
A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 6:52 pm.

**Resignation of Steve Snow**
Sid Bloom announced that Steve Snow has resigned as Director of Outreach Programs. Sid thanked Steve for all of his efforts which have helped TOPSoccer program advance during his tenure on the board.

**Acceptance of previous meeting minutes**
Ray Robinson moved, seconded by Kevin Krumpholz, to accept the November meeting minutes. Accepted unanimously.

**Executive Director's Report**
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

**DOC Report**
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

**Communications & Marketing Manager Report**
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

**Program Manager Reports**

**State Cup**
Terri reported there are 173 teams, same as last year.

**Leagues Committee**
Ted reported there was no meeting of the committee in January. At the December meeting there was concern expressed among the members about logistics of MTOC at Lancaster. There will be new locations, new facilities, etc. The committee wants to meet with the field committee to discuss the logistics.

**Recreation**
No report.

**Instruction**
Report contained in DOC report.

**Outreach**
No report.

**ODP**
Jared reported the program has started last weekend and there are a little over 300 players in the program.

**SYRA**
No report.

**Treasurer**
Carl distributed the budget report. We are in decent shape.

**Field Committee Report**
Carl reported he is planning to set up a meeting with the leagues committee and state cup committee to discuss logistics.
Board member reports
none

Old Business

- There was none.

New Business

- Review of audit report
  Carl reviewed the draft of the auditor’s report. It is still being worked on.
- Columbus Weekend Tournament
  Ted Ritchie and John Burrill presented a proposal for a 4 prong event:
  1. competitive – Div 1 & 2 3 day event for up to 24 teams for U-12 and U-14,
  2. competitive rec teams – 3 day event for division 3 and below town based teams for U-12 and U-14.
  3. rec tournament – one day, teams play two games for U-10, U-12, and U-14.
  6v6 format for U-10, 8v8 format for U-12, and 11v11 format for U-14,
  Ted noted the leagues committee approves of running this event.
  Ray Robinson moved, seconded by Steve Smoller, to accept the proposal for the tournament. Motion passed 12 for, 1 against, 0 abstaining.
- Coach of the year
  Skip Gorman stated we received one nomination for each of the 4 categories. We are going to have the leagues submit candidates for this award. Ray Robinson suggested we ask the leagues to nominate candidates from which the executive committee would choose. Skip will attend the next leagues committee meeting to present this proposal to the committee.
- Expansion of the executive committee
  Ted Ritchie proposed adding one more member to the executive committee.
  Ted Ritchie moved, seconded by Terri Filippetti to accept the following:
  Section 132. Executive Committee

  Section 132 of the Constitution is herby modified by striking the first two sentences and putting in their place the following language

NEW LAGUAGE
The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Executive Vice President, the Secretary/Clerk, Treasurer and one additional member to be elected by the Board of Directors. The term of the additional member shall run concurrent with the member’s term on the Board. Once the member’s term expires, the board shall hold an election to fill the additional position to the Executive Committee. A quorum of three is required to be present for this committee to act.

OLD
The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Executive Vice President, the Secretary/Clerk and Treasurer. A quorum of two is required to for this committee to act.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE: Rationale: (1) any committee should have an odd number for voting purposes; (2) there should be more than just two members needed to have an action on behalf of the Board approved (in this day of electronic communication/conferencing technology, being able to convene committee members for a discussion is relatively easy, mitigating against a low ‘quorum’ number); (3) having a non-officer on the committee can enhance the perception of independent balance of the Committee; and, (4) the additional
position would serve as an excellent learning and training ground for potential future leaders of the organization. The motion passed 9 for, 3 against, 1 abstaining.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

December 2007

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill

Field Complex
Close down of facility has been completed. Irrigation system has been blown out, potable water tanks drained, bathrooms drained and winterized. One potential issue is the potable water well. We never did get that shut off. It’s on Wagner’s property and his well person was supposed to get this done. It will get done this week.
Netting has been taken down. We will leave nets on 3 sets of goals for winter play.
Additional hand dryers installed in bath rooms. New door installed in men’s room (changing door swing).
Additional signage installed in parking lots reminding folks to lock their vehicles and that we are not responsible for loss or damage to vehicles or contents.
Plans for paving the parking lot now on hold due to cost.
Will schedule a meeting with Harper to review where they stand with respect to new road and getting trucks out, installation of trees, repair of damage to our road.
Work completed on installation of the protective netting around the detention pond this week
Work completed on repair the eco-trail and conservation commission has approved the repair and will issue a letter of compliance.
Final water testing for year completed and results provided to town.
I will meet with Mike Hightower to review plans for field maintenance for calendar 2008.
Final meeting with Gale & RAD was held.
Continue to work of on line field scheduling as well as book teams for the 2008 season.

Office Administration
Registrations are tracking a bit ahead of last year.
Things continue to move forward very slowly on the traffic signal design, although we did have another meeting to attempt to move things along.
Bid submitted to host US Youth nationals as well as bid to host the adults Veterans Cup.
Al had his operation and it was successful. He is home recovering and learning how to walk with the new hip.
Tara will be going out on maternity leave in early February. A temporary replacement has been identified and will the trained during January.

2. Marketing and Communications Manager Report

December 2007
Mass Youth Soccer News – After two visits to Gillette, the November/December issue of the Newspaper was a huge success. Our “new Brian Lowe,” Lizz Summers, did a great job and I thank everyone who got their submissions into me on time.
HPS has withdrawn as Mass Youth Soccer’s Strength and Conditioning partner and will be replaced as soon as possible. I have begun pre-interviewing and will assist Mike Singleton in this process.
Region 1 boys Call Back Camp final decision to utilize Progin Park again from July 22nd to 26th. They will again be utilizing Fitchburg State College for housing.
Certified Travel is being utilized for all tournament booking and will appear in the tournament section as well as the Hotel Partners Page to be completed by the end of the month. They are also being very helpful in the completion of negotiations with the Best Western.
Respectfully,
Nicole M. Dessingue

January 2008
1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill

Field Complex
Complex is closed and waiting for the snow to melt.
We will do initial round of water testing for 2008 this month.
Met with Mike Hightower to review plans for field maintenance for calendar 2008. We believe we have a good plan to ensure stability of natural grass fields
Still working with Synthenet to finalize the online field scheduling.
Working to get release from order of conditions from the conservation commission. Seems to be taking much longer than one would think to get this accomplished.
Region 1 girls has inquired about moving all the ID camps to the complex. Working on a compete proposal for them.
Office Administration
Registrations are tracking a bit ahead of last year.
Things continue to move forward very slowly on the traffic signal design, but progress is being made.
All plans to return to work this week
Tara will be going out on maternity leave in early February. We thought we had a replacement but the one we had took a full time position. Search continues.

2. DIRECTOR OF COACHING / INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT
Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs  Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching

Skills Academies began on Monday, January 7th. We have 9 sites this year. Those sites will be: Beverly, Burlington, Littleton, Somerville, Framingham, Falmouth, Springfield, Braintree, and Franklin. We tried to offer 10 sites throughout the state (to increase accessibility), losing only one site to very low enrollment numbers. Also, staff has reworked the academy syllabi to update them in a way that both improve the program and offer a progression of material to both players and coaches each new year.
The Annual Instructional Staff/Coach Education Directors Meeting will take place on Saturday, January 26th (8:30am-1:00pm)
at the Barbieri School, 100 Dudley Road in Framingham. Instructional Staff will be leading workshops in the areas of Conflict Management / Tryouts / Technical & Tactical Theory of Formations This year we are inviting all member organizations to send additional representatives as a way of offering them more access to higher-level educational opportunities that previously were limited to our instructional staff and coach education directors. Staff has been working together to develop and fine-tune these presentations over the past 4-6 weeks.
Our Director of Training and Evaluation (Tom) was one of 3 National Instructors at the National C License. Our Director of Coaching (Mike), and 6 other coaches, were apprentices who were observing the National Instructors and getting familiar with the curriculum in the event that they would be called in to instruct the course in the future. The course had approximately 50 coaching candidates. Each of the apprentices were assigned the task of being a group leader for a group of about 7 or 8 candidates. They facilitated group discussions and curriculum review for the candidates in their group.
Spring licensing course requests are beginning to come in at an increasing level after the usual holiday season lull.
The new link to the soccer parenting courses, that we voted to provide access to, now appears on our website.
After 3+ years as a Development Coach for Mass Youth’s Instructional Program, Darren Marshall left the organization on December 31st to pursue and explore some new opportunities. We’d like to sincerely thank Darren for his contributions to our programs during his time with us.

3. Marketing and Communications Manager Report  Nicole M. Dessingue
Mass Youth Soccer News – All submissions are due to me by Jan 31st and the February edition is due to the printer by Feb 20th
With the withdrawal of HPS as Mass Youth Soccer’s Strength and Conditioning Partner, and much negotiating. Athletic Evolution will be filling that role as of February 2008. Athletic Evolution is a large scale facility located in Woburn, MA with a satellite location in Haverhill, MA. They will be providing the ODP winter conditioning program at no cost to participants in exchange for marketing and advertising similar to that of HPS.
Preparations for the New England Youth Sports Festival have begun and the event will take place at the end of February.
Acceptance of previous meeting minutes

Terri Filippetti moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, to accept the January meeting minutes.
Accepted unanimously.

Executive Director's Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

DOC Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports

State Cup
Terri reported the U13 and U14 teams are scheduling their 3rd Challenge Round games. These State Cup games must be completed by May 13th.
The U15 and up teams are scheduling the first of three Challenge Round games to be played this spring. These State Cup games must all be completed by May 20th.

Leagues Committee
Ted reported the MTOC draw was held, bids are out for medals, shirts, plaques, etc. Having State Cup & MTOC at Lancaster will pose some logistical challenges, new locations, different configurations, parking, entering & exiting the complex, etc.

Recreation
Nancy reported she is working on contacting college coaches to come view the districts players. The games will now be mostly at Lancaster complex for the older age groups, younger age groups will play closer to home. College Showcase – Sundays games for U-16-U19.
Nancy will attend the MASC general meeting next week to discuss the districts program.

Instruction
Report contained in DOC report.

Outreach
No report.

ODP
Mike reported they are making the final cuts. The overnight at Dean College will be the weekend before Memorial Day.

SYRA
Brian reported the recertification clinics are ongoing. He anticipates 5100 referees in the state. He is in the process of getting referee availability for ODP and regional tournaments. There is a new date for nominating the young referees of the year, Nov 1. In state, the deadline for nominations is July 15, after the tournaments so people can see young referees in action. This later deadline has led to more nominations. He’d like the nominations in no later than beginning of June.
Treasurer
Carl distributed the budget report. We are holding our own. There are a few capital expenditures for equipment coming up.

Field Committee report
No report.

Board member reports
Andy Page attended CED Meeting, Sports Pilot nights, registrars’ meeting (John B added Rich and Rachel have conducted 9 meeting, one more to go.)
Mike Borislow attended Sports Pilot program, More towns are using Sports Pilot. It is easier for Mass Youth to get registration information from the towns with Sports Pilot.

Old Business
- G license on line
  Mike reported he is negotiating a contract with a new vendor to finish the project.

New Business
- Election of new executive board member
  Steve Smoller nominated Terri Filippetti, Dave Dalrymple seconded. There were no further nominations so clerk was instructed to cast one vote for nominee. Terri is now a member of the executive board.
- Kelme contract
  The executive board will discuss some issues with the Kelme contract.
- Marketing our properties
  John Burrill reported that Palley Advertising made a proposal. The Kraft organizations also made a proposal. While it is pricier than Palley’s, this group is better able to raise more significant funds. John would like the Kraft group to meet with the executive board and the field committee to listen to their presentation.
- Academy programs for towns
  Mike Singleton reported there is a movement to move academy based programs to town based recreational programs. Academy is a new buzz word. There are lots of ways to run an academy. Holden has begun such a program. Mike’s proposed concept would be geared toward U-6 and U-8 age groups. Since coaches at this level are volunteers and not very skilled as coaches, having the more skilled coaches take a leadership role to help improve the less skilled coaches helps develop the coaches. They would direct the activities of the other coaches and show them how. Players train in groups instead of teams. The training among groups is more uniform, leads to better player development. Players get rotated to different coaches, exposed to different coaching styles. Different coaches have different observations of players. The coaches develop because there are skilled coaches overseeing them. Players are playing small sided games and getting rotated, so they can be better matched up to be in competitive situations rather than one dominant player as on a recreational team, dominating the play but not getting challenged. These programs can, perhaps, be intermingled with adjoining towns which eliminates long distance travel. This is a better environment for referees as well.

- Branding our corporate identity
  John Burrill discussed the issue of branding our corporate identity to our membership. Lots of programs exist with their own logo. Ours may be there also, but not prominent.

- Movement among districts
Carol O'Brien reported at the South Coast League meeting Norton said they wanted to move from their district to district 1 because that is where they play. Nancy Hart will look into this request.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill
Field Complex
Complex is just starting to wake up. We did plow the synthetics one time in order to get ready for the March 8th tournament. We still have quite a bit of snow piled up. Elsewhere the snow is slowly melting from the grass fields. We will not start to see green and growth until May, but they appear to have come through the winter in decent shape. We have a plan in place for fertilization and maintenance. Golf Course management (Mike Hightower) has hired an irrigation specialist who will look after our system (as well as the other properties he maintains).
We will do initial round of water testing for 2008 this month, weather permitting.
Still working with Synthetet to finalize the on-line field scheduling.
We finally have obtained the conditional compliance with the ‘order of conditions’ from the conservation commission. That was the last document needed from the bond closing.
Region 1 girls has inquired about moving all the ID camps to the complex, but decided to return to Rhode Island. This was due in large part because of our pending bid to hold the "Veterans" cup here in 09 & 10. We should have a final decision on that in April.
We expect a visit from the US Youth folks in April and final decision on the US Youth Nationals in May.
Harper is still going through approval process on his new road. Also the town has agreed to let him widen the existing road leading to the new parking. That will become a two land road, with a sidewalk.
We have Bouchard Automotive going in beside us to the north. They are through the planning board and are finishing up with the conservation commission. They will then have to go Boston to get DEP approval, which should take about 6 months. I am led to believe that Boucher Construction (partner of Steve Harper) will be doing the construction. It is about a 25M project. The project should not impact us except for potential storm water run off from their property into the wetlands that is between our properties.
Since we have testing requirements, we need to be sure we don’t end up with any of their environmental problems. I have appeared before the Conservation Commission to make our interests known and am asking Gale Associates to review their storm water management plan.
Memorial Weekend
The group running the Memorial Weekend tournament reports they have 120 teams committed and intent to max out at 150 for the first year. They have college coaches who have indicated they are coming, members of the breakers will be here and they are hoping for some revolution players as well.
Office Administration
Registrations are tracking a bit ahead of last year.
The traffic signal design project has come to a halt. Everything has been submitted to Mass Highway and we await there decision as to whether they will approve traffic signals or not.
Al returned to work in January and appears to be doing quite well with his new parts.
Suzanne Woo is filling in for Tara while she is out. Suzanne is doing a great job at keeping things on tract.

2. DIRECTOR OF COACHING/ INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT 3-08
Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching
Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs
The course season is among us and keeping us all busy as course numbers are looking quite positive.
Skills Academy numbers increased over last year and we have 2 more weeks of Skills Academy left for this year. One particular point of note is that we have close to 100 coaches who have shadowed instructors this year. This is a large increase over initial years and one of the goals of this program is to educate coaches, so we are quite happy to see this.
Tara and Sue have been working hard to schedule all the Spring Coaching and Player Education Program. We are excited to be working in many new towns this spring in different geographic regions than we have in the past. Spreading our services around the state in this manner is helpful in serving our mission. It seems numerous towns have requested help for tryouts indicating this is a significant need area for continued education.
Tom has taken over GOALS and has 20 sites planned for this summer. We are in the process of procuring staff. Mike has been talking with the Boston Celtics and Boston Youth Sports initiative about the possibility of adding basketball to GOALS. This may seem like
an odd direction for a youth soccer organization, however doing this will improve services to the children, the centers we work with, and the communities in which we run these camps. I feel it is our job to help children as best we can.

We once again had a booth and led field sessions at the New England Youth Sports Festival. We, once again, were very popular at the event and had over 400 children attend our sessions. Overall attendance at this event did improve from year one. Meetings will be taking place in coming month to determine if there will be a similar event next year.

Mike, Tom, Laura, and Howie attended the US Youth Workshop in Pittsburgh. All attended multiple sessions and meetings and found it helpful.

Mario led a large group of young ODP boys players and parents to Portugal that was a great success and we have heard much positive feedback about.

Laura led a group of young ODP girls players and parents to Spain and we have also received positive reports on this trip. Tom joined Laura for part of this trip.

Mike helped as a coach at the girls U15/16 National ODP Camp in Pomona, CA.

Mike ran a 2 hr coaching session for the player son the BU girls soccer team that went quite well. The girls showed great enthusiasm and Nancy Feldman is to be commended for facilitating this. It is a goal of our department to educate more college players throughout the state in this manner.

We have transferred the online course to FUSEIdea and hope this will lead to immediate progress. The search for a new development coach continues. We will be interviewing in the next couple of weeks.

ODP indoor sessions are coming to a close and final selections for the spring are being made.

3. Marketing and Communications Manager Report  Nicole M. Deslingue

Mass Youth Soccer News – February/March edition was edited and finalized February 28th and 29th and went to print shortly thereafter. Some layout and graphic improvements were made, as well as the addition of more interest stories from around the Commonwealth.

Events – Mass Youth Soccer Night with the Boston Bruins commenced on February 28th, with Tom Goodman in attendance as a representative of the coaching department. Mass Youth Soccer Nights were successful for a trial run and both teams involved (The Worcester Sharks and The Boston Bruins) were very pleased with the promotional exposure. I will be meeting with them to attempt to bring in a higher level of commitment.

The New England Youth Sports Festival ran from February 22nd to 24th. The coaching department did a great job as always and we had the highest turn out of players of all the sports in attendance. A phone conference is schedule with Christine Donovan, Tom Goodman, and me, to assess the event.

New sponsors/partners - Fundraising 101 (in joint with Free Kick) is beginning to gain more and more momentum as word spreads. We currently have 3 local fundraising providers interested.

“The 84”, an anti-smoking campaign, has also expressed interest in advertisement on the website for March-April. I am currently working with Synthenet to get them set up with a banner ad on the homepage.

Media – Fox Soccer Channel is interested in running the story of Nicolai Calabria’s Kilimanjaro climb. In the upcoming weeks, I will be working with Todd Roby of US Youth to get this set up.

Website report -

From now on, my monthly report will come with a website statistics report. I will show overall traffic as well as the Top 5 pages and other pertinent pages (like new pages or temporarily relevant pages).

To get started and give an overview of the year, here are the website stats for March 07 – February 08 (March 08 is not available yet)

Overall:

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Requested Stats:

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|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| COACHING       |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| PRACTICE PLANS |  13585   |    939   |    1225  |    936   |    714   |    685   |    2416  |    2855  |    1451  |    672   |    383   |    728   |    581   |
| PRACTICE SESS. |  10274   |    0     |    0     |    0     |    283   |    609   |    2314  |    3003  |    1570  |    702   |    394   |    768   |    631   |
Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting  
April 23, 2008


A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 6:58 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes  
Bill Shaughnessy moved, seconded by Jared Scarpaci, to accept the March meeting minutes. Accepted unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report  
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes. John Burrill added he has received a draft of the new contract with company doing the online G course. A few minor points have to be nailed down, but things are moving forward. Mass Highway prefers a rotary instead of a traffic light at our intersection.

DOC Report  
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report  
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports  
State Cup  
Nothing to report.

Leagues Committee  
Ted reported at the last leagues committee meeting they selected vendors for shirts, medals, plaques, etc. All will have Mass Youth logo on them if possible.

Recreation  
Nothing to report.

Instruction  
Report contained in DOC report.

Outreach  
Sid Bloom reported that Ray Robinson has volunteered to serve as temporary director until we can find a new director for Outreach programs.

ODP  
Jared reported they started on Monday and had over 300 players present. This Saturday they will have a play day with some teams from Connecticut.

SYRA  
Brian reported they have selected the ref crew for ODP tournament, and are in the process of selecting the crew for regionals. He hopes to complete this by the end of this week. The refs have been selected for State Cup and will be notified shortly. Next month he will start on selection of MTOC crew. The instruction season has ended, and Brian will have final numbers next month.

Treasurer  
Carl distributed the budget report. Everything looks good.

Field Committee report  
Carl reported the committee is feeling its way through the season, learning what expenses will be incurred as needs arise.
Board member reports
Bill Shaughnessy reported on his district 2 visits. He is concentrating on U-6 to U-10 games. They have a community service for high school seniors program. Bill matched the kids with coaches to serve as assistants for the younger age groups. He worked with Silver Lake last year, will try to add a few more communities this year. Howie Blatt spoke about Mass Youth and TOPS at both the MAYS league meeting and the Central Massachusetts Recreational Directors meeting.

Old Business

- Report on Kelme contract
  John Burrill reported on the status of our contract with Kelme. We will terminate the contract after this year, and will consider negotiating a new contract, but will also open this up to other possible vendors. We need to complete the process by the end of July in order to place our order for ODP uniforms for next year.

- Hosting US Youth Nationals
  Sid Bloom reported the site selection committee visited us to observe the site and the hotels we would use to house the teams. We are now waiting to hear from them once they make a decision.

- Hosting Adult league nationals – Veterans Cup
  Sid reported the selection committee is debating whether the selection will be for one or two years, there is a strong likelihood it will be for two years. Mass will host for at least 2009 Veterans Cup.

- We will also be hosting on May 17 the Northeast League finals (Regional Super League)

New Business

- Discussion of marketing our properties.
  Carl distributed a breakdown of the Kraft & Company proposal. We have an agreement in principal with them and they are drafting a contract. Carl stated the decision to approve or not will be made by the executive committee and the field committee.

- Formal adoption of banking resolution
  The board voted via email and passed the following resolution via email unanimously.

For the purposes of utilizing the wire transfer services of TD Banknorth, NA., (hereinafter known as the “Bank”). Mass Youth Soccer shall enter into a Wire Transfer Agreement with the Bank containing such terms and provisions as any one of the offices, employees or agents of Mass Youth Soccer set forth below and Bank shall agree upon, the execution of such Agreement to be conclusive evidence for the executing person’s approval of all of the terms and provisions of such Agreement and, in order to accomplish the execution of wire transfers, such officers, employees or agents of Mass Youth Soccer as any of the persons specifically identified shall from time to time designate (“Authorized Agent”) shall have full power and authority to execute transfer orders from Mass Youth Soccer’s accounts. The following officers, employees or agents of Mass Youth Soccer, acting singly, are hereby given the power and authority to execute the Wire Transfer Agreement and to designate Authorized Agents as aforesaid:

- TOPS honoring Ed Celli
Ed Celli, a part of the TOPS program, is being honored by Wilmington Soccer as man of the year in recognition of his helping handicapped kids.

- **Boston Breakers**
The Breakers will be opening next year at Harvard Stadium. Tony DiCicco will be their coach and Joe Cummings will be their general manager.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. **Executive Director Report John Burrill**
   
   **Field Complex**
   Complex is up and running. We had some trouble surviving the winter as most of the stems of the faucets broke as did both water coolers. We have replaced most everything but still awaiting parts for the water coolers. Also our potable water pump needed repair and we still have some issues with the shutoffs to the water storage tanks. I suspect all of this is not unexpected.
   
The irrigation system has been fully charged and up and running. We had several small breaks but nothing major.
   
   We have aerated the fields, done some over seeding on a few spots that needed it and will begin next week with the nutrient applications.
   
   We have done the first round of water testing for 2008 and everything came out just fine.
   
   Parking is an issue, or rather folks parking where they are supposed to park and not on private property or on the highway or on our grass. Seems lots of folks want to pull up to a field so they can watch their child play from the car.
   
   We have done some minor alterations to the parking lots to improve things. One issue appears to be families with children in strollers. Our stairway is not user friendly to these folks so we are exploring other options.
   
   Still working with Synthenet to finalize the on-line field scheduling.
   
   No word on the veterans cup. The one word we did hear was that due to the problems in the adult association, the award might go to Penn West. No real idea on when that decision will be made.
   
   We did have the folks from US Youth Soccer in on April 16 & 17 and we put the very best foot forward we can. A recommendation will be made to the US Youth Board in time for their May meeting.
   
   Harper is still going through approval process on his new road. Also the town has agreed to let him widen the existing road leading to the new parking. That will become a two land road, with a sidewalk.
   
   **Memorial Weekend**
   The group running the Memorial Weekend tournament reports they have 140 teams committed and intent to max out at 150 for the first year. They have college coaches who have indicated they are coming, members of the breakers will be here and they are hoping for some revolution players as well.
   
   **Administration**
   The traffic signal design project has come to a halt. Everything has been submitted to Mass Highway and we await there decision as to whether they will approve traffic signals or not.
   
   Tara returned to work in early April.

2. **DIRECTOR OF COACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT**
Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching  
Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs

Staff is currently using weekly meetings to review current course materials (all levels) to update activities, resources, etc., if needed. Also looking at ways to help candidates better prepare for courses and to leave courses with more resource information to support them in using what they’ve learned.

Course season is calming down and as all final rosters come in we will have updates as to course numbers to report. We were very busy and believe the numbers are looking very positive.

Skills Academy has completed with increased numbers from last year in both players and coaches. Our spring programs have begun and we are working with towns across the state. Samples of towns include Lancaster, Amesbury, Southbridge, Attleboro, and Lee. As you can see we are covering the state geographically quite well this spring.

Our new development coach will be Fred King. Fred is a HS teacher who has coached for both Harvard and Tufts and has been a coach with the Bolts for the past years as well. Fred is also a past ODP coach. He will begin working for us on April 28th. Please join us in welcoming him to our organization.

Tom is in final stages of staffing our GOALS sites for the summer and we should be hearing back from the Celtics at any point as to whether they would like to become involved with adding a basketball component to GOALS.

Overnight camp registration is open and we are having people register already. Please pass on the word to any interested people and groups. With it being at our complex this year we have an increased potential number of campers.

Tara has returned to her role and we thank Sue Woo for her hard work while here.

ODP selections have been made and our first training was this past Monday. It was the first time all our teams are out at the same time training. This helps reduce club conflicts for players and give a great feel to the program.

3. Marketing and Communications Manager Report  Nicole M. Dessingue

Communications:

New weekly newsletter – The Striker

Mass Youth soccer is launching a new weekly newsletter in trial form to an isolated group to test the popularity and retention rate. This newsletter will be sent in email form, with similar formatting to the Free Kick. The Striker will be considerably smaller than the Free Kick (though, in very similar format) and serve as a vehicle for only one or two special stories, updates, offers, or press releases at a time. The first issue of The Striker will drop to the test group on Friday, April 25th.

FreeKick – New advertiser for the upcoming issue: Magic Falls Rafting Company

This coming issue due out at the end of April, contact me with anything to add by Friday April 25th.

Media:

Efforts to get articles on the new field complex continue. Sources I am currently targeting include:

Central Mass Magazine
The Worcester Business Journal

I am still working with US Youth Soccer to get Nicolai Calabria’s Kilimanjaro climb story into their show on the Fox Soccer Channel. US Youth has been extremely helpful, but Nicolai was hesitant to do more interviews due to the large amount of press his story is getting. However, he has recently had a change in heart and may be able to do an interview this month. We will attempt to get the story in the May edition of the US Youth Soccer show.

Marketing:

New Marketing Kiosks – Preliminary conceptual and planning work has been done for the newest marketing initiative at Citizens Bank Fields. There will soon be two new marketing board kiosks (one near concessions and one mounted under the current board on the back fields) and some mounted marketing collages in the bathrooms (two large in the women’s room and four smaller in the men’s).
These boards will serve to market Mass Youth Soccer events and programs as well as providing advertising space that we can sell. The outdoor frames will be two-sided and easily changeable to allow for updating. The indoor collages will be similar, but mounted on the walls with front access. There will also be flier canisters on both sides of the outdoor boards. Once the construction is underway planning and design on the visual displays will begin.

Residential and Day Camp – Early registration efforts seem to be paying off as we are receiving many inquiries and some early bird reservations. In return for some communication support of their event, SoccerFest, UMass has given us some prime space on their event page linking directly to the information page for summer camp.

You can see the page here: [http://www.soccerfest.org/about.htm](http://www.soccerfest.org/about.htm)

Website:

Number of Visitors - Overall

May 2007 94,202
Jun 2007 103,346
Jul 2007 57,796
Aug 2007 67,115
Sep 2007 71,515
Oct 2007 59,747
Nov 2007 42,853
Dec 2007 32,084
Jan 2008 47,122
Feb 2008 40,819
Mar 2008 57,420
Apr 2008 54,456

Pages with Most Visitors Overall – Only April Numbers Shown

- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/66_state_cup.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/66_state_cup.cfm) - 5,204
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/10_coaching.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/10_coaching.cfm) - 2,906
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/75_district_select.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/75_district_select.cfm) - 1,546
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/67_mtoc.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/67_mtoc.cfm) - 1,003
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/188_calendar.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/188_calendar.cfm) - 1,613
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/1266_cori_kidsafe_form.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/1266_cori_kidsafe_form.cfm) - 2,132
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/65_competitive_tournaments.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/65_competitive_tournaments.cfm) - 1,252
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2_players.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2_players.cfm) - 1,402
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/video/attitudes.wmv](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/video/attitudes.wmv) - 723
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/84.tryouts.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/84.tryouts.cfm) - 608
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/6_practice_plans.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/6_practice_plans.cfm) - 1,596
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2302_practice_sessions.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2302_practice_sessions.cfm) - 1,988
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/50.maple.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/50.maple.cfm) - 1,245
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/109_registration.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/109_registration.cfm) - 884
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2224_directions_to_progin_park.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2224_directions_to_progin_park.cfm) - 1,657
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/82_what_is_odp.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/82_what_is_odp.cfm) - 781
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/19_parents.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/19_parents.cfm) - 920
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/statecup.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/statecup.cfm) - 90
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/41_16_fields_at_progin_park.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/41_16_fields_at_progin_park.cfm) - 1,401
- [http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/agegroups.cfm](http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/agegroups.cfm) - 84

A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 7:00 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes
Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Skip Gorman, to accept the April meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Visit from Mario Prata
Mario is leaving the Mass Youth development coaching staff to join the New England Revolution staff. Sid Bloom thanked Mario for his years of service and support for Mass Youth Soccer. Mario stated he wanted to attend the meeting to personally thank them for all of the support over the years he has worked for Mass Youth.

Executive Director’s Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

DOC Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports
State Cup
Terri Filippetti reported everything is on schedule and she is hoping for good weather this week.

Leagues Committee
John Linnehan thanked the board for their support concerning his wife’s illness. The committee is preparing for MTOC. They will be observing the tournaments before MTOC to see how things go. Next committee meeting will be June 1.

Recreation
Nancy Hart reported they are finalizing tryouts this month. They are trying to get the uniforms completed. Wednesday, Thursday, and weekends, there will be lots of games at Lancaster complex. U-19 games will be 90 minutes which will be suitable for referee upgrade assessments.

Instruction
Report contained in DOC report.

Outreach
Ray Robinson reported there is not much to report at this time. Ray and Sid Bloom attended the recognition program for Ed Celli of Wilmington.

ODP
Jared Scarpaci reported the mini camp was last weekend and went great. June 6 is Ryder Cup. A discussion followed regarding Academy programs in boys going to U-14 and its resulting effect on our ODP program. We will lose some players, but not as many as most other states.
SYRA
Sid Bloom reported for Brian. The referees have been selected for ODP and regionals, and the committee is working on State Cup and MTOC. Brian came in later and reported pretty much the same information. Brian also distributed a list of referees and assessors for ODP and Regionals.

Treasurer
John Burrill distributed the budget report and reported we are holding our own.

Field Committee report
Discussion under financial report covered the field committee report as well. Mostly concerned upcoming tournaments being held at the complex.

Board member reports
Carol O’Brien has visited several games in her district and has noticed a lot of obnoxious conduct on the part of parents toward referees. Discussion followed concerning what can be done to improve this situation.
David Dalrymple thanked Mike Singleton for his presentation at last month’s BAYS board meeting.

Old Business
• There was no old business

New Business
• Drop off lane for field complex
  John Burrill is working on getting a drop off lane set up outside the complex.

• Hosting US Soccer National Championship
  Sid Bloom announced we should hear about hosting the nationals by June 3.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill
Complex
Complex is in full operation. The grass is beginning to green up, the first application of feed will be given this week, slice seeding has occurred on some spots which required it and we will now begin to alter the use of weekend to even out the wear. Mike H and I have a chart we keep on daily/weekly use to help us manage the process. We plan to have 4 applications of feed this year and we will try a new, less expensive (but good) form of fertilizer as well. The cost of fertilizer, like so many things, has skyrocketed this past year.
Fields are showing some wear. I will need to do a better job a balancing between revenue and maintaining the quality of the playing surface. We will also have to take a more aggressive approach in feeding the fields earlier.
Parking remains the top concern and how to most efficiently handle the volume of autos. Also dogs continue to appear.
The repairs to the parking lot were completed and look good and we are in the approval process for the drop off lane along RT 70. We need to wait until the one tree we need to move blooms and then we can transplant. I continue to remind Harper that we need the promised trees.
Have hired a person to oversee the complex on weekends.
We still need to do more in the general clean up of all the sand put down over the winter.
Group who rented for Memorial weekend continues to plan. Look like 130 teams will be the number.
Water test results continue to be on the mark.
Planning will begin with the adults for their event in 2009.
Planning for both Cup and MTOC is well underway and appears to be on track.
Office Administration
Both the online field scheduling program and the state cup / MTOC score sites are now live and operational.
Registrations are tracking even with last year.
Things are picking up on the traffic design front. Our consultants need to make some modifications to plans submitted and focus on a round about as the traffic solution.

Staff
Fred King began this week and this slowly getting into the swing of things. One comes and one goes as we lose Mario to the Revs.
The expansion of the goals program into another sport, basketball, will be slowed somewhat as the Boston Celtics did not want to fund any of the effort. We do have a group in Boston who is interested in contributing some money for a basketball component. We will make sure it will not cost us anything additional to add basketball at several Boston sites. This would be a real benefit for the kids, but not on our dime.

2. DIRECTOR OF COACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT
Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching
Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs

The Director of Coaching, the Director of Instructional Programs, and the entire full-time and part-time instructional staff would like
to thank Mario Prata for his years of service and dedication to the kids and coaches of Mass Youth Soccer. He put a lot of time, effort,
and care into his duties here and thousands of coaches and players benefited from his determination and hard work. We wish him
tremendous success in his new endeavors with the New England Revolution.

Spring coach/player development programs have gone well and we are currently scheduling Fall Programs. It looks as if we will be
filling rather quickly so if you know of townships that would like to work with us please tell them to speak to Tara soon.
We have been very busy helping towns run tryouts and will be for the next month as well. This seems a huge need area in the state and
one that will motivate us to create a section devoted to it within our coaches’ pages on the website.
We have recently revised our courses and will be running updated courses (albeit not too different) going forward.

GOALS will start next month and we will have 20 sites this year. Tom is running a coaching session with all coaches beforehand.
Without a firm agreement from a basketball partner, we decided it is better to wait until next year.

The online G course is again moving forward now that the video has been deemed satisfactory. It is our expectation to have this course available come the fall course season.

Our new development coach, Fred King will take his B license course in June.
ODP minicamp ran successfully at our complex. This was the first time we held it at our complex and we will definitely continue to
do so in the future. 3 girls regional ODP coaches and 2 boys regional ODP coaches worked with all of our teams.

3. Marketing and Communications Manager Report Nicole M. Dessingue

Communications:
Mass Youth Soccer News – We struggled a little bit with the timing of this issue due to some traveling requirements of our Foxboro
team, but in the end, a clean May issue of Mass Youth Soccer News hit the stands last week. We have noticed that the past few issues
have been smaller than in years past and are calling for the help of the board and coaching staff to get us more content for the
upcoming issues. Anything with accompanying pictures or diagrams is extremely appreciated. Let’s get some great information out
in July! The July issue is scheduled to print on the 11th, so please get all submissions to me no later than June 27th (except MTOC)
New weekly newsletter – The Striker
The first issue of The Striker dropped to the test group at the beginning of May. I have been tracking the test membership, which
started at 16,953, since the first letter dropped, to see how many people are opting out of the list. The current membership is 15,590,
showing a drop of 1,363 subscribers in about 2 and a half weeks. The newsletter will now go live on its intended schedule (once a
week, unless there are a large amount of communications that week like the Newspaper or general emails). I will continue to monitor
the before and after membership list and report on subscriber retention.
FreeKick – This coming issue due out at the end of June, contact me with anything to add by Friday June 27th.

Media:
Efforts to get articles on the new field complex continue. Sources I am currently targeting include:

Central Mass Magazine
The Worcester Business Journal
Nicolai Calabria, as well as his father Carl, and his inspiration, Emmanuel Yeboah, were interviewed on Monday May 5th at their
home fields in Concord, MA. The interview was shot by Peter Stassa, local videographer who lent his talents to the Grand Opening
on behalf of US Youth Soccer, and conducted by Peter and myself. Peter also had the opportunity to shoot some live action of
Nicolai, his team and Emmanuel kicking around the field. This piece will premier in the upcoming episode of the US Youth Soccer
show on the Fox Soccer Channel. The tentative air date is June 6th, but I will be posting a reminder on mayouthsoccer.org the week
prior to the air date with the final schedule. Copies of the piece will arrive at Mass Youth Soccer after the premier with one to be kept
here, one sent to the Calabria family, and one sent to Nicolai’s charity of choice, The Free Wheelchair Mission.

Marketing:
New Marketing Kiosks – Construction is underway, planning and design on the visual displays will begin soon.
Residential and Day Camp – These past few weeks Tom, Tara, and I have been busy preparing mailings to go out to past campers, ODP kids, coaches, District coaches, and local publications. We will be getting a new shipment of brochures and some new postcards this week and when all is said and done, thousands will have received communications in the mail regarding Summer Camp. I am also working on getting together an advertisement which we will place in the Annual Summer Book '08 of the Telegram and Gazette. Deadline is Friday, May 23rd, and the book will go out to 125,000+ people in Central Massachusetts.

Sponsorship and Advertising – Mass Youth Soccer’s new partnership with the Kraft Group has hit the ground running. I attended the NE Patriots Sponsor Summit on Wednesday May 7th with Matt Quinn of the Kraft Group and have since had a couple meetings with him and prospective new advertisers/sponsors. We are currently working on proposals for: Papa Gino’s '08-'09, Northwest Designers, T-Mobile.

Website:
Number of Visitors - Overall
May 2007 94,202
Jun 2007 103,346
Jul 2007 57,796
Aug 2007 67,115
Sep 2007 71,515
Oct 2007 59,747
Nov 2007 42,853
Dec 2007 32,084
Jan 2008 47,122
Feb 2008 40,819
Mar 2008 57,420
Apr 2008 81,085
May 2008 14,424

Pages with Most Visitors Overall – April - May Numbers Shown
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/ - 52,539 - 6,116
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/66_state_cup.cfm - 8,266 - 2,430
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/57_mtoc.cfm - 1,539 - 617
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/188_calendar.cfm - 2,254 - 352
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/65_competitive_tournaments.cfm - 1,847 - 462
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2_players.cfm - 2,028 - 401
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2302_practice_sessions.cfm - 2,858 - 311
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/6_practice_plans.cfm - 2,192 - 226
http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/2224_directions_to_progin_park.cfm - 2,242 - 343

A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 7:02 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes

Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Ray Robinson, to accept the May meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

DOC Report
No report.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports
SRA report Andy Weiss
Andy Weiss presented some statewide statistics on referees
We have 5560 referees. 56% of them are age 16 or below
3955 are male, 1605 are female
81% have refereed for less than 5 years
Andy discussed the idea of retention and recruiting adult referees with the board.

State Cup
Terri Filippetti reported the finals were last weekend and 17 teams are going on to regionals.

Leagues Committee
John Linnehan reported MTOC is coming June 27-29 and the committee is working on the transition from Umass to Lancaster.

Recreation
Nancy Hart reported there is a drop in the numbers. The Scorpion tournament is conflicting with districts. District 3 dropped 5 teams. There are 90 teams in total.

Instruction
Howie Blatt reported we are getting lots of requests to run tryouts and evaluations. The development coaches are trying to teach the towns how to do it themselves. Camps are coming up; also the Goals program is getting ready to start. Regarding web sessions, on line training course is being completed. The coaches are also preparing additional information to be available on our web page.

Outreach
Ray Robinson reported he is contacting people who are running TOPS programs. He is planning a meeting of these people for the fall. A program may start off in Somerville and Lexington.

ODP
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

SYRA
Brian Treanor reported State Cups was excellent from a referee standpoint. They had a few referee meetings during the tournament. A crew went to the ODP tournament and did well. He is now preparing for MTOC, and has 140 referees available. Assignments should be done by next weekend. He will next work on referees for the districts program.

Treasurer
Carl Goldstein distributed the financial report and budget. Next month’s meeting will be the budget meetings and they will start at 5pm.

Field Committee report
No report.

US Youth Nationals
Terri Filippetti reported they will be held here in 2009. Terri will visit this year’s nationals to observe the workings of the tournament. She will have more to report in August after the tournament. Sid Bloom explained the reason for the one year hosting instead of 2 years, based on US Soccer board decision.

Veterans Cup
The adults are working on the finances for the two years. They are going to ask us for financial help.

Board member reports
There were a few general reports about tournament attendance which appears to be down from previous years.

Formal recognition of Cranberry League
This is a fall only league and has been in operation for the past 10 years as a fall program. It covers towns in the Coastal, South Coast, and South Shore Leagues. Discussion involved lack of submission of a formal constitution and by laws.
Ray Robinson moved, seconded by John Linnehan to recognize the Cranberry League. Motion failed 5-6-1.
Steve Smoller moved, seconded by David Dalrymple, to request Richard Warren submit a constitution and bylaws. Motion passed 7-4-1.

Budget preparation
Carl Goldstein reported the meetings will be held next month.

Mass Youth Soccer News
The board voted to go into executive session to discuss this issue. Following executive session it was announced the Mass Youth newsletter will cease to exist the end of December.

Old Business
- There was no old business

New Business
- John Burrill will be appearing before the Lancaster planning board to answer questions about the parking issue.
- ODP teams – 17 year olds going to Kirkwood for ODP semi’s and finals, nothing beyond. It is basically one game for a trophy and is a very expensive proposition. We have to discuss if we want to continue sending this team there.
• John Linnehan senses there were fewer conflicts between town league games and state cup games and tryouts.

• Steve Smoller asked about Tim Castle’s condition. John Burrill will call the hospital to check and let us know.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill
Complex
We have made it through our first 2 major events with only minor issues. Parking will always be on the list, but we are getting better at handling the volume of cars and getting them parked and the folks moved more efficiently. It does take a minimum crew of 5 to accomplish this task. We do not have sufficient parking at the flea Market for MTOC but do for Cup. For MTOC we will utilize either new parking behind Oakridge Farm or the parking out beyond the quarry fields as well as the Flea Market. This will require at least 3 extra bodies to accomplish this effectively.

We had no issues with trash, dogs or bathrooms. There is still a smell coming from the septic system although the extension of the vent pipe on the roof did help the situation. We will continue to work to eliminate the smell. Potable water is an issue. The Wagner well has gone dry 3 times in the past 3 weeks. This was not caused by us. They are looking at options to improve the well. We did bring in water in a tanker Saturday night to fill our tanks and we will have to do this for MTOC as well. We can not run the risk of running out of potable water.

The drop off lane was completed and in use this past weekend and seemed to work well. We could use twice the space, but what we have is an improvement.

For the most part the public was helpful, agreeable and did not mind the minor inconvenience of the busing. In fact I even overheard some positive comments about it.

Dick Threadgould is outstanding as the complex manager. He loves the job, is very effective at it and overall makes a significant contribution to the operation.

The concession operation is improving with each event. I continue to remind Harper that we need the promised trees.

Water test results continue to be on the mark.

Planning has begun for the Veteran Cup in 2009. Planning has also begun for US Youth Nationals

Office Administration
Registrations continue to track even with last year.

Things are picking up on the traffic design front. Our consultants need to make some modifications to plans submitted and focus on a round a bout as the traffic solution.

We are moving into the finals phases of the “G” on line and Fuse ideas, the new company, is working on the project. We expect to see a fully functioning edition before the end of the month.

Still waiting on contact from Kraft group.

We have begun the behinds the scenes work for the 08/09 budget.

Staff
The search continues for Mario’s replacement. Nothing is imminent on this front.

2. Marketing and Communications Manager Report  Nicole M. Dessingue

Communications:

Mass Youth Soccer News – The July issue is scheduled to print on the 11th, so please get all submissions to me not later than June 27th (except MTOC). Extra stories, practice plans, photographs are all welcome and requested!

FreeKick – This coming issue due out at the end of June, contact me with anything to add by Friday June 27th.

Media:

US Youth Soccer and Citizens Bank have been a huge help in beginning the efforts to get pieces written about Progin Park using the bids for the National Championships and Veteran’s Cup as a jumping off point. We are currently projecting the economic impact of these new additions and will use that angle to garner interest from local media outlets. The Boston Globe is currently beginning work on a piece surrounding the Nationals bid.

The story about Nicolai Calabria’s fundraiser climb up Kilimanjaro will be included in Episode 3 of the US Youth Soccer Show on the Fox Soccer Channel. Once US Youth Soccer releases the schedule for airing, it will be included on the website, in the Free Kick, and The Striker. Copies have been mailed to the office, the Calabria’s and the Free Wheelchair Mission, to which Nicolai has contributed over $100,000

Marketing:

New Marketing Kiosks – Construction is completed on the kiosk outside of the concession stand and the first round of posters were printing in time for State Cup. They look great due to a great job by Maura O’Brien with Patriot’s News Weekly, as well as Joe over at Precision Printing. A great deal of thanks is in order for their quick and professional work. The back fields kiosk should be completed shortly and then the bathroom frames thereafter.

Residential and Day Camp – In conjunction with the advertisement which we will place in the Annual Summer Book ’08 of the Telegram and Gazette, that will go out to 125,000+ people in Central Massachusetts, we will also be placing a 4-week run of the same ad in the Leominster Champion. This ad will also be featured on their website with direct linking to our registration page. This piece runs the last two weeks in June as well as the middle two weeks of July.

Signage – Mass Youth Soccer will be placing two signage pieces with the NE Revolution. One will be a large field board sign and the other a banner on revolutionsoccer.net. Provided for you, are the first draft copies of some choices for the field board, as well as the web banner. Please feel free to give your input. We are attempting to keep them as simple and recognizable as possible.

Sponsorship and Advertising – Matt Qaam of the Kraft Group is working on multiple prospective sponsors and we continue to collaborate on materials and meetings with these parties. John Burrill and I attended the June 6th Revolution vs. Dallas and Brazil vs. Venezuela games at Gillette Stadium as a networking and hospitality event. Jewel James of Citizens Bank was invited and attended as well. We are scheduled to have a meeting on June 24th with Citizens representatives to discuss the sponsor partnership and ways to increase their return on investment.

ESPN the Magazine has signed on for their second year with some minor changes to the contract.

Field Board Options (Disregard “The Game For All Kids,” that will be removed:
Website:

With the switch from ClickTracks to Google analytics shutting down our ClickTracks account as of June 15th, there is not much to report as Google begins to assess our website. New website report to follow next month.

### 3. ODP report 2008 REGION 1 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

#### U13 BOYS

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U13 GIRLS

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1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill

Complex
The summer has been spent trying to regroup from all the play and wet weather. Storms have played havoc with the irrigation system, knocking out multiple pieces of the system, some more than once. All in all the drainage has worked well and the fields have generally been playable right along.

The smell from the septic system returned during the District Select tournament. We will explore ways to improve/correct the system.

The area around the pavilion takes a real beating during events so I am looking at ways to improve the look and utility of the area. The new, double in size, score board looks good and works well.

The Wagner well was off line for almost a month as they had major problems. After blaming us for some of the problems with the well, they discovered a leak in the line running from the well to their building which appears to be the root cause of all the problems. The well is back on line and appears to be working. We will look into having our own well put in.

The expansion of the drop off lane was completed in time for the District event. We had new police officers for the District event so things were a bit backed up on Saturday but they finally settled down and Sunday, the parking went very well.

We are finally getting to some of the things that have needed cleaning up for some time. Some work will need to be done for the big events we are hosting next year, but they will help the long use of the facility as well. We are looking into team benches, at least for some of the fields, as well as some form of shelter to get folks out of the bad weather.

We are looking into having the main parking lot paved. Also lights for synthetics, a way to get from the main lot down to the fields if you are pushing a baby stroller and shelters to get folks out of bad weather.

We expect to have the folks from US Youth here in the fall to being planning for next year’s championships and the next meeting of the Veterans committee is in the early fall as well.

Office Administration
We ended the year down slightly in total registrations although up slightly in our report of numbers to US Youth. We have some clubs who register players who have already been registered by a town program. This accounts for the difference in numbers between what we actually have and what we report to US Youth. The number of coaches was up slightly over last year as more and more programs are reporting all the adult volunteers, not just the coaches.

On the traffic design front, we have a survey about to be done as part of the design of the traffic round-about. We hope to be done with this project by early October.

We are moving into the finals phases of the “G” on line course. Beta testing is underway, corrections being noted and changes being made.

The budget which will be proposed will not include funding for Mass Youth Soccer News beyond the November 2008 issue.

Staff
Al has decided to retire effective the end of the month. I do not expect him to be in much between now and August 31. There are no plans to fill the position of Operations Manager.
Lynn Gugliuzza has begun work, which brings the instructional staff up to full complement.
2. DIRECTOR OF COACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT

Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching
Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs

We would like to welcome Lynn Gugliuzza to our staff. Lynn has her master’s degree in education with a specialization in coaching from Boston University. She has also assisted at both BU and UNII. Lynn brings a great deal of enthusiasm to the staff and we are happy to have her.

GOALS is officially complete for the summer as some of the final camps just ended last Friday. With over 20 sites running and there being morning, afternoon, and evening sites, Tom has been quite busy. As a result of his efforts, the program has again increased its visibility. This program is one we need to publicize more often as it is a great service to our state.

We ran our overnight camp at our complex and Atlantic Union College for the first time this year. Despite horrible weather, the camp was a success with 162 campers attending. We had more day campers this year (62) than any previous year of our camp. This indicates that the local towns are excited to use our complex and services. This support is rewarding to see.

As of July 31st we have had ~1880 G Course attendees, ~600 F Course attendees, and 209 E Course attendees. The G and F course numbers are down a bit when compared with last budget year. We should make up some of the difference this August, but also are not surprised by this drop due to our unexpected, prolonged staff shortage this year. Without being at full staff, without having full-timers who are qualified to teach all the courses, and with our having to do more oversight and training of the new staff, having less attendees makes sense. We’d both like to thank our full-time staff for their continuing efforts to provide the same level of professional service and availability to our membership even while we have been short-staffed...

Fred successfully earned his B license; please congratulate him when you have a chance.

We are currently running day camps in Spencer and Andover.

The online course is in early beta testing stage. Once it is further into this stage we would ask that each of you take the time to go through it and provide constructive feedback before we go public.

ODP tryouts have begun and will continue for the following weekend. We have seen the impact of the academy system on the older boys’ age groups. However we do feel this cultural change will allow for the development and recognition of more quality players.

In the ongoing effort to make sure that all of our coaching educators are also coaching practitioners, Mike will be assisting the Emerson College Women’s team this fall and Tom will be coaching our boys U13 ODP team this year.

3. Marketing and Communications Manager Report

Nicole M. Dessingue

Mass Youth Soccer News
- The November issue will be our very last and so we will try to go out with a bang. There will be a large photo spread and recap of this summer’s Residential and Day Camp, a welcome announcement for Lynn, our new Development Coach and more. Re-working of some contracts will be in order, but most content will just be moved into the electronic arena.

FreecKick
- This coming issue is due out at the end of August, contact me with anything to add by Friday August 22nd.

Marketing
- I will be attending the first meeting of the newly formed Leominster Tourism Committee on August 27th in City Hall. This new committee will be the perfect forum to begin to market our facility as a destination for those outside of Mass Youth’s membership.
- Planning for an activities/teams area at the Columbus Day Tournament is in the early stages. Will begin booking teams and players once given the go-ahead by the committee.

Media
- US Youth Soccer and Citizens Bank have been a huge help in beginning the efforts to get pieces written about Progin Park using the bids for the National Championships and Veteran’s Cup as a jumping off point. Nancy Orlando, of Citizens Bank and I have collaborated both events into one press release which will go out to local contacts as soon as the final edits are made. There is much interest in these two events and their impact on our area and I think we can create a good buzz.
- The story about Nicolai Calabria’s fundraiser climb up Kilimanjaro is currently being featured on USYouthSoccer.org, which is linked from our homepage.
Residential and Day Camp

- This year's camp was a huge success. After some initial bumps in the road with Atlantic Union College, we smoothed things out and everything ran according to plan. Even inclement weather was dealt with efficiently. Papa Gino's and Cold Stone Creamery were great in their dealings with our food donations. Many photographs were taken and released to local publications. I am currently in the parental release process with the Bay State Parent (they want to release names and towns, to garner interest), and the Times and Courier will be using the photos with credit to us and no naming of the players.

Sponsorship and Advertising

- People to People has signed on for their second year with some minor changes to the contract and an increased donation.
- Mike Singleton and I attended a VIP sponsors' reception with Matt Quinn and the Patriots, as well as the new Regional contact for Dick's Sporting Goods. Matt Quinn and I will be meeting with Dick's Rep at the main office and then giving a tour of Citizens Bank Fields. Dick's Sporting Goods seems to be a very viable sponsor prospect. Other note-worthy meetings this month include: Polar Beverages, the Four Points Sheraton, and the Worcester Sharks.

A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 7:07 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes
Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Terri Filippetti, to accept the June meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

DOC Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports

State Cup
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Leagues Committee
Ted Ritchie reported the committee is looking into changing the U-18 division makes up.

Recreation
Nancy Hart reported the districts program ran smoothly. Despite lower numbers, the program made more money than last year. Her committee is looking for ways to increase the number of players.

Instruction
Contained in DOC report.

Outreach
Ray Robinson reported Somerville and Lexington are ready to start TOPS programs. The Somerville program will open September 28 and Lexington is opening this Sunday (September 21. Ray is contacting new people.

ODP
John Burrill reported tryouts will be in August, the numbers are down a bit.

SYRA
A report from Brian Treanor was distributed during the meeting. Things are quite now, with all the major Spring/Summer tournaments behind us. Brian is preparing for the October tournament at Lancaster. The referee committee is gearing up for the coming instructional season. Recertification courses will start in November. The young referee if the year winners are: Cory Cloutier of Charlton and Morganne Gagne of Medfield.

US Youth Nationals
Terri Filippetti reported she met with the various chair people of nationals in Little Rock, Arkansas at this year’s nationals tournament. The site committee will visit here in October and March to inform Terri of what will be needed and how things will run. We will need lots of volunteers to help with the tournament.

Veterans Cup
John Burrill reported the committee is still concerned with their bottom line for the tournament. The committee running the tournament is having trouble getting information from their national organization. The opening ceremony and dinner will be held at Fitchburg State College.

Columbus Weekend Tournament
Sid reported the signups have been very slow in coming. The new deadline for sign up is 9/29.

Request from City Kicks/American Scores
John Burrill suggested we give them $5000. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Terri Filippetti, that we donate $5000 to City Kicks/American Scores. Motion passed unanimously.

ODP championships
Sid Bloom reported US Soccer is adding a U-15 championship. These teams will play as U-14 in June. One age group may be dropped. U-17 will no longer go to Kirkwood. U-14 will be split into a competitive and a non-competitive group, U-15 will also be competitive and non-competitive groups. A second-tier national championship, the Directors’ League will be set up for U-14 to U-17 teams. Teams playing for National Cup are not eligible.

On Line Newsletter
John Burrill reported there is one more issue of Mass Youth Soccer News, and then we move to an on line newsletter. John and Nicole are exploring logos and mastheads for the newsletter. Synthenet has to provide a platform for the newsletter.

Financial Report
John Burrill reviewed the budget report containing the proposed 2009 budget in Carl’s absence. Skip Gorman moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, to accept the proposed 2009 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business
- There was no old business

New Business
- There was no additional new business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill
The complex continues to hum along. We have lost all our summer help, so getting projects done is a bit more of a challenge and there always is something that needs done. Hopefully we are through with storms for awhile. We have lost the irrigation system on 3 separate occasions due to lightning, but everything seems back on track now. Same with the potable water

The extended paved area around the pavilion has been completed.

Still investigating possible solutions to the septic smell issue, but have not come up with any reasonable solutions. The consensus seems to be the problem is due to the winds.
Water test samples for the 3rd quarter were taken and awaiting results. There has not been much noise from the neighbors across the street.

Planning continues for the Veteran Cup in 2009.

Folks from US Youth Soccer will be coming out sometime in the fall. No date set as of yet.

**Office Administration**
Second and next to last round of Beta testing of the G course going well. Changes have been supplied to fuse ideas and we will wait until all the corrections have been made before sending out for final round of testing.

Al’s departure has gone as smooth as possible and most all of his responsibilities have been reassigned.

Registrations for the new year continue to arrive. Most all clubs have sent in their initial file with the final fine due the end of the month.

We are getting things ready for the auditors who will be here in early October. There seem to be more and more requirements each year due to oversight controls.

2. **Director of Coaching / Director of Instructional Programs**
**Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs**
This is a very busy time of the year for the Instructional Program staff. Our first “D” Course offered at the Lancaster office and field complex was completed in August. Almost 500 coaches attended 25 various level licensing courses in August alone. Player development programs began in Saugus on September 7th. Additional player development programs will begin in Hopkinton, Haverhill, Melrose, and Wakefield on September 13th & 14th. Multiple “G’s” and “F’s” have been requested this Fall.

Our full-time staff continues to work selflessly to make sure that we try our best to accommodate the sometimes overwhelming number of course and clinic requests coming in. Their hard work, willingness to step-up and do “extra” when needed, and their professionalism out in the community speak volumes to who these folks are and their level of dedication to the organization. We are very fortunate to have these folks working for us...they really do go ‘all out’ to make it work for the coaches and kids!

Our veteran full-time coaching staff is mentoring our newest staff coach, Lynn Gugliuzza. She is currently being oriented to the specialty clinics and the “G” & “F” coaching courses. Lynn is an extremely pleasant person and has that same manner with both the coaches and the kids. She is progressing along nicely.

The GOAL’s Program season ended in late August. It was a huge success. 20 locations, 31 college student staff employed, 1400-1500 kids participated in the program.

The August Day and Residential camp was a success as well. About 160 players, both day and overnight combined with 14 coaching staff employed. The weather presented some real challenges during that week, but the staff managed to offer a high quality camp experience in spite of the weather.

3. **Marketing and Communications Manager Report** Nicole M. Dessingue
Mass Youth Soccer News (From August report, resubmitted in Sept and Oct as a reminder) – The November issue will be our very last and so we will try to go out with a bang. There will be a large photo spread and recap of this summer’s Residential and Day Camp, a welcome announcement for Lynn, our new Development Coach and more. Re-working of some contracts will be in order, but most content will just be moved into the electronic arena.

*Deadline for submissions will likely be up in the air until the last minute due to the travel schedule of our Foxboro staff. In order to avoid any scrambling, please plan on getting all submissions to me via email by the end of the first week of November. Thank you*

FreeKick – With the termination of the Mass Youth Soccer News, the Free Kick will now be our primary vehicle of active communication (along with mayouthsoccer.org) with all interested in Mass Youth events and offerings. In light of this added importance, the Free Kick will need to be re-vamped in order to take on a more professional, newspaper-like look and feel. John and I have begun researching ways of making this possible, so that the Free Kick can house all the information that always went out in the paper, along with important monthly announcements and electronic advertisements. So far we are considering re-design plans by Varsity Communications (who currently hosts newsletters for multiple state associations, including Cal North) and Synthenet. This coming issue of the Free Kick (in the traditional format) is due out at the end of September; please contact me with anything to add by Friday September 26th.
Marketing
- Attended the first meeting of the newly formed Leominster Tourism Committee on August 27th in City Hall. I will continue to attend these meetings as the group forum was a perfect opportunity to meet those in print and media that will help get the word out about Mass Youth Soccer and Citizens Bank Fields. Connections were made with publications that will be pursued to cover field events and programs. Media personnel also expressed interest in attending the Columbus Weekend Soccer Celebration and I will be sending formal invitations via email next week.
- Planning for an activities/teams area at the Columbus Day Tournament is moving forward. Conversations are in the works with Polar Beverages (sampling), the Worcester Sharks, the Boston Breakers and the Revs.

Media
- US Youth Soccer and Citizens Bank have been a huge help in beginning the efforts to get pieces written about Progin Park using the bids for the National Championships and Veteran's Cup as a jumping off point. Nancy Orlando, of Citizens Bank and I have collaborated both events into one press release which will go out to local contacts as soon as the final edits are made. There is much interest in these two events and their impact on our area and I think we can create a good buzz.
- The Times & Courier, as well as the Bay State Parent are printing photos of Mass Youth Soccer's Residential and Day Camp as a result of a press release sent out a couple weeks ago. The response from parents and players involved in the camp has been overwhelmingly positive. Special thanks are due to the coaches and office staff who made the week a huge success.
- Photos and Power Point advertisements are being compiled this week and next in order to create PSA's and text-photos to be run on Public Access Cable prior to the Columbus Weekend Tournament. I am trying to market this tournament to Central Mass as a destination event for everyone in the area rather than just an event for teams involved.

Sponsorship and Advertising
- Human Kinetics, the DVD and book company who currently sponsors our coaches' help library, has expressed interest in signing for a second year. Human Kinetics will be sending a contract proposal for review and revising this week. John, Mike and I will make a decision on how to proceed in order for both parties to increase their benefit from this partnership.
- The Hotel Sponsors Program that I initiated over a year ago has finally come to its first year of completion. With over 2500 hotel nights booked at various hotels all over central mass. There were a few bumps in the road, as Certified Travel was getting settled into working with our groups, but overall it was a successful first year. Matt Quinn and I have worked hard with J. Halpern at Certified to make sure we have a full understanding of the business that we placed with our hotels this year so that we can project increases in the future and negotiate our new contract of '09. Meetings to negotiate for 2009 with our Host Hotel, the 4 Points, and our target Silver Sponsor, the Best Western, will commence in the next couple weeks.

4. STATE CUP REPORT  Terri Filippetti
The seedings for the U13's and U14's 2009 State Cup have been completed and are attached as an excel spreadsheet.
The bracket/schedules are available on the Mass Youth website.
A total of 104 U13 and U14 teams applied for State Cup 2009 (106 applied in 2008).

Boys 13
24 teams submitted applications and nine teams were seeded. Seeds 1 thru 4 are seeded directly into the Round Robin next June. Seeds 10 thru 15 were placed using a random draw followed by a separate random draw for Seeds 16 thru 24. Challenge round for this age group will consist of 3 single elimination rounds. There are no Entry games for this age group.
The higher seed (seed 1 is the highest seed) will be the home team throughout.
**Challenge Round 1** will be played on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
- Seed 9 v 24, 10v23, 11v22, 12v21, 13v20, 14v19, 15v18 & 16v17

**Challenge Round 2** will be played on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
- Winner 9/24 v winner 16/17
- Winner 10/23 v winner 15/18
- Winner 11/22 v winner 14/19
- Winner 12/21 v winner 13/20

**Challenge Round 3** will be played next spring at the higher seed. These games are self scheduled
Matchups will be as follows:
- Seed 5 v winner 12/13
- Seed 6 v winner 11/14
- Seed 7 v winner 10/15
- Seed 8 v winner 9/16

BOYS 14
24 teams submitted applications and eight teams were seeded. Seeds 1 thru 4 are seeded directly into the Round Robin next June. Seeds 9 thru 17 were placed using a random draw followed by a separate random draw for Seeds 18 thru 24. Challenge round for this age group will consist of three single elimination rounds. There are no Entry games for this age group.
The higher seed (seed 1 is the highest seed) will be the home team throughout.
**Challenge Round 1** will be played on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
- Seed 9v24, 10v23, 11v22, 12v21, 13v20, 14v19, 15v18 & 16v17

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winner 10/23 v winner 15/18
winner 11/22 v winner 14/19
winner 12/21 v winner 13/20

**Challenge Round 3** will be played next spring at the higher seed. These games are self scheduled

Matchups will be as follows:
Seed 5 v winner 12/13
Seed 6 v winner 11/14
Seed 7 v winner 10/15
Seed 8 v winner 9/16

**GIRLS 13**

30 teams submitted applications and nine teams were seeded. Seeds 1 thru 4 are seeded directly into the Round Robin next June. Seeds 10 thru 14 were placed using a random draw followed by a separate random draw for Seeds 15 thru 30. Challenge round will consist of four single elimination rounds.

The higher seed (seed 1 is the highest seed) will be the home team throughout

**Entry Round** – self-scheduled, games will play by September 29th

Seed 19v30, 20v29, 21v28, 22v27, 23v26, 24v25

**Challenge Round 1** will be played on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
seed 9v24, 10v23, 11v22, 12v21, 13v20, 14v19, 15v18 & 16v17

**Challenge Round 2** will be played on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
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winner 10/23 v winner 15/18
winner 11/22 v winner 14/19
winner 12/21 v winner 13/20

**Challenge Round 3** will be played next spring at the higher seed. These games are self scheduled

Seed 5 v winner 12/13
Seed 6 v winner 11/14
Seed 7 v winner 10/15
Seed 8 v winner 9/16

**GIRLS 14**

26 teams submitted applications and eleven teams were seeded. Seeds 1 thru 4 are seeded directly into the Round Robin next June. Seeds 12 thru 20 were placed using a random draw followed by a separate random draw for Seeds 21 thru 26. Challenge round will consist of 4 single elimination rounds.

The higher seed (seed 1 is the highest seed) will be the home team

**Entry Round** – self-scheduled, games will play by September 29th

seed 23v26, 24v25

**Challenge Round 1** will be played on Saturday, October 4, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
seed 9v24, 10v23, 11v22, 12v21, 13v20, 14v19, 15v18 & 16v17

**Challenge Round 2** will be played on Saturday, October 25, 2008 at the Citizens Bank fields in Lancaster. Matches are as follows:
winner 9/24 v winner 16/17
winner 10/23 v winner 15/18
winner 11/22 v winner 14/19
winner 12/21 v winner 13/20

**Challenge Round 3** will be played next spring at the higher seed. These games are self scheduled

Matchups will be as follows:
Seed 5 v winner 12/13
Seed 6 v winner 11/14
Seed 7 v winner 10/15
Seed 8 v winner 9/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009</th>
<th>B13 Seed</th>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Coach Name</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>B14 Seed</th>
<th>Club Name</th>
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<td>North Shore United</td>
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<td>Des Rice</td>
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**2009 G13 Seed**

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<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>FC Stars of Mass-C (United)</th>
<th>Greg Cosgrove</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Explosion FC</td>
<td>Michael Khang</td>
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<td>Fuller Hamlets</td>
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<td>Dan Colwell</td>
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<td>Vipers FC</td>
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<td>Elite SA</td>
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<td>Sarah Dooley</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Blackhawks SC</td>
<td>Ana Moniz</td>
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**2009 G14 Seed**

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<th>1</th>
<th>Scorpions Soccer</th>
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<td>MPS Renegades</td>
<td>James Hickey</td>
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<td>Sachems FC</td>
<td>Jason McCall</td>
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<td>Berkshire IFC</td>
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<td>Nova SC</td>
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<td>Candace Wilson</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Shooting Stars Soccer</td>
<td>Cesar Gi</td>
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A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 7:05 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes
Ray Robinson moved, seconded by Kevin Krumpholz, to accept the September meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

DOC Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.

Program Manager Reports
State Cup
Terri Filippetti reported 54 teams have played so far. Ted Ritchie requested repeat notification about State Cup play in games in fall to reduce conflicts with town league programs in the competitive spring season.

Leagues Committee
Ted Ritchie reported the committee met last week. They have completed the leagues agreement which codifies relations among the leagues in areas such as player movement between leagues. Referee course scheduling issues were discussed. The leagues are trying to get courses scheduled. Andy Weiss and Nigel Bright attended the meeting. Nigel will try to meet the leagues’ needs for courses. John Burrill requests leagues consider changing roster size to allow additional players through the MTOC tournament, with 18 in uniform but additional players, up to 22 remain on the roster.

Recreation
Mike Borislow reported the Districts Tournament went well other than the weather. The medals presentations were cut short due to the conditions.

Instruction
Contained in DOC report.

Outreach
Ray Robinson reported Somerville and Lexington programs are underway. Ray wants to have a meeting of TOPS people to plan for the future.

ODP
John Burrill reported letters have gone out as to who made or didn’t make the teams.

SYRA
Brian Treanor reported the Columbus Weekend Tournament was a good experience for the referees. Referees came from MAYS, Nashoba, BAYS, and Middlesex leagues.

US Youth Nationals
Nothing to report.

Veterans Cup
John Burrill reported there will be a meeting of the tournament committee with the national chair for the tournament on October 25.

**Columbus Weekend Tournament**
Sid reported the tournament went really well with 103 teams participating. Everyone had a good time. Sid thanked everyone who came and worked the tournament.

**Review of new ODP championships**
This item was tabled till next month.

**Strategic Planning**
John Burrill stated we need a plan for the next 5-10 years. An open ended questionnaire has been developed and was distributed to the board and a few other members. Only 2 have come back completed. John is asking again for board members to complete the questionnaire and return them to him by mid-November.

**Old Business**
- Nominating committee
  Sid reported the following board members will be on the nominating committee: Steve Smoller, Mike Borislow, and Dave Dalrymple. The leagues committee must submit two members, and Sid has to appoint one more non-board member. The committee must present a slate for election at the AGM by November 15.

**New Business**
- There was no additional new business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. **Executive Director Report**  John Burrill
The complex hosted the first round of cup plan and the Columbus Weekend Soccer Celebration. Both events went off without incident. The only minor issue was that the folks parked along RT 70 instead of going to the Flea Market. This was reported to the police department and tickets were issued.

We found that the metal trash barrels we had purchased rusted far too quickly, looked terrible and even were beginning to leave rust spots on the synthetic turf. We have begun swapping them out for plastic barrels, which are 50% cheaper, easier to handle and don’t rust.

Additional drainage has been put in near the pavilion to relieve the pooling of water. New asphalt around the pavilion has been seal coated to prevent water damage.

Fields are in overall good shape and new growth is coming in. We only have a few more weeks of growing and we will apply one last application of fertilizer to get us through the winter.

Still investigating possible solutions to the septic smell issue, but have not come up with any reasonable solutions. There have been no problems during the last two events, but we would like to find a permanent solution.

Water test samples for the 3rd quarter were taken and awaiting results. The noisy neighbors are complaining to the town once again about runoff into the pond and chemicals. Interesting that all our tests show no traceable chemicals at all going in the direction of the pond, or anywhere else for that matter.

Planning continues for the Veteran Cup in 2009. Next major meeting is at the end of October when the national director will be on site for a visit and planning session.

Folks from US Youth Soccer will be coming in November and we will plan out the entire 6 days they will be on site next July.

We expect to close things down just before Thanksgiving with the last event being the over the hill playoffs.
Office Administration
Registrations for the new year continue to arrive. Most all clubs have sent in their initial file and we are following up to have them submit the final file. The audit is underway. We expect to finish the on site portion of the audit this week. Plan is to have final report by mid December.

2. Marketing and Communications Manager Report  Nicole M. Dessingue
Mass Youth Soccer News (From August report, resubmitted in Sept and Oct as a reminder)
   - The November issue will be our very last and so we will try to go out with a bang. There will be a large photo spread and recap of this summer’s Residential and Day Camp, a welcome announcement for Lynn, our new Development Coach and more. Re-working of some contracts will be in order, but most content will just be moved into the electronic arena.
   *Deadline for submissions will likely be up in the air until the last minute due to the travel schedule of our Foxboro staff. In order to avoid any scrambling, please plan on getting all submissions to me via email by the end of the first week of November. Thank you*
FreeKick
   - The October issue of Free Kick will be out at the end of October. Please have any submissions to me by October 27th.
Marketing
   - Met with the CVB regarding the Nationals and Veteran’s Cup. We will be working together to get the word out to all local media outlets and businesses. We are also looking into membership for Mass Youth in order to be included in all of their promotional publications
   - Columbus Day tournament promotions were successful. Pictures will be up within the week. Tournament was attended by the Revolution, Breakers, Sharks and Polar promotional teams
   - Assisted Sid with planning and communications for the tournament
   - Marketing kiosks and ad frame artwork was updated and reordered. Posts were filled prior to the tournament
   - Skills Academy promotions have begun. Brochures were ordered and website updated.
Media
   - Local paper has run articles on the Columbus Weekend tournament, including the Leominster Champion. Pictures will be sent to the Times and Courier this week.
Sponsorship and Advertising
   - Preliminary work is being done to update and renew the Host Hotel sponsorship with the Sheraton. Matt Quinn and I will meet with them and the Best Western within the next couple months to solidify deals for 2009.

3. DIRECTOR OF COACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT
Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching  Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs
The heavy course season is slowing down and town coach/player development programs continue through early November. We are seeing towns now schedule their winter courses and a handful of coach/player development program will be run over the winter.
Tom is leading an Instructor’s Meeting on Dec 13th at Regis College. In addition to our staff, staff instructors from NJ, ENY, RI, and NH will be attending this meeting as well. We may have additional states attending as instructor education is an important area for all states that no states are getting from a national body.
Tara has been working on Skills Academy sites and sites will be posted on the website as soon as they are confirmed.
The instruction staff is currently looking at the information on the “coaches” pages of the website and will be both reorganizing these pages and adding much information this winter. The feedback and extreme increase in usage of this are of our site this past year has proven people use our website and seek more information.
The online course is in beta testing stage. Content corrections are being made currently as are some flash media problems.

A quorum was declared present, meeting called to order by Sid Bloom at 8:10 pm.

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes
Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Carol O’Brien, to accept the October meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

Executive Director’s Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes. John Burrill added that Ted Ritchie and Terri Filippetti met with the USYS nationals committee. Their requirements are more than anticipated, but are manageable. We will need lots of committed volunteers.

DOC Report
Report submitted via email and appended to these minutes.
Mike Singleton added that he would like feedback on the online G course.

Communications & Marketing Manager Report
No report.

Program Manager Reports
State Cup
Terri Filippetti reported challenge round 2 for 13’s and 14s took place.

Leagues Committee
John Linnehan reported the committee is considering an increase in roster size.

Recreation
Nancy Hart reported she is working with Nicole to put a recreation page on the website which will contain information for parents and players on recreational programs.

Instruction
Contained in DOC report.

Outreach
Ray Robinson reported a new program will begin in Norwood. On November 8 Ray attended a meeting of the South End Soccer Club. The program is for area kids and is free. It is held at Emerson College’s field in Boston. Mike Singleton has helped them tremendously. Ray added that a new group in Clinton intends to start a TOPS program. There are presently 500 players in TOPS programs in Massachusetts. Ray would like to see this number reach 5000.

ODP
Jared Scarpaci reported he is gearing up for the December coaches’ meeting. The indoor program will be held at Forekicks new facility in Marlboro.

SYRA
Andy Weiss reported for Brian Treanor. The new fee for referees may be causing fewer referees to recertify, particularly in the smaller states. The referee committee is developing more online educational opportunities for our referees. They may make these available to other states as well.
John Burrill reported USYS is considering pulling grade 9 and 8 referees out of the federation and into USYS. The feeling is the federation collects the money from the 8s and 9s but services go to the higher level officials such as MLS.

Financials
Carl Goldstein distributed the monthly budget report and also went over the draft copy of our auditors’ report. Carl welcomed any questions on the audit report and will pass them along to the auditors.

Field Committee
Carl Goldstein reported the meeting of the committee scheduled for last week had to be postponed and will be rescheduled to discuss some upcoming needs.

US Youth Nationals
Information was covered in John Burrill’s report.

Veterans Cup
Nothing to report.

Report of the nominating committee
Steve Smoller presented the report of the nominating committee, (copy attached to these minutes). Nancy Hart moved, seconded by Ray Robinson to approve the slate presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of new ODP championships
Mike Singleton explained the proposed new format for ODP championships. U-14s would compete for the right to go to the national championship the following year as U-15s. There would be two divisions at U-14, one to compete to go to nationals, and the other division to play their three games and that would be it, no nationals. For U-17, there would be no national championship; they go to the tournament for the weekend and that is it.

Mike pointed out the transition from 14s to 15s is the most significant transition of all age groups. Mike opposes sending our U-14 teams to national championship competition. He has no problem with the U15s and U-16s, but opposes the U-14s.

If the change passes, we could opt out of the competitive U-14 division and send two teams at the non competitive level. The board needs to vote on this to instruct our delegation on how to vote at the AGM. Ted Ritchie moved, seconded by Nancy Hart, that our U-14 teams play only in the non competitive section. The motion passed unanimously.

Presidents Cup
John Burrill and Sid Bloom explained this new program. It is a new competition which is really a rebirth of the Directors Cup. It is a summer league program, a second national championship for mid level clubs and not state cup teams. It is geared toward town teams except most town teams won’t spend the money and the schedule is not really good for them. Each state will have championships in U-14 to U-17. Teams that have won State Cup are not eligible. Region 1 leagues, Division 1 & 2, and State Cup level teams are all eligible. The state winners will play in a regional tournament, Region 1 will play at Kirkwood, for opportunity to go to national championship tournament. This is a region 1 backed program. The deadline to apply is late January. John Burrill will report next month on degree of interest expressed via applications.

Old Business
• There was no old business.
New Business

- Parking issues at Lancaster.
  John Burrill reported we are looking for alternatives to using Harper’s parking lot. There are a couple of parcels that might be available.

- Uniforms
  The board entered executive session to discuss a proposal for uniforms. Following executive session, the board decided it needs to make a decision on uniforms within the next week or so in order to get delivery on ODP uniforms in time.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smoller
Secretary

Addendum:

1. Executive Director Report  John Burrill
The complex is just about shut down for the winter. All the winterizing will begin the week of November 17 and should be fully completed by 26th. We are going to work a bit harder this year to prevent the damage caused by water freezing in some of the faucets. As the saying goes, an ounce of prevention goes a long way.

We finally got rid of all the steel barrels. They have been replaced by new plastic ones and we have hoping the Pepsi-cola Co donates them to us. They look much nicer, are easier to handle and will not rust.

Signage has been added to the synthetic fields asking folks not to bring food onto the fields. A new gate has been installed to make access easier for trash and medical personnel.

Still no final solution to the septic smell issue. There have been no problems during the last two events, but we would like to find a permanent solution.

Water test samples for the 4th quarter were taken and awaiting results.

The last application of fertilizer to get us through the winter will be applied within the next week.

Planning continues for the Veteran Cup in 2009.

Folks from US Youth Soccer were here on the 18th and we did plan out the entire 6 days they will be on site next July.

Still looking at putting in our own well, but waiting for final costs before bringing to field committee and then executive committee. Same with the shelters although we did find some lightning protection that can be added to the proposed structures at a very low cost. We will schedule a joint meeting of the executive committee and the field committee for November.

Harper / Central Mass Sand & Gravel
I had a very good meeting with Steve Boucher, the president of Central Mass Sand & Gravel and 4 or 5 other business and Harper’s partner in a lot of Harper’s activities including the Flea market and the Farm stand.

Steve Harper had stepped out of the day to day of the business during the summer and will return later this year.

Steve B informed me that they have finally closed on the last parcel of land they need to complete the road from the gravel pit to RT 70. This has been the hold up. Now they are busy drafting the final plans, the one wetland crossing they will need and the filings to go before the town boards. With any luck, we could be rid of the trucks by June 2009. Even if the town gives them some hassle on the roadway, they can make most probably do a reinforced driveway (albeit a very long driveway) as the Madigan parcel to our North has set the precedent.
Between the various groups, they now own well over 500 acres behind us, going all the RT 190. They have plans for a major mixed use development; residential housing, a hotel and restaurants, in addition to housing and office space. Over the next 20 years, the area will change rather dramatically.

One issue we need to nail down is our agreements with respect to parking. The Steves have apparently been offered 20 M for all their land. They claim to want 50M but I suspect somewhere between the 2 numbers there may be a deal to be made. Thus I want to ensure all our rights are fully protected.

Other news from Lancaster
Work on the site preparation for the new Honda dealership has begun and many trees have fell victim to the machines. Also work on the new (first) gas station with Dunkin Donuts will also begin before the end of the year.

Also there are plans, subject to town meeting approval of a zoning change, for an ice hockey rink and indoor soccer facility behind Oakridge Farm.

2. DIRECTOR OF COACHING/INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM BOARD REPORT 11-08
Mike Singleton, Director of Coaching  Howie Blatt, Director of Instructional Programs

Another successful fall season of coach/player development programs is behind us. The staff really stepped up a great deal this fall during Mike’s sickness and deserves a lot of credit. We ran regular coach/player development programs in 12 towns this fall.

So far this budget year we have had roughly (still waiting for paperwork from some)) 840 coaches take the G Course and 200 coaches take the F Course. We have two E Courses currently running with large numbers that we are very happy about. A “D” course is scheduled for later this winter.

Tom is working on finishing the curriculum for the instructor’s workshop on Dec 13 at Regis College.

Skills Academy registration has begun and we expect to have between 10-12 sites throughout the state as we are still finalizing some contracts. Please pass on the word to all interested as we are in a primary marketing stage.

Preliminary discussions have begun about running a coaching seminar at the youth national championships. We are tentatively planning on running a seminar on longitudinal player development in coordination with this event. It is our hope to be able to offer CEU’s to A license holders at this event.

We will look to run at US Youth License Course next summer, dates TBD.

Mike attended the Region 1 Meeting for a complete reporting of events at this meeting please see his event report.

Instructional staff is currently reviewing all documents we provide (contracts/letters/registration response letters etc.) and doing a major improvement of the coaching section of the website.

Our overnight camp next year will be focused on HS teams. It will be run Aug 2-6 and we will use Fitchburg St as our housing host. Marketing has begun for this camp and details will be up on the website very soon. We will be allowing HS team coaches to work at this camp (just not with their team to avoid breaking MIAA rules).

Mike has provided final edits to FUSE Ideas for the online course and they are working on making all updates.

The ODP winter schedule is online and we will be providing much more comprehensive parent communication session this year at ODP. Our new site, Forekicks in Marlboro, will allow for better training, better communication, better GK organization, and better scheduling for all.

3. Report of the nominating committee  Steve Smoller
The committee consisted of the following members:
Mike Borislow
David Dalrymple
Carl Grygiel
Brian Treanor
Bob Trudeau
Sheldon Epstein
Steve Smoller, chairman
The committee met via conference call Tuesday, November 18, selected its chair and reviewed all candidates. 
It was determined that the proposed slate, listed below, was ratified by the committee by unanimous vote.

Slate of Directors:
President – Skip Gorman
Treasurer – Carl Goldstein
Director, Olympic Development – Jared Scarpaci
Director, National Championship Series – Terri Filippetti
District 1 at large Director – Carol O’Brien
District 7 at large Director – Kevin Krumpholz
Director, Outreach Programs (2 year term) – Ray Robinson

Respectfully submitted
Steve Smoller
Chairman