

Mass Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting March 10, 2018
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 2016-2017.

President's Address

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

1. Who are we and where are we going?
 - a. Simply stated, our association is dedicated to the ongoing development of ...
2. How can we better tell our story via marketing and communications?
 - a. Led by our Marketing and Communications Director, Rob Holliday a schedule of communications by audience has been created.
 - b. Additionally, a series of membership information meetings will head into year #2.
3. Creating a state association run league
 - a. The Town Select League is heading into year #2 and is growing based on additional inquiries from more towns and leagues wishing to join.
 - b. District Select program continues to grow with more than 12,000 players and growing each year.
4. Standardizing league policies, rules, and procedures
5. Education
 - a. Director of Soccer Development program launched to bring the latest coaching education to the membership. More than 130 member organized have joined.
 - b. Summer player development camps and a growing partnership with Challenger has allowed Mass Youth to touch more players and coaches than ever before.
6. Creating a Player Pathway vision
 - a. Working collaboratively with US Soccer, the subcommittee
 - b. Mass Youth partnered with club programs to dual register in order to allow participation in State Cup play which 220 teams in total.
 - c. ODP continues to grow with nearly all coaches college-level, A-licensed coaches.
7. Supporting the growth of inner city and underserved populations in Massachusetts.
 - a. Mass Youth Workshop – more than 400 attendees in many thanks to Lynn Gugliuzza and Rob Holliday.
 - b. Appreciation Night included Hall of Fame inductee Skip Gorman.
 - c. Breaking Barriers Workshop – more than 90 in attendance and overwhelmingly positive feedback in many thanks to Caroline Foscatto.
8. Additionally, referee development was added as another initiative
 - a. Russ Wolf appointed SYRA during the year and has
 - b. Peter Kokolski was jointly appointed to the SRA commission by Mass Adult and Mass Youth Soccer Associations.
 - c. Grassroots Referee Program was established to mentor and develop young potential referees on route to certification age.

Bob noted that the youth soccer landscape remains fractured and looks forward to the state association

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 342 voting members (organizations), **857** votes representing organizations, leagues and board members. Attendance of 7.5% of voting members, 26 members, represents a quorum.

Present at the meeting are 38 member delegates representing 124 votes. A quorum was determined to be present to conduct business. A majority vote for the meeting was established as 63 votes, and a 2/3 majority vote was determined to be **133** votes.

Approval of the 2017 AGM Minutes

David Dalrymple moved, seconded by Jeff Chambers to approve the minutes from the March 2017 AGM. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Approval of the 2018 Special Meeting Minutes

Jeff Chambers moved, seconded by David Dalrymple to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2018 Special Meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business from the 2017 AGM.

Financial Report

Derek Smith, Treasurer presented the Financial Report and reviewed the statement of activity & proposed budget. The Financial Report was divided into two segments: review of the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2017, followed by review of the Board approved Budgeted Statement of Activities for fiscal year 2017. Derek reminded the membership that 2017 was the first that the new player registration fee went into effect in accordance with previous AGM vote.

Program Area Reports

Mike Borislow noted that all program Director reports appear in the booklets that were distributed at the registration desk. Some noteworthy comments included the ever-changing environment in which the Technical Department operates. The regular changes in the “chosen” courses and availability, and With respect to the Marketing and Communications work, Mike remarked on some of the 1.6 million unique page views to Mass Youth’s website, improvements in social media (Face Book Instagram, Twitter) and e-Newsletter.

Mike noted the new US Soccer “Connect” program will cascade the effect of FIFA’s rules being imposed on all members internationally, including the assignment of FIFA-identification and US Soccer identification numbers. Mass Youth remains poised to work with

Risk Management reported more than 12,000 CORI’s performed however the Commonwealth still does not share with the US National database, so it limits Mass Youth’s capabilities to conduct more broad-based background check. Mike also mentioned the recent passing of the Abuse Prevention Act which calls for all adults involved in youth activities to be named Mandatory Reporters.

Mike noted that Randy Ellis has taken over as the Leagues Committee President.

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 Holiday, Lynn Gugliuzza, Terri Filipetti, Rachele Woo and Mary Relic.

A huge testimony to the league registrars and leadership to bring all but one of the 260 member organizations into reporting and filing compliance.

Mike quoted Start With Why author Simon Senik who said “people don’t buy what you do, they buy why you do it” as a means to inspire participation. Massachusetts has the highest adult-to-player ratio because it has the highest degree of inspirationally influenced degree of volunteerism. Mike urged the attendees to think about and perpetuate the “why we do what we do” as the means by which to inspire additional volunteerism.

“I’m in the business of creating the next best generation of soccer in Massachusetts....but the ‘why I do it’ is to make a difference in the lives of children.”

Mike noted the overwhelming success of the Mass Youth Soccer Workshop, originally expected to yield approximately 250 attendees, but more than 400 were in attendance. Mike recognized Ann Shapiro from Methuen who was named Massachusetts and Region 1 Administrator of the Year. Mike spoke Dick Threadgood’s efforts to maintain the fields, noting that although the snow removal budget was looking good, the impending weather regarding reorganization of functions within the office and field staff, as well as a new member (replacement) to the instructional staff. Mike Borislow added some additional comments about Mass Youth’s credential (adult registration) process were recognized by US Youth Soccer as being having the best coaching staff in the nation. Some effort was necessary this year to bring various insurance policies up to date, including for directors, officers, crime, and liability policies. From a compliance standpoint, approximately 20,000 adults have completed adult registration, the processes for which have been enhanced as a result of coordination with DJCIS (Mass Department of Justice Criminal Information Systems). Mike also noted that more than 22,000 tag holders and lanyards were shipped out in accordance with the credentials requirement effective this Spring. Mike also noted that registrations went down slightly from the previous year’s 158,000 children were registered players during the previous year

Additionally, Mike Borislow reported on efforts to support legislation to allow for child labor laws to recognize/grant young referees to work and be paid for their services.

With respect to the player development initiatives from US Soccer, Mike reported on a succession of consultations with US Soccer addressing the impact and tweaks/changes including goal sizes, age groupings (Mass Youth going to class year for recreational programs and club level programs going to calendar year), Recognize to Recover (“R2R”) guidelines and implementation of heading policies, etc.

Election of Officers

Mike turned the meeting over to Bob Trudeau and David Amidon who introduced the prospect and process of elections, noting that the by-laws do not allow nominations from the floor.

The first election is for that of President, for which there is only one candidate, incumbent Bob Trudeau.
Motion by Ted Ritchie, second by David Dalrymple to cast one ballot in favor of Bob Trudeau.
Motion passed with a voice vote.

Four (4) Director Candidates exist for three (3) open A-Class Director positions, each of which :

Jeff Chambers
Janet Gargan
Jared Scarpaci
Luci Tarquinio

Prior to voting, David explained the voting procedure to the membership. In order to be elected, the top three candidates who receive a majority of the available votes at the AGM (63) until all three positions were elected. If a second ballot is a position was 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 needed to be taken.

The report from the votes was that the majority froOne ballot cast for the four open and available C-level Director positions, and the winners by majority vote were as follows:

Jeff Chambers
Janet Gargan
Jared Scarpaci

Mass Youth Soccer staff acted as vote collectors and counters for the elections. The independent observers of the vote count were Derek Smith and Steve Smoller.

Marc Ercolini, seconded by Ted Ritchie that the election ballots be destroyed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

New Business

None reported.

Good of the Game

None reported.

Adjournment

Bob Trudeau thanked the membership for their attendance and participation in the 2017 Mass Youth Soccer AGM. Bob noted that Mass Youth Soccer is held in high regard both at the regional and national level, and it is only through strong and vigorous membership participation that the Association can sustain that status. **Bob requested a motion to adjourn; so moved by Jared Scarpaci, seconded by Kevin Brothers John Ostrom. Motion approved by voice vote.**

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

Caryn Goulet

Caryn Goulet
Secretary/Clerk
Mass Youth Soccer Association