

Mass Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting

March 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Recorded via Zoom Webinar

Call to Order

Bob Trudeau, President of Mass Youth Soccer, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Bob welcomed and thanked all attendees to the organization's second virtual AGM. He discussed the meeting format, including the NemoVote application for credentialing and voting and noted that all documents pertinent to the business meeting have been posted on the website. Bob introduced the staff facilitating the NemoVote process: Rob Holliday and Lynn Gugliuzza and a test was conducted to ensure its operation. Bob closed with recognition of the voting and non-voting members of the Mass Youth Soccer Board of Directors.

Guest Speakers

Bob introduced Skye Eddy Bruce, founder of Soccer Parenting Association and the [nations-nation's](#) recognized content provider for soccer players, parents, coaches, and program leaders to provide a lifelong, positive soccer experience for children. Skye noted that free access to Soccer Parenting Association's Soccer Resource Center exists for all Mass Youth [Soccer](#) members. Further Skye detailed many of the resources available and the many benefits of club membership, including five upcoming webinars during 2021 and the Sideline Project Course, a particularly effective course that takes only 15 minutes to complete.

Bob then introduced Ernie Rehrig from Stack Sports, Mass Youth [Soccer](#)'s registration database partner. Ernie presented information about various benefits of the platform (US Soccer Connect) including tools for safety and compliance, membership growth and benefits and administrative functions for volunteers. Further, Ernie discussed the options for member towns, clubs and leagues to consider US Soccer Connect/Stack Sports in order to simplify and streamline processes. Lastly, Ernie described the mobile functionality of the platform making it especially user-friendly for players, parents, team managers and coaches. Upcoming webinars will be held for members on March 16 and 22, 2021.

Bob then introduced Richard Frongillo, newly appointed Massachusetts State Referee Administrator ("**SRA**") to share the direction and priorities of the Massachusetts State Referee Committee ("**MSRC**"). Rich introduced himself and described the extensive learning and feedback gathering underway during his first three months as SRA. He appealed to the large network of soccer enthusiasts across the state necessary to help referees serve the game and pledged an array of process and communication objectives to help make this happen. On behalf of MSRC, Rich described his objective to "raise the bar" as high as possible for referees across the state and the ultimate value to the game, including advancing referees along the pathways as much as possible.

Credential Report

Secretary Caryn Goulet provided the credentials report which is the traditional method of establishing a quorum and establishes minimum voting thresholds. Note that the virtual meeting format results in some minor fluctuations in attendance during the course of the meeting due to attendee connectivity issues and tardiness. Caryn noted that 7.5% of the membership (i.e., Member organizations, affiliated Leagues, and Directors) establishes a quorum. With a total voting membership of 338; a 7.5% quorum equals 26 voting ~~delegates~~Delegates. Out of 69 ~~delegates~~Delegates registered; 47 were present which satisfied the quorum requirement for a meeting. The 47 voting delegates represented a weighted vote of 140 in total. Caryn noted that constitutional amendments require a 2/3 majority approval, which equals 94 votes; and bylaw amendments require a simple majority approval, which equals 71 votes. The credentials report was accepted without objection.

2020 AGM Minutes & 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Having been distributed and posted with appropriate advance notice and having received no questions, comments, or concerns, Bob noted that both the 2020 AGM minutes and the 2021 Special Meeting minutes were considered approved by general consent.

Unfinished Business

None

Financial Report

Treasurer Thomas Ringler extended a special thank you to Tara Petricca and previous Treasurer Derek Smith for helping to make his ~~transition~~onboarding smooth. He reminded attendees that the financial reports had been distributed and posted with appropriate advance notice of the meeting. Thomas noted the impact of COVID on both expenses and revenue and gave special recognition to the state office staff for their cost-saving efforts. Thomas answered questions about credit obligations from GPS and also noted that Mass Youth Soccer applied for and receive two rounds of PPP loans; one during 2020 and one during 2021.

Programs and Services Report

Executive Director Mike Borislow welcomed all attendees and noted that the programs and services reports were distributed and posted with appropriate advance notice.

Executive Director Report

Mike highlighted some of the many impacts of COVID on the sport of soccer during the past twelve months noting that, but for the extreme effort of the entire Mass Youth staff who buckled down during this time Mass Youth would not have fared as well as it did. The staff expanded virtual programming, online education, member outreach all while working on reduced hours. Mike also recognized Technical Department member Loy Urbina's long service to the sport and organization which came to a close at the end of 2020 when he announced his retirement. Mike also shared Mass Youth Soccer's new COVID HUB site, a centralized location

for historical and ongoing COVID information and an upcoming virtual Mass Youth Soccer Q&A Session to be held on March 25, 2021. Lastly, Mike noted expectations from the Commonwealth to move into Phase 4 reopening status in the near future.

Selection of Officers

Bob thanked the members of the Nomination Committee: Chair Janet Gargan, Caryn Goulet, Tom Parker (President of South Coast Soccer League) and Steve Robinson (former President of the Northeast Soccer League). Bob then congratulated the slate of nominees who are considered selected by acclamation as follows, ~~all~~ all selected to a four-year term ending in 2025:

~~Executive~~ Executive Vice President

David Amidon

Class D At-large Director (3 positions)

Alex ~~Maepher3on~~ Macpherson

Tony Loftis

Sean ~~Nedbele~~ Ndebele

Constitution and By-Laws

Bob thanked the Governance Committee of David Amidon, Steve Smoller, and Lori Jimenez who did the work to prepare, ~~recommended~~ recommending and putting forth for consideration both of today's Constitutional and Bylaw changes.

As an update to the previous credentials report, Caryn reported that additional ~~delegates~~ Delegates had ~~subsequently~~ logged in after the initial credentials report was accepted, bringing ~~so~~ the representative weighted vote ~~during this section of the meeting was to~~ 143. For Constitutional amendments requiring a 2/3 majority approval, that means 95 votes would be required. For Bylaw amendments requiring a simple majority approval, that means 72 votes would be required. The updated credentials report was accepted without objection.

Motion by Howie Blatt, second by Jared Scarpaci to amend the Association's Constitution to update various provisions to reflect current Association practice, to correct certain obsolete and incorrect provisions and references, and to make consistent usage and defined terms, all as reflected in the form of the changes to the Association's Constitution as presented to this meeting. Motion passed 151 yea, 1 nay and the actual, numerical results of attendees who chose to vote was screen-shared during the meeting. ~~[NTD: if the updated credentials report shows total weighted voting of 143, how can there have been cast 152 votes?]~~

Motion by David Dalrymple, second by Janet Gargan to amend the Association's Bylaws to update various provisions to reflect current Association practice, to correct certain obsolete and incorrect provisions and references, and to make consistent usage and defined terms, all as

~~reflected~~ in the form of the changes to the Association's Bylaws as presented to this ~~meeting~~. Motion passed 153 yea, 1 nay and the actual, numerical results of attendees who chose to vote was screen-shared during the meeting. [NTD: if the updated credentials report shows total weighted voting of 143, how can there have been cast 154 votes?]

Thank You

Bob made note of Mass Youth Soccer's many partners and sponsors for their continued support during the past twelve months.

Good of the Game

None

Adjournment

Bob Trudeau thanked the membership for their attendance and participation in the 2021 Mass Youth Soccer AGM and called the meeting adjourned as of 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet

Caryn Goulet
Secretary/Clerk, Mass Youth Soccer Association