantic Union College in Lancaster featuring Sam Snow, US Youth Asst. Dir. of Coaching; Matt Driver, NE Revolution Asst. Coach; Sue Ryan, Head Coach Girls Region 1 ODP and Head Women’s Coach at SUNY Stoneybrook; Steve Swanson, US Soccer Girls U-16 National Team Coach and Head Women’s Coach at U of Virginia; and Steve Nicol, Head Coach of NE Revolution may participate in the panel discussion.
- TOPS – no report.
- ODP – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.
- SYRA – report submitted via email and appended to the minutes.

Land Committee update
John Burrill reported that Norman Wagner has received approval from his automobile manufacturers to proceed. We are considering some parcels next to us, since we may need to acquire more land. The video is progressing, although the snowstorm postponed some filming. The contract for the drawings was awarded to Carroll Johnson. There is a river running through the property that will trigger some additional regulations.

Finalization of date for Tide Cup
Nancy Hart reported that the date for Tide Cup conflicted with the date for the leagues committee meeting in October and there was a request to change the date. Since we plan on using multiple sites, perhaps three, to accommodate 128 to 130 teams, it was felt we could not change the proposed date and the board determined to keep the date of October 3 for Tide Cup.
Open position on the board

John Burrill reported he and Sid Bloom would interview the final candidate for this position Saturday morning and they will then select a candidate to fill the position. John stated we have three excellent candidates from which to choose. This position will oversee Soccer Start and Goals as well as TOPS.

Identification of Coach, Parent & Volunteer of the Year

John Burrill announced the following selections: Tucker Reynolds and Ken Saywood as coaches, Bruce Long as Parent and Heidi Mathews as Volunteer. Recipients will be honored at the Awards Brunch Sunday, February 22 at the Sheraton Four Points in Waltham.

Donation for fallen Lancaster firefighter

John Burrill reported that Lancaster volunteer firefighter John MacNamara recently died while performing his duties. John proposed we do something for his family. Mike Singleton proposed an indoor tournament with the proceeds going to the family. Sid Bloom suggested a cash donation also. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, that we donate $5,000, Discussion followed regarding the size of the donation and it was determined the funds were available. The motion passed 6 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- Referee ID program – John Utter announced this new program to be utilized at sanctioned tournaments. The referee committee will send assessors to ID the refs for young referee of the year, assignment for MTOC and State Cup and identify for advancement potential. The fee for the assessors will be $50 for 4-5 hours work. John estimates the program will require approx. $2500.00. The consensus of the board was to proceed with this program.
- Nominating Committee – Sid Bloom announced Steve Smoller would serve as chairman of the nominating committee for the election of officers at the February AGM. The positions of President, Treasurer, Director of ODP, Director of State Cups, Member at Large and the Director of Outreach Programs will all be up for election. Any one interested in running or nominating someone should contact Steve Smoller at ssmoller@yahoo.com.
- Changes in Constitution and Bylaws – John Burrill asked for any proposed changes to be submitted so he could forward them to the secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller,
Secretary

Addenda:

1. Executive Director Report for December Board Meeting

Work continues on with the Date Base. While I had hoped it would be fully installed before the end of November, we are making headway and some data has all ready been transferred to the new system, however we did hit a few stumbling blocks and we omitted a few bells and whistles that will make it easier to operate
and those are being corrected and installed. It should be fully operational by the end of the month. This will still give us two months to work out any real problems before the spring registration season hits.

The new budgeting system is up and running and a few refinements will be made as we move forward.

We continue to put pressure against the registration system. We have billed organizations for the shortfall in the amount submitted verses what the registration disc is showing they owe. All organizations that were threatened with bad standing have contacted us and are submitting the data. We are also following up with those that said they were submitting data but somehow forgot to do so.

We did not anticipate the mail problems created by reducing the Bystater to two issues. Those have now been corrected with the board’s agreement to publish 4 newspapers per year.

Contacted Todd Smith with respect to the Board’s decision to move forward with the Leukemia society program. I am awaiting contact by someone associated with the program for all the details. Todd is back in the hospital but sends his warm regards to all and his sincere thanks to the Board for its support.

I continue to be contacted by organizations who want our on-line registration business. I will not have a recommendation before the January board meeting at the earliest.

Received a report for Bob Cronin, our RE broker with Meredith & Grew. Everything with the Wagner deal is moving head. Wagner has requested some plans and surveys from John D to aid in the approval process.

Together with Catherine we continue to look at vendors for the web site re design. Hope to have recommendation for the January meeting.

Tara Pierce is now tracking all staff visits to our organizations. This will give us better control and let us know where we should be focusing our efforts.

Al Cosentino needs another hip replacement as the first one did not take. He has moved the data around several times but now is trying to schedule the operation sooner rather than later. Let me know if any of you have any needs over the first 3 months of 2004 that Al would normally fulfill.

On a brighter note, Al & Cathy are taking about getting married.

Video project was going along quite well until the weekend’s snowstorm. It was thrown a bit of a crimp in our plans but we will make a smart recovery and still stay on tract for a rough-cut presentation of the video at the AGM.

2. MYSA Monthly Progress Report  Richard Braney - Office Manager

November 2003

Audit: The audit continues. I should receive a completion date sometime in December.

ODP Programs:
Player packages, including the financial obligation were mailed early in November.
Coach’s contracts are coming in slowly.
All pool players were billed early in November.

Insurance:
Equipment and Crime Coverage Insurance Policies- Last year we received several calls, less than 10, from various organizations. They were inquiring as to coverage available to them for the equipment, both office
and soccer equipment), buildings, as well as bonding insurance. I made an inquiry with our Insurance Agent, Gracechurch Insurance, and he has informed us that such coverage is available from Bollinger Insurance. In fact, organizations and clubs can purchase this coverage directly by accessing the web site www.blingersoccer.com. I will be reviewing the best way to make this information known to all presidents and review such with the Executive Director. UPDATE- will prepare announcement for Free Kick in December and in the January 2004 Baystater. NO CHANGE.

D&O Policy – For the past several years Pullen, Texas agency, has managed this policy. This year I have asked Grace Church to quote the same. We met with Tony Petruszzi on November 3 and we expect to save approximately $1,000 from what it cost us in FY2003. In addition we will have improved coverage. Since this policy is running out 12/10 we will have to make a decision early in December.

Workers Compensation – The auditor was in to review our records in November. We are working with him to reclassify several groups of people so that they are considered independent contractors and not subject to inclusion in our Workers Compensation calculation. Cost of Workers Comp should go down.

REGISTRATIONS:
Registration File- Through November we still are running slightly ahead of the number of members being affiliated.

There were approximately 35 clubs that had sent in their payment but provided no disk. Each has been contacted. Only a handful, have not replied to our requests. Unfortunately, of the remaining clubs that did reply, we still have 25 that have promised to provide the disk but so far we have not received one. A follow-up email will be sent early in December.

Another project is contacting organizations whose number of members on the disk are substantially higher or lower that that for which we have received affiliation fees. Fourteen clubs have been contacted late in November and this will be followed up on in December.

Clubs, whose membership is substantially lower than last year as of October 31, will also be contacted to insure that all members have been affiliated. This project is being delayed until we can get all organizations to submit a disk. At that time we can address all clubs and manage the project in an orderly fashion. The target for this is early in January.

Access Software- The contract to write this program was awarded to Tinetrax for $4,000. We are expecting completion Mid December. Thereafter we will begin training.

On Line Registration – A meeting has been scheduled for early December to meet with a member of Youth Soccer Leagues. Their product is currently being used in other states within Region 1.

Kidsafe Files:
Kidsafe Files- We have updated the files and are awaiting the installation of the Access Software. This will allow us to download the forms done on line. At that time we will be able to continue the process of submitting to CORY.

Baystater Mailings - Recently it has been made aware to us that mailing the Baystater only twice a year, in its present form, will mean that we no longer can use our 2nd class permit. Instead we would need to secure a 3rd class permit. Two other mailings in a letter/brochure format would not qualify for either permit, and instead a bulk mailing permit would be needed. Over the next several months we will be working with USPS, printing companies, and the copier manufacturer to determine the best action to be taken.

Office Procedures:
Currently we are reviewing a process to track excused absences.

3. Mass Youth Soccer DOC Board Report 12/03

The annual CED meeting was large success by all accounts. Attendance was higher than last year and communication with many of the attendees continues. Development coaches did a good job of publicizing the event. Attendees believe communication from Mass Youth needs to improve.

The annual Instructional Staff meeting was canceled due to snow and has been rescheduled for Jan 31, 2004.
Andy Nelson began his duties as a development coach and is doing a great job.

We have re-allocated some leagues for development coaches to serve. Here is the new distribution: Mario-Berkshires, Pioneer Valley, city of Boston/outreach; Ray-South Coast, South Shore, Coastal; Glenn-Essex, Middlesex, Nashoba Valley; Andy-MAYS, BAYS, Central Mass, WAYSA, Assabet. MAPLE will be shared by all coaches and we will be making a concerted effort to serve MAPLE better than we have in the past.

We will host a coaches clinic for coaches on Jan 25th at Atlantic Union College. Matt Driver (Revs), Sue Ryan (Region I ODP girls head coach and head coach at SUNY Stonybrook), Tom Goodman (US Youth Soccer DOC), and Sam Snow (US Youth Soccer ADOC) have all agreed to present at the clinic and Steve Nichol (Revs) may join in the group discussion.

We ran an E course in Sharon, and F courses in Andover, East Longmeadow, Whitman, North Attleboro, and Wilbraham.

Instructional Staff also visited Westwood, Northboro, Acton, Fall River, Revere, Fall Freeze Tournament, Georgetown, Ipswich, Beverly, and Cambridge.

The ODP syllabus has been redone and coaches have been told they will have oversight during the ODP year. Our players will now be going through a progressive curriculum as they participate in ODP year to year.

Player invites to ODP training has been reorganized. There is a player recommendation form on the web that coaches need to fill out and turn in for any recommended player. That player is not allowed to tryout unless the team coach has been given written approval. April 24th is the last date players can be offered a tryout.

Our girls 86 team forfeited its' semifinal ODP championship game due to scheduling difficulties.

4. Report of Marketing Director- 12/17/03

The December Free Kick Issue will be sent out December 19th, 2 weeks earlier than usual due to Winter Holidays and the production of the January issue of The Bay Stater. The story list for the issue is as follows:

(1) New Faces at Mass Youth Soccer
   Tim Murphy- new director at large
   Michael Eschelbacher- new Chair Appeals Committee
   Andy Nelson-New Development Coach
   Dennis LaVersa- resigns from 12 years of service
(2) US Youth Soccer Workshop- coaching clinic schedule link
(3) ODP Update! - coaches bios with pictures and indoor schedule
(4) Coach's Clipboard
   b. Skills Academy- brochure
   c. Coaching Tips
   d. Coaching Course Schedule- link
(5) Soccer News Blurs & Blips
   Club Development Manual
   AGM annual meeting
Web redesign update: Waiting on our last proposal of five IT companies. John Wolfarth from Mullen, a large advertising agency, has willfully accepted the offer to act as consultant to help cut the list down to two final possibilities.

The Grass Roots Campaign has been a proven success. All town organizations have been enthusiastic and eager to hear and learn what I have to say, asking tons of questions. I have been receiving nothing but positive feedback in response the meetings and materials received. A member of the Developmental Coaching staff has been accompanying me to the BOD meetings. The organizations I have visited are as follows: MAYS, Fall River, South Hadley, Dracut, and Gateway.

Strength & Conditioning partner search update: The search has been narrowed down to four potential partners. Within this month Mike Singleton and I will be meeting with all organizations and visiting their facilities.

Work has begun on the January issue of The Bay Stater. Jim Gondek and Brian Lowe will be running the show and taking me through the creation process step by step.

5. ODP REPORT DECEMBER

- Indoor schedule is finished and on the web
- Coaches bio and pictures are up on the web
- ODP coaches meeting was held on 12/10/03
- We are start training in January, let the program begin!!

6. December 03 SYRA Report

News of Note

- As annual recertification is almost half done, the MSRC finds that numbers are approximately up 5-10% from last year. Note the reccert calendar is earlier this year in an effort to get the names of 2004 registered referees in the hand of Assignors about 3-4 weeks sooner than years past.

- The pace of instructional courses continues to pick up over the winter. The implementation and dissemination of the monies that MAPLE provided ($2800) will be handled as such;
  - With approximately 25 Grade 8 courses to be scheduled over the instructional season, $100 will be given to each “sponsoring” organization on behalf of MAPLE to offset their expenses. The monies will be “rebated” back to these groups with the explanation of the MAPLE subsidy.
- Three Assignor courses about to be posted to the website. The possibility of a “tournament” specific Assignor course exists if enough interest.
- Nominations for Young Referee of the Year are wrapping up and will be announced at the end of Q1 2004.
- Nominations for State Cup and MTOC are being accepted as well.
- Professional clinic is tentatively scheduled for April 3, 2004
- New web functionality on the way. Individual usernames and passwords were mailed out to every referee statewide in anticipation of the rollout.
Appointments

- National Referee Tom Supple (Kingston) has been nominated by the USSF to the prestigious FIFA list. Tom and former FIFA Assistant Referee, Ed Resendes (Swansea), are the only two assistant referees from Massachusetts to be appointed to the FIFA list.
- Jenn Bennett (Boxford) refereed an Olympic Qualifier between Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, in the Cayman Islands.
- National Referees Erich Simmons (N. Reading) and Niko Bratsis (Norwood) were among the 15 referees nationwide selected to officiate at the Nike Cup. This high profile international youth tournament is used to identify and groom MLS officials.

Happy Holidays,
John Utter
State Youth Referee Administrator