

**Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
February 5, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, S. McArdle, T. Ringler (via phone), D. Smith (via phone), J. Scarpaci (via phone) and B. Trudeau (11)

Absent: D. Dalrymple, R. Moo, D. Santilli and L. Tarquinio (4)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow and R. Holliday (2)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Futsal Update

Jeff Chambers presented a recommendation for a post-season futsal tournament.

Adult Credentials & Stack Sports

Mike announced that beta testing has successfully concluded so that credentials can now be printed in time for the Spring '20 season.

Governance Initiative

Mike reported on progress of the Mass Youth office to gather documents from the respective towns and leagues.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda includes meeting minutes from January as well as staff/program reports.

Financials

Derek Smith advised that the auditors had some minor adjustments and recommendations. Upon completion, Derek will produce draft financial statements and provide the preliminary fiscal year 2020 budget in advance of the AGM.

New England Revolution

An invitation has been extended an invitation to Mass Youth Soccer to share for the public to tour the new training facility on Monday, February 10th or Wednesday, February 12th at 6:00 PM.

AGM Update

Mike reiterated the request for Board and Staff to submit reports by February 28, 2020. "Invitations" to the AGM have gone out to presidents and registrars including a survey. The AGM is scheduled for Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 10:00 AM (check-in begins at 9:00 AM) at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 99 Erdman Way, Leominster MA.

President's Remarks

Bob thanked all Board and staff for their efforts and participation at the Mass Youth Soccer Workshop and Awards Night. It was a fabulous event, attended by 400+ with great feedback and post-event coverage. Bob reported that there are a number of candidates who have submitted for consideration. The deadline for self-appointment is February 28, 2020. Bob also noted that the USSF AGM is also scheduled for later this month. Lastly, Bob reported on progress to shore up the SYRA appointment.

Next Meeting: March 4, 2020.

Motion by Jeff Chambers second by David Amidon to adjourn the meeting 8:51 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting
March 4, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Boloz (via phone), J. Chambers, J. Gargan, C. Goulet (via phone), S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Smith, J. Scarpaci and B. Trudeau (9)

Absent: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Dalrymple, R. Moo, D. Santilli and L. Tarquinio (4)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, R. Holliday and R. Wolfe (3)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Soccer Parenting Association

Rob Holliday presented an opportunity for Mass Youth to secure a higher-level commitment than the current (\$2,500) partnership with Soccer Parenting Association. The added investment of \$7,500 would grant broad-based access to all of the leagues and towns across the state for a nominal fee of \$100 per year. **Motion by Jeff Chambers second by Derek Smith to invest a total of \$10,000 in a Soccer Parenting Association for the next 12 months; motion approved by majority (8-0-1).**

Annual General Meeting

March 14, 2020 - Mike reported that (5) candidates have stepped forward for three 3-year open director slots and (2) remaining terms. Other than elections there is no other planned voting activity for the AGM. Subsequent to the business meeting, the Leagues Committee requested two additional breakout topics. Stack Sports will present related to the first topic (US Soccer Connect, the platform transition for Fall 2020 and Q&A) geared primarily to Risk Managers. The second topic is related to "Zero Tolerance" and "Code of Conduct." There is interest in standardizing the approach and/or policy across the state.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda includes meeting minutes from February as well as staff/program reports.

Financials

Derek Smith advised that audited financial statements, summary report, internal control summary, and Derek's commentary have all been completed. Noteworthy is the relocation of the pass-through affiliation fee to USYS from line item revenue/expenses to balance sheet entries. Special thanks go to Tara and Derek for their phenomenal preparation, organization and fastidious work this year and every year. With the recent advent of lower rates, efforts are currently underway to refinance outstanding debt. The fiscal year 2020 budget will be finalized in advance of the AGM.

SYRA Report

Russ Wolfe reported that 10 referees and 2 coaches to the East Region tournament Stephanie Reynoso joins the MSRC as a staff member to aid the administrative effort. The first round of 2021 recertification schedule will be published at or around the time of MTOC. This is part of a greater effort to revamp the recertification timing and process which is a collaborative process underway with the Leagues Committee.

Executive Director Report

Mike discussed a recent appeal experience for Colorado.

President's Remarks

Bob Trudeau reported on the Federation AGM in Nashville, TN at which a \$132M budget (\$25.8M deficit) as part of a 5-year strategy to reduce the Federation's reserve. Bob also noted that as part of the effort, some funds will be earmarked for recreational youth players and referee development. The Federation has allocated monies for the Innovate To Grow Fund during each of the past three years and Mass Youth has capitalized on this by applying for and receiving two grants.

Locally, the CCL New England and Roots Athletics League have become active in the Leagues Committee. Bob also reported on the (old Region 1 NE International Women's Soccer Tournament Fund) which has since been dispersed. Mass Youth's portion of the disbursement totals approximately \$16K which will go into the general operating fund earmarked for TOPSoccer and other underserved programs.

Bob recognized Danvers Youth Soccer for their receipt of an American Legion award. Jeff Chambers and Janet Gargan have run a season-ending tournament for 14 years, the proceeds of which support Operation Troop Support.

Lastly, a special thank you was shared for Derek Smith in recognition of his numerous years of service to Mass Youth Soccer, in particular his tremendous dedication to ensuring the organization's financial records.

Next Meeting: April 1, 2020.

Motion by Derek Smith second by Jared Scarpaci to adjourn the meeting 9:03 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer BOD Meeting via Conference Call
April 1, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci, D. Smith, L. Tarquinio and B. Trudeau (14)

Absent:

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, R. Holliday, I. Mulliner, T. Ritchie and R. Wolfe (5)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Leagues Committee

Dana Santilli reported on the weekly meeting of league presidents (including new members Roots Athletic League and CCL New England) and the Mass Youth Executive Committee regarding the prospect of Spring play in light of COVID-19. The majority interest of the group is to mirror assembly and activity advisories from many sources, most specifically state public health agencies, Governor Baker and MIAA. Mass Youth's communications will continue to reflect these priorities.

Annual General Meeting

Bob advised that options are being pursued to reschedule.

SYRA Update

Russ referenced the continuation of online recertification and new grassroots courses via the Blue Jeans platform (approximately 25 registrants per course). Russ also asked for feedback and suggestions to help revamp the assignor course. Lastly, he reported that MRSC is expecting to publish the 2021 certification calendar by late June.

E-Games

Rob Holliday previewed Mass Youth's FIFA 20 E-Tournament that will be open to <18 year-old Massachusetts youth soccer players across both PlayStation and Xbox platforms (up to 256 players). Rob is also in conversation with the New England Revolution about the prospect of their E-MLS professional FIFA player to play against the Mass Youth champion at their Helix center following the conclusion of the tournament. Depending on its success, Mass Youth may pursue future funding via US Soccer's Innovate to Grow Fund and/or participation in a national FIFA tournament.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda includes meeting minutes from March as well as staff/program reports.

Financials

Derek Smith advised that the first quarter results would be published soon.

Executive Director Report

In response to several inquiries, Mike clarified the difference between "season" and "schedule". Mike also commented on USYS' cancellation of US Regionals and US Nationals Championships Tournaments. In response, Mass Youth still intends to hold State Cup depending on survey results from the 188 teams and their participating clubs.

Further, Mike advised that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, 130+ Mass Youth employees were furloughed while the remaining office and instructional staff have been actively involved in numerous activities including: member outreach, preventive maintenance, security system installation, process and procedure documentation, etc. On the heels of a time-consuming audit, Tara Petricca stepped up and swiftly handled all employment actions in a detailed, organized and timely manner in compliance with the Families First COVID-19 Response Act (FFCRA) and the Massachusetts Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program.

Mike advised that both GPS and Needham have reported intentions to hold Memorial Day tournaments and will reevaluate following Easter.

President's Remarks

Bob Trudeau also thanked Derek Smith for his guidance and support during the recent employment actions taken. Bob also noted Jeff Chambers' USYS Futsal subcommittee (10 people with Tom Condone) focusing on two priorities: 1) a National Championship Series and 2) Futsal-in-a-Box turnkey program.

Next Meeting: May 6, 2020 (however, the need may arise to schedule earlier based on current events).

Motion by Derek Smith second by Jared Scarpaci to adjourn the meeting 9:03 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
May 19, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci, D. Smith, L. Tarquinio and B. Trudeau (12)

Absent: S. McArdle (1)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow (1)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM and immediately went into Executive Session.

Motion by Derek Smith second by Jeff Chambers to approve sanction and affiliation of the New England Club Soccer League (NECSL) contingent on final receipt and approval of required documentation and filings; motion approved by majority vote 11-0-1.

Bob brought the meeting out of Executive Session at 8:42 PM.

Annual General Meeting

Bob updated everyone on the status of the AGM coming up on Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM. To-date, 85 have registered to attend with more expected as the event draws closer. He discussed voting logistics, roll call logistics and other elements of the virtual meeting.

Executive Director Report

Mike reported on activity underway now that Governor Baker has released the 4-phase reopening plan. Youth sports are scheduled to return in a limited fashion during **Phase 2**, which can be a minimum of 3 weeks after Phase 1 reopening of athletic fields and recreational facilities. Tentatively the target date for Phase 2 is June 15th but the Governor has been very clear that there is no guarantee. The Mass Youth Technical Department is developing guidelines for Phase 2 soccer activities for members to utilize under the assemblage orders and other guidelines from Governor Baker and the Department of Public Health Orders.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2020 immediately after the AGM.

Motion by Jared Scarpaci second by Jeff Chambers to adjourn the meeting 9:09 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
June 3, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci, D. Smith, L. Tarquinio and B. Trudeau (12)

Absent: D. Amidon (1)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow and S. Smoller (2)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 8:48 PM.

Appointment of At-Large Directors

Bob requested the Board to consider his recommendation to appoint Tony Loftis from Natick and Alex MacPherson from Shrewsbury each to a 1-year positions on the Board as At-Large Directors (single remaining year in these open positions). As Bob explained, the appointments are part of a plan vetted with all 5 At-Large Director candidates to fill open At-Large Director Board positions. Under the current limitations of virtual meeting platforms, it would have been extremely difficult to hold a competitive election under the weighted voting system required by the Bylaws.

Under Mass Youth Soccer By-law 1.06, motion by Jeff Chambers, second by David Dalrymple, to allow Tony Loftis and Alex McPherson to serve out the balance of the remaining terms for the two Directors-At-Large vacated with the resignations of Roger Kahlon and Rachel Moo after which both would then be eligible to re-run for a full at-large term each; motion approved unanimously.

Executive Session

Bob put the meeting in Executive Session at 8:56 PM and came out at 9:02 PM

Special General meeting

Discussion took place about the prospect to hold a Special General Meeting to consider orders of business that were unable to be considered during the Annual General Meeting – Constitutional amendment to allow membership meetings in a virtual format and a Bylaw amendment being drafted by the Leagues Committee to modify the purpose statement of the standing committee in the Bylaws. Conversation will continue at the next Board meeting.

For the Good of the Game

Thank you, Derek!!!!

Next Meeting: July 1, 2020.

Motion by Dana Santilli second by Jared Scarpaci to adjourn the meeting 9:14 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
July 1, 2020**

Present Board Members: H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, T. Loftis, A. MacPherson, S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci and B. Trudeau (13)

Absent: D. Amidon and L. Tarquinio (2)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, R. Holliday, S. Smoller and R. Wolfe (4)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Introductions

Welcome to Alex MacPherson and Tony Loftis, Mass Youth Soccer's newest Directors-At-Large.

Constitutional and By-Law Changes

Bob followed up on previous Board meeting discussions about proposed By-Law changes to language in the Constitution and Bylaws allowing the option of virtual membership meetings to be held (once the state emergency authorization allowing non-profit organizations to hold virtual meetings during the pandemic is lifted). Full approval of any Board approved changes will necessitate a Special General Meeting of the membership.

Motion by David Dalrymple second by Janet Gargan to endorse the By-Law section 5.04 proposed changes put forth by the Leagues Committee with one amendment; motion approved unanimously.

Motion by David Dalrymple second by Jeff Chambers to endorse the proposed changes to By-Law sections 8.01, 10.01, and 11.01; motion approved unanimously.

Update on Return to Soccer Activities

Mike reported on tentative expectations under the Commonwealth's Phase 3, Step 2 reopening as it relates to youth soccer including potentially still being able to sponsor District Select as well as Summer Friendlies. Upcoming webinars will include: "Mass Youth for Phase 3 Return to Soccer Activities" and "COVID Officers and Team Coordinators".

Consent Agenda

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes & Financial Reports

Thomas commented on the submitted Treasurer's Report for period ending April 30, 2020 from Derek Smith as well as an updated statement of activities. Thomas observed that revenues are behind, largely driven by ODP, TSL and Spring registration refunds balanced somewhat by a reduction in related expenses. Thomas continues to reevaluate revenues and expenses as the COVID-19 pandemic continues with particular focus on Fall registrations.

Staff and Program Reports

As submitted. Rob Holliday additionally made mention USYS' recently announced plans for E-Sports competitions, something Mass Youth has been sponsoring since COVID began.

Board Member Updates

Dana Santilli reported on the Leagues Committee request for Mass Youth to allow one extra year of eligibility for 19U participants due to their inability to play their final season this Spring.

Motion by Dana Santilli second by Janet Gargan to make a one-time exception to extend playing eligibility to the 2020 19Us to 2021; motion approved unanimously.

SYRA Report

Russ Wolfe reported on 25 new Regional Referees recently appointed.

Executive Director Report

Mike reported on the rapid growth of the newly affiliated NECLSL including up to 14 member clubs such as NE Rush, NE Surf and Juventus.

President's Report

Bob announced that the USYS AGM scheduled for July 25th would be held virtually and he will bring back a summary of notable activities to the August meeting.

For the Good of the Game

Stephanie McArdle reported on the significant hit that inner cities have taken due to COVID-19 calling attention to the increased need for re-engagement outreach in Lawrence before return to play begins.

Next Meeting: August 5, 2020.

Motion by Jared Scarpaci second by Jeff Chambers to adjourn the meeting 8:51 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
August 5, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, T. Loftis, A. MacPherson, S. McArdle, J. Scarpaci, T. Ringler, and B. Trudeau (11)

Absent: H. Blatt, D. Boloz, D. Santilli and L. Tarquinio (4)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, S. Smoller, R. Holliday, R. Wolfe and T. Petricca (5)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Motion by Caryn Goulet second by Jeff Chambers to go into Executive Session at 7:10 PM (motioned approved unanimously) and to come out of Executive Session at 7:38 PM (motion approved unanimously).

Proxy Voting

In recognition of the trend for virtual meetings, David Amidon presented research and information to recommend constitutional changes to the proxy vote provisions for AGMs and Special General Meetings. Of note, Jamie Balboni in the State Office polled 16 other state associations on the topic and found that, although some do not even allow proxy votes many were also in need of amending the processes in place. David will be sending for review and comment the recommended changes and ultimately the Board approved changes will be presented at an upcoming Special Meeting for consideration.

Fall 2020

Bob reported that the Leagues Committee is having ongoing conversations about the status of Fall in-town and travel registrations and feedback from their memberships regarding current guidelines.

Consent Agenda

July minutes will be provided with August minutes for review and approval during the September board meeting.

Board Member Updates

Russ Wolfe reported on a meeting between Bob, Andy Weiss and Peter Kolkoski re: providing guidelines for referees. Peter was designated as the MSRC COVID Officer and much discussion took place about the impact of the Commonwealth's current guidelines on referees including: must wear face coverings (thus the impetus for electronic whistles), ensure benches and spectators are 6-feet behind referees, referees are not the mask police and to comply with contact tracing protocols. Additionally, Bob reported on impending communications from the MSRC to referees to register with the Learning Center. Lastly, MSRC committed to running virtual LOTG refresher courses in advance of the Fall season.

Jeff Chambers additionally reported that the Genesis Referee Program will be offered on a limited basis this Fall.

Executive Director Report

Mike Borislow followed up the July 29, 2020 webinar regarding Phase 3, Step 1 Return to Activities with ongoing conversations the State Office is fielding about “is it safe” language regarding the donning of face coverings for play. He also shared that other youth sports currently classified as Higher Risk are proposing play modifications to the Commonwealth in hopes to be reclassified.

USYS Annual General Meeting

Bob reviewed some of the highlights of the meeting, which included by-law change proposals that were presented including term limits for USYS board members and allowing state associations to combine. Both proposals were tabled for further study by a National Council vote. The term limits for the Governance & Nominations Committee were extended by Council vote. In addition, two standing committees, Investment Committee and Legal Advisory Committee were created. With respect to the 2020/2021 budget that was presented assumed a 30% reduction in registrations and included significant cost cutting measures. More than \$500K was retained for recreational programs such as Soccer Without Borders, TOPSoccer and other community outreach programs.

Bob also reported that the United Soccer Convention will be virtual in 2021, but no word yet on the USYS Workshop.

Special General Meeting

Discussion took place about the prospect to hold a Special General Meeting to consider orders of business that were unable to be considered during the Annual General Meeting. Conversation will continue at the next Board meeting.

For the Good of the Game

Mike shared participation in the national “Salute to Essential Workers” including awarding a themed t-shirt design and patch design for Massachusetts. September 17-20 are targeted for the celebration to take place and the proceeds from the sale of t-shirts and patch will go to Project Bread.

Next Meeting: September 2, 2020.

Motion by David Dalrymple second by Jared Scarpaci to adjourn the meeting 8:50 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
September 2, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, H. Blatt, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, T. Loftis, A. MacPherson, S. McArdle, T. Ringler, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci and B.Trudeau (13)

Absent: C. Goulet, L. Tarquinio (2)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, S. Smoller, R, Holliday, R. Wolfe (4)

A quorum was declared in attendance and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Return to Soccer Activities Update

Mike Borislow presented an update on the current status of the Mass Youth Soccer RTSA Guidelines and the game modifications implemented to align with the requirements of the state EEA directive. Mike and Marketing & Communications Director Rob Holliday shared anecdotal feedback and their observations from two affiliated high school summer leagues playing according to the game modifications. While there have been some initial “errors”, players have quickly adapted to the modifications and are accepting of the guidelines. A healthy discussion ensued regarding mask requirements including when required, types of masks and methods to insure coach/player and parent buy-in.

Proxy Voting Update

Bob Trudeau advised the Board that due to other priorities over the past month, review and discussion of proposals for a constitutional change and draft policy regarding proxy voting has been moved to the October 2020 Board meeting.

Consent Agenda

Both the July and August minutes were presented. No comments or edits, approved by Board consent.

Three financial reports were presented and reviewed by Treasurer Thomas Ringler: 1. Six-Month Financial Report 2. Statement of Activities June 2020 3. Statement of Activities July 2020.

Board Member Updates

Russ Wolfe reported on progress by MSRC in providing guidance to referees regarding the temporary modifications to the youth game to align with state EEA directives during the Covid-19 pandemic. Expectation is that a guidance document will be available by the end of the week.

Executive Director Report

Mike Borislow asked Rob Holliday to update the Board on membership announcements and updates in progress including:

- A “Cliff Notes” (abbreviated) version of Mass Youth Soccer’s RTSA guidelines requested by league leadership. Document is complete and will be distributed shortly.
- Covid-19 Reporting Procedures
- Insurance & Liability coverages in the Covid-19 landscape. Webinar in works and should be available next week.
- Initial Game Modifications in review to determine if there are any tweaks that should be made to closer align with NEP and MIAA modifications. Expect revisions no later than early next week.

The meeting entered Executive Session at 8:19 PM, ending the Session at 8:28 PM

Presidential Remarks

State Referee Administrator

Bob advised the Board that SRA Peter Kokolski has submitted a letter of resignation from his position, effective December 31, 2020. Peter will assist with the development of referee instructional materials for fall & winter courses. Mass Youth Soccer thanks Peter for his service to the game and the Massachusetts State Referee Committee.

October 31, 2019 Tax Return Draft

As required per IRS Form 990, Bob advised the Board that the draft document of the Association's 2019 Tax Return is available for review by the Board on the MyCommittee platform, September meeting.

Urban and Underserved Communities

Bob and Stephanie McArdle led a discussion regarding the difficult situation that many urban and underserved soccer communities and organizations are facing during the Covid-19 pandemic. Consensus of the Board is that a new strategic initiative Board group should be formed to strategically plan approaches to assist these organizations with recovery from the current pandemic situation. Board members interested in participating in the initiative should contact Bob with their interest.

Annual Awards Nominations

Nominations closed August 31 and nomination submittals review is in process. State Association Award Winners are due to be submitted to the East Region by October 1. Regional winners will then be forwarded to US Youth Soccer for consideration of national award in each category.

United Soccer Coaches Convention

Dates for the Convention have been moved from January 6-10 to January 11-15, 2021. The Convention will be Virtual this year with format, schedule and cost yet to be announced.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

For the Good of the Game

No Reports

Next Meeting: October 7, 2020, 7:00 PM, virtual.

Motion by Jared Scarpaci, second by Janet Gargan to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Trudeau for,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
October 7, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, D. Boloz, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple, J. Gargan, C. Goulet, T. Loftis, L. Tarquinio, A. MacPherson, S. McArdle, J. Scarpaci, T. Ringler, and B. Trudeau (13)

Absent: H. Blatt and D. Santilli (2)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, S. Smoller, R. Holliday and L. Jimenez (5)

A quorum was declared and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Guest Speaker - Hugh Goodridge

Hugh is the First VP for NY West Youth Soccer, State Cup Dir, National Championship Committee for East region and Chair of the USYS DEI Committee. In this capacity, Hugh shared a recent presentation of the USYS DEI standing committee. Bob noted that Tony Loftis has volunteered to lead a DEI initiative for Mass Youth.

Virtual Meetings & Proxy Voting

Mass Youth continues to operate under a State of Emergency initiative by Gov Baker to allow virtual meetings. David Amidon discussed recommended changes in proxy voting for AGMs and Special General Meetings. Following the Board's review of the current recommendations, the final wording will be presented at the November board meeting for approval before being added to an agenda for a Special General meeting at which to amend the existing constitution.

Liability Exposure

In light of the communicable disease exclusion in liability policies, a working exercise ensued to brainstorm ideas and opportunities for Mass Youth Soccer.

Consent Agenda

September minutes were presented with one stated amendment as part of the consent agenda.

Financial Update

Thomas Ringler commented on the reduction in revenues compared to last year same period due to reductions in registrations. He also commended efforts to reduce expenses to-date.

Executive Director Report

Broad-based recognition was shared by the board for the Mass Youth staff and leadership for its efforts, relationships and communications with the membership during COVID.

For the Good of the Game

Bob reiterated Mass Youth's steadfast commitment to safety and its maintenance of the one spectator per player rule in light of the EEA's expansion of assembly maximums.

Next Meeting: November 4, 2020.

Motion by Jeff Chambers second by David Dalrymple to adjourn the meeting 9:03 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary

**Mass Youth Soccer Special BOD Meeting via Video Conference Call
December 2, 2020**

Present Board Members: D. Amidon, J. Chambers, D. Dalrymple (via phone), J. Gargan, C. Goulet, T. Loftis, A. MacPherson, D. Santilli, J. Scarpaci, T. Ringler, and B. Trudeau (11)

Absent: H. Blatt, D. Boloz, S. McArdle and L. Tarquinio (4)

Non-Voting Members/Staff: M. Borislow, R. Frongillo, R. Holliday, S. Smoller and R. Wolf (5)

A quorum was declared and President Bob Trudeau called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Welcome Rich Frongillo

Newly appointed as SRA, Rich described his roots as a player, coach, administrator and referee in Franklin as well as his previous role as SRA. Rich conveyed his intentions to wrap his arms around the MSRC, its vacancies, priorities, capabilities and any collaborative synergy that can be achieved through Russ and the Mass Youth Board.

Upcoming Special Meeting of the Membership (SMM)

As a reminder, the January 6, 2021 SMM will be to entertain several Constitutional changes:

- Permanent authorization to hold virtual AGMs and SMMs (Mass Youth continues to operate under a State of Emergency initiative by Gov. Baker to allow virtual meetings).
- Revisions to the Bylaws as it relates to the purpose of the Leagues Committee.
- Revisions and process updates to AGM/SMM meeting representation and proxy voting.

A ratification vote was held in recognition of the November board meeting vote as it relates to proxy voting for Mass Youth Board of Directors to be proposed at the SMM. Specifically, there was a majority vote (9 yes; 2 no) to allow Directors to choose between serving as a voting delegate (representing a single member Organization or affiliated League as its Delegate) or as a Mass Youth Board of Director when voting.

Executive Director Report: Off-Season Projects

Mike reviewed the ambitious list of projects and assigned staff underway during the offseason:

- **Governance & Outreach** – live connections with town and league officers to establish/improve relationships, help align governance documents and procedures, support Commonwealth filings, assisting with registrations and other compliance requirements.
- **Player Winter Activities** – create technology-based self-directed training program for players including covering such areas as skills, fitness, mental strength, nutrition and tactics.
- **Club Connect Support** – creating SME capability and support for the town/club/league version of association Club Connect through which all adults currently register with the possibility to run ODP, TSL, Districts and potentially other programs on the system.
- **Policies & Procedures** – updating disciplinary, complaint and grievance procedures.
- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)** – kicking off this initiative at a state level and attempting to do the same in support of towns/clubs/leagues looking to do the same.
- **Mass Youth Bylaws and Constitution** – additional considerations beyond those being presented at the January 6, 2021 SMM.
- **USYS Risk Committee Support** – pursuit of national synergy of the risk management solutions and identified risk offenders with USYS and US Soccer as well as other national youth sport organizations.
- **Field Complex Operations Documentation** – standard operating procedures for how to maintain the complex.

Mike also announced a change in title for Tamie Endow to Member Services Manager as part of her final transfer out of the Technical Department as part of the overall staff changes at the state office.

Financial Update

Thomas Ringler updated prior month projections based on more recent data and commented on the relative impact on cash flow. He also commended efforts to reduce expenses to-date.

SYRA Report

Russ Wolf noted that there are numerous referee and assignor recertifications and new course posted on MSRC. He added that nearly 86% of futsal referees were recertified prior to the season.

Board Member Updates

Jared Scarpaci recently attended the Adult Soccer Bi-Annual general meeting and reported similar conversations, financial status and priorities as the youth soccer landscape. Caryn Goulet noted on helpful statistics that Tamie Endow (Mass Youth COVID Officer) shared from the Fall that aided town-based boards to make decisions about Spring travel play. She added that following a recent meeting with Dana Santilli, Jeff Chambers, Rob Holliday and Tamie Endow; Jamie Balboni updated the database of TOPSoccer programs.

President's Report

Bob reminded Board members to register for the January 6, 2021 SMM and efforts underway to consider reasonably priced platforms for weighted voting. The regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place after the SMM. Bob also reminded everyone that the United Soccer Coaches Convention discount is available to the entire Massachusetts soccer community and expires December 31, 2020 (\$150 for a non-member to attend including one year's registration). The Convention dates are January 11-15, 2021. Bob added that he is shoring up the Nominations Committee to be voted on during the January Board meeting. The four Board positions up for nomination are Executive Vice President, and three at-large Directors. Lastly, he announced that the regularly schedule AGM for 2021 will be virtual on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

For the Good of the Game

Jared commented on an email that Rob received about Alan Peterson's book written in 1973 about Massachusetts's soccer. Jared also shared Martyn Bowen's book about Fuller Hamlet's. Bob reminisced about Diego Maradona's passing and recalled watching the 1994 World Cup game Argentina v. Nigeria at which Maradona played his last international match. To close out For the Good of the Game, Mike played an inspirational season-capturing video clip submitted by Jon Paul St. Germain from Holden Youth Soccer.

Next Meeting: January 6, 2021 after the SMM.

Motion by Caryn Goulet, second by Jeff Chambers to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM; motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caryn Goulet, Secretary