

Mass Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting March 9, 2019
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel – Leominster, MA

Call to Order

Bob Trudeau, President of Mass Youth Soccer, called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM.

Introductions and Welcome

Bob Trudeau welcomed the membership to the AGM and took a few minutes to introduce Mass Youth Soccer board members, staff members and league presidents in attendance. Bob extended a broad-based thank you to the many parties involved in a whirlwind year of changes in the soccer community during 2017-2018.

President's Address

Bob noted the Board's progress on strategic initiatives during the past year:

1. Accomplishments during recent years
 - a. Director of Soccer Development (DSD)
 - i. 141 member organizations and growing
 - ii. Program provides enhanced connectivity between member organizations and Mass Youth Soccer Technical Staff
 - b. Town Select League (TSL)
 - i. Approximately 40 teams and 500+ players
 - ii. 150% growth in the past 12 months
 - c. Grassroots Referee Program
 - i. Collaborative effort between Mass Youth and MSRC to introduce 12 & 13 year olds to refereeing
 - ii. 21 organizations with a grassroots program and more in the pipeline
 - d. Mass Youth Workshop
 - i. Annual Awards Appreciation Night
 - ii. Day long Workshop of soccer administrative presentations and coaching certifications
 - iii. Breaking Barriers Workshop focused on urban and under-served soccer communities
 - e. TOPSoccer
 - i. Enrollment continues to increase
 - ii. Participation in Mass Youth Soccer's "Night at the Revs" event
2. Recognition for two departing Board members
 - a. Tom Rivet has been a valuable connection, thought leader and liaison to the Western Mass contingency
 - b. Caroline Foscatto has been a valuable contributor to urban and underserved communities including Boston Soccer Collaborative, South End Soccer and Breaking Barriers
3. Reflection of Executive Director search
 - a. Four years ago Mike Borislow was hired as Mass Youth Soccer's Executive Director with his unsurpassed business and soccer background and continues to be a recognized as a leader nationally
 - b. Under Mike's leadership, the Board of Directors and staff continue to be committed to the vision and growth of youth soccer in Massachusetts
 - c. The preeminent state association in the soccer landscape
 - d. Based on his performance, the Board of Directors are pleased to announce a 3-year extension to Mike's contract through November 2022

Sponsors and Partner

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

Credential Report and Establishment of a Quorum

Bob Trudeau then asked for a credential report.

The total membership represents 272 voting members (organizations, leagues and board members). Attendance of 7.5% of voting members, 20 members, represents a quorum.

Present at the meeting are 42 member delegates representing 143 votes. A quorum was determined to be present to conduct business. A majority vote for the meeting was established as 72 votes, and a 2/3 majority vote was determined to be 96 votes.

Approval of the 2018 AGM Minutes

Jeff Chambers second by David Dalrymple to approve the minutes from the March 2018 AGM. The minutes were approved unanimously by a voice vote.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business from the 2018 AGM.

Financial Report

Derek Smith, Treasurer presented the Financial Report. Highlight of fiscal year 2018, surplus of approximately \$100K primarily due to the fee increase voted in 2017 and the dynamic growth of the TSL, which has exceeded budget expectations. Also field rentals exceeded budgets due to two new unanticipated events. The question was raised on the projection for the retirement of the \$3 per player field fee and the response was roughly 15 years.

The fiscal year 2019 budget reflects a full year of TSL (500+ players), coach instruction and player development revenues of approximately \$4.8M and an anticipated deficit. The question was raised about where the depreciation is directed as well as any budget surplus and the answer was that both would be directed to the field fund, \$14 per player and \$16 per adult.

Program Area Reports

Mike Borislow noted that all program Director reports appear in the booklets that were distributed at the registration desk. Highlights mentioned and noted below:

With respect to the Marketing and Communications, Events, Recreation, Olympic Development Report (noteworthy that Massachusetts continues to have a thriving and growing ODP program – Lynn, Maureen and Ian as well as strongest coaching staff across the country), National Championship Series.

Facilities - noteworthy that Massachusetts one of four states with a state-run facility run like a business. Specific to the fields, they are required to pass GMAX impact testing 3x/year and will likely have to replace 5 turf fields by 2020. The Association is currently working with 5 companies to thoroughly vet options, alternative infills, pads, quality of installation, quality of product, warranty and longevity.

Technical Report - Ian noted that with the advent of online courses at a mere \$25, he looks forward to the day that all Massachusetts children are coached by adults with national licensure. Mike noted that the USYS, USC and NSCAA have had a tumultuous past two years figuring out and agreeing upon curriculum, format and delivery.

Executive Director's Report

The ED Report is located in the AGM booklet. In addition, Mike Borislow thanked the membership for their attendance at the meeting and noted special thanks to the Mass Youth staff, especially Maureen LaRoche, Tara Petricca, Ian Mulliner and his Technical Staff, Tamie Endow, Rob Holliday, Lynn Gugliuzza, Terri Filippetti, Rachel Woo and Mary Relic.

Mike focused on two individuals: Registrars and CORI submitters. If it wasn't for these individuals our kids would not be on the field. Youth sports have experience several generations of "signing up to play":

1. Pick-up generation - wherever and whenever
2. Sign-up wherever and whenever
3. Full online registration - credit cards, registration systems, SSN's, DOB's, etc.
 - a. Registration Overload
 - b. In order to do what we need to get done, we need incredible Registrars and CORI submitters with the skills and knowledge supported by a staff at the state office (especially Mary Relic, Tara Petricca and Rachel Woo)

Mike also noted that more than 22,000 tag holders and lanyards were shipped out in accordance with the credentials requirement effective this Spring. A huge testimony to the league registrars and leadership to bring all but one of the 260 member organizations into reporting and filing compliance.

Election of Officers

Mike turned the meeting over to Bob Trudeau and David Amidon who introduced the candidates and process of elections, noting that the by-laws do not allow nominations from the floor. Bob noted that one candidate Janelle Woods-McNish has withdrawn her At-Large Director candidacy.

Prior to voting, David explained the voting procedure to the membership. In order to be elected, the top three candidates must receive a majority of the available votes at the AGM (72) until all three positions were elected. If a second ballot was required for a position still open, but a majority vote was not obtained by a candidate, even though their vote tally may be the highest among the remaining candidates, the candidate was not elected and a new ballot vote would need to be taken.

The first election is for that of Secretary, for which there is only one candidate, incumbent Caryn Goulet. **Motion by Dick Penta, second by Jeff Chambers to cast one ballot in favor of Caryn Goulet. Motion passed with a majority voice vote.**

Three (3) Director Candidates exist for three (3) open A-Class Director positions:

Dana Santilli
Stephanie McArdle
Luci Tarquinio

Jeff Chambers spoke on Dana's behalf. Luci Tarquinio spoke on her own behalf. Johnny Newell spoke on Stephanie McArdle's behalf. **Motion by Ted Ritchie, second by Dean Sidell to cast one vote by acclamation for the election of Dana Santilli, Stephanie McArdle, and Luci Tarquinio. Motion passed with a majority voice vote.**

New Business

Mike Borislow discussed the genesis of the SafeSport Act and Mass Youth Soccer's Safe Soccer platform as part of the Abuse Prevention Act. Safe Sport is the designated organization to oversee the Abuse Prevention Act. The Ted Stevens Act of 1977 required all youth sport organizations report to the USOC. Fast forward and USYS now requires all adults involved in the sport to have appropriate background checks and regular training. Massachusetts' minimum is a CORI, however state & national SORI and national searches (if a hit comes up on the national search, a county search must then be conducted). Mass

DJCIS does not interact with the national database. Mass Youth is one of 14 states working with Stack Sports with its advanced background check, Safe Sport Abuse Prevention Training and CDC Concussion Training certificate storage/tracking tools.

Background checks are not portable from organization to organization due to Massachusetts Personnel Records Law prohibiting sharing of records. SafeSport currently only allows adults to designate one sport when taking the Abuse Prevention Course (approx. 28,000 people in MA) by Sept 1, 2019: Administration, Risk Management, Abuse Prevention. Stack Sports is expected to be up and running shortly (June for adult registration and player uploads for Fall '19 season). Through Stack Sports all member organizations will receive Club Connect.

Having explained the changing compliance environment for youth sports, Mike Borislow presented a proposal for a Mass Youth Soccer registration fee increase to cover the impending background check fees/requirements, associated increased liability coverage for 365 days/yr. of any related soccer activity, Urban Soccer Initiatives, Street Soccer Pitch, and TOPSoccer. Two fee increase options were presented and discussed – a tiered increase for players vs. adults or a straight fee of \$17 per player and per adult. Membership discussion supported the single \$17 per registrant (player and adult) fee proposal. **Motion by Dick Penta, second by Jeff Chambers to approve the \$17 fee increase as presented. Motion passed with a majority voice vote.**

Good of the Game

- Western Mass District Select GU18 girls going as a team to play in the Norway Cup (otherwise been playing together as a team in District Select) – 8 different towns.
- 3rd Annual Mass Youth Soccer Night at the Revs – Sunday, September 29th (5:00 PM v. NYC FC).

Adjournment

Bob Trudeau thanked the membership for their attendance and participation in the 2018 Mass Youth Soccer AGM, confidence in approving the fee increase. **Bob requested a motion to adjourn; so moved by David Dalrymple, seconded by Dick Penta. Motion approved by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM. Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet

Caryn Goulet
Secretary/Clerk, Mass Youth Soccer Association