

**Mass Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting
March 21, 2015
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel – Leominster, MA**

Call to Order

Ted Ritchie, President of Mass Youth Soccer, called the meeting to order at 10:18 AM.

Introductions and Welcome

Ted Ritchie 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.

Credential Report and Establishment of a Quorum

Ted Ritchie then asked for a credential report. The total membership represents 370 voting members (organizations), 857 votes representing organizations, leagues and board members. Attendance of 7.5% of voting members, 28 members, represents a quorum. There were 42 member delegates present, representing 162 votes. A quorum was determined to be present to conduct business. A majority vote for the meeting was established as 82 votes.

Approval of the 2014 AGM Minutes

Dan Bleninen moved, seconded by Brad Shores, that the membership approve the minutes from the March 2014 AGM. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

Guest Speaker – Christopher Moore, US Youth Soccer CEO

Mass Youth Soccer was honored to have the newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of US Youth Soccer, Chris Moore, attend the AGM and address the membership. The Mass Youth Soccer meeting was the first state association AGM attended by the new CEO. Although Chris has been in his position less than two months, he shared his initial observations of the US Youth Soccer landscape and shared five preliminary steps to improvements in the success of the US Youth Soccer organization.

- Listening, learning, best practices
- Retain & grow membership
- Strengthen exiting sponsorships. Engage new partners
- Create a movement, tell our story.
- Celebrate success, continuously improve.

A question and answer period followed Mr. Moore's presentation.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

Reports of Officers

Financial Report for 2013 – 2014 Fiscal Year

Presentation of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year Budget

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 report for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2014, followed by review of the Board approved proposed budget for fiscal year 2015.

Jeff Chambers moved, Dan Bleninen seconded by to approve the financial presentation for the audited report ending October 31, 2014. Motion was approved by a voice vote.

David Amidon moved, David Martinez seconded by to approve the financial budget for fiscal year 2015. Motion was approved by a voice vote.

Directors' Reports

All Directors' reports appear in the booklets that were distributed at the registration desk.

Additions to the reports were offered from the floor as follows:

Ted Ritchie commented on the excellence of the TOPSoccer Program in Massachusetts. Ted commended Ray Robinson for his leadership of the program, both in Mass Youth Soccer and as national chairperson for the TOPSoccer Committee. Regarding TOPSoccer within Massachusetts, Ted emphasized our Association can still do more to promote the program.

Ted Ritchie also commented on several issues being worked with the Mass State Referee Committee (MSRC) concerning the overall numbers of referees within the state and recently MSRC implemented age limit regulations that could adversely impact the supply of referees in the future. Ted urged the members in attendance to take the message back to their organizations to promote more people to get involved in the referee programs.

Executive Director's Report

The ED Report is located in the AGM booklet. In addition, Mike Borislow spoke to the membership regarding reorganization of functions within the office and fields staff, as well as a new member (replacement) to the instructional staff.

Technical Corrections to the By-Laws

Next order of business was consideration of changes to the By-Laws, entitled Technical Corrections to the By-Laws. Ted Ritchie explained the reasons for the change proposals, citing the 2014 AGM membership approval of a Mass Youth Board recommendation to move the non-officer Board positions from By-Laws to the Policies section of the Association's governance documents. Further, the Board of Directors had recently approved renaming all non-officer Board positions to simply, Directors, to allow flexibility in functional assignments in order to effectively manage and adapt policies and program to changes in the youth soccer landscape. Additionally, several "past practices" were formalized regarding 1) representation at Leagues Committee meetings and 2) election of the at-large member of the Executive Committee. Finally, the Board approved a decision to reduce the number of Director positions from 13 to 12 as the National Championship Series board position has remained vacant for two years after the functions of that role were assumed by state office staff.

A motion to approve the By-Law changes as presented was made by Dean Sidell, second by Jeff Chambers.

There was vigorous discussion of the motion and changes on the floor, both pro and con, over the next twenty minutes. A call to move the question resulted in an attempt at a voice vote, the result being inconclusive, so a ballot vote was taken. **The motion was approved by a vote of 100 - 62 in favor.**

Election of Officers

Ted Ritchie turned the meeting over to David Amidon, Mass Youth Soccer Executive Vice-President and chairperson of the Nominations Committee, who, after identifying the members of the Committee, presented the election slate to the membership.

The Nominations Committee members are:

David Amidon, Executive VP MYSA

Caroline Foscatto, Director, MYSA

George Gardner, Executive Associate Director of Athletics, Northeastern University

Dan Pion, Lexington soccer parent

Dick Penta, BAYS League President

The following are the positions to be elected and candidates for the position:

President (three year term) – Bob Trudeau

Treasurer (three year term) – Derek Smith

Motion by Steve Smoller, second from David Amidon for the Secretary to cast a single vote for the uncontested candidates. Motion approved unanimously.

Director – (Four Positions) – David Martinez (incumbent)

(Class A, three-year term) Tom Rivet (incumbent)

Jared Scarpaci (incumbent)

Mohammed Barrie

Jeff Chambers

Janet Gargan

Stephen Harris

Paul LaPointe

Francesco Recchia

Lucy Dyer Tarquino

The election proceeded to the four contested Director positions. The ten (10) Director candidates were offered the opportunity to address the membership. Three (3) candidates, Mohammed Barrie, Paul LaPointe and Francesco Recchia were unable to attend the meeting. Candidates Barrie and LaPointe each submitted written letters of their interest in the position, which were read to the membership. Each of the remaining seven candidates was allowed to make a brief statement to the membership in alphabetical order and then a vote by ballot was taken.

Prior to voting, David Amidon explained the voting procedure to the membership. In order to be elected, a candidate needed to receive a majority of the available votes at the AGM until all four positions were elected. If 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.

Mass Youth Soccer staff acted as vote counters for the elections. The independent observers of the vote count were Nancy Hart and Brad Shores.

Ballot # 1

Elected: Tom Rivet
Jared Scarpaci
Lucy Dyer Tarquino

Ballot # 2

No result

Ballots # 3

No result

Ballot # 4

No result

Ballot # 5

No result

Ballot # 6

Elected : Jeff Chambers

**Derek Smith moved, seconded by Steve Harris that the election ballots be destroyed.
Motion passed on voice vote.**

New Business

During vote counting, Mass Youth Soccer Technical Director Ian Mulliner explained the recent changes in US Youth Soccer coaching course offerings and the new National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) course offerings through Mass Youth Soccer.

Good of the Game

As a gift of appreciation for his many years of service to Mass Youth Soccer and his leadership as President of the Association over the past five years, a Mass Youth Soccer logo jacket was presented to Ted Ritchie. Ted was very appreciative of the gift and stated it had been an honor to serve the Association.

Adjournment

Ted Ritchie thanked the membership for their attendance and participation in the 2015 Mass Youth Soccer AGM. Ted 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. **Ted requested a motion to adjourn, so moved by Derek Smith, seconded by Jeff Chambers. Motion approved by voice vote.**

The meeting adjourned at 1: 45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Trudeau

Bob Trudeau
Secretary/Clerk
Mass Youth Soccer Association