

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
February 1, 2010
Beaverton, Oregon

Meeting called to order by President, Ric Listella, at 6:33 PM

A quorum was declared by Ric Listella.

Board members attending:

Ric Listella, President
Al King, Director at Large (via phone)
Steve Meckel, District Director
Steve Hershberger, District Director
David Wagner, Treasurer & Secretary

John McCafferty, District Director
John Thomas, District Director
John Cronkrite, Director at Large
Matt Madeira, District Director
Don Newell, District Director

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director
Mike Smith, Technical Director
Scott Enyart, Director of Leagues and Tourn.
Jeff Thomas, Rogue Valley SC (via Phone)
Joe Wedding, FC Portland
John Bain, Westside Metros
Bernie Fagan, OSA
Jeff Rott, Southside SC
Jason Giles, Eugene Metro

Brian Scott, Member Services Coord.
Kelly Ward, Director Admin
Keith Ericson, THJSL
Ryan Shore, Oregon Rush (via phone)
Davy Dupon, Westside Metros
Ron Bateman, Eastside United
Mark Olen, Lake Oswego
Eric Messenger, THUSC

New Business:

- Discussion between OYSA Board of Directors and the Club President's in the Oregon Premier League (OPL)
 - Ric starts the conversation and invites the Presidents to share what they need from OYSA
 - Mark with Lake Oswego Soccer Club states that the Presidents are in touch with their head coaches and in agreement with the OPL requests made in the letter sent to OYSA in early January. They prefer that OYSA work with coaches as they consider them the experts in soccer. OPL clubs are meeting and in communication with one another. This group sees options to continue to expand the OPL, but is open to considering other options such as a premier council.
 - John Bain with Westside Metros provided background to the source of the frustration in the letter sent in early January. He has been frustrated with the little changes that OYSA has made over the years and this is one reason why the OPL united to begin with. He believes their U10-U12 league went well last year.
 - Davey Dupon with Westside Metros added that OYSA has taken some action on requests from clubs. He feels that QT's are not needed for all age groups, coaches can aid in bracketing the teams.
 - John Bain stated that the schedules are good for the Winter League there were problems with the past two Fall League schedules. Referees have gotten better, but there have been issues at several OYSA Tournaments.
 - John McCafferty asked for input from others who have not spoken and then asked if all of the presidents agreed with these statements.
 - Mark explained how the OPL would like to see the Premier Council structured
 - It would be under the OYSA umbrella and oversee premier soccer in Oregon.

- The Council Chair would be the OYSA Technical Director and there would be 8 other member coaches (5 from Portland Metro, 1 from Willamette Valley, 1 from Southern and 1 from Central). The Council would oversee State Cup, premier league and player fees, ODP, calendar and league structure.
- It would start with Fall League and run a 1-year trial and then review.
- OPL would run U10-U12 only.
- The fact of the council being advisory or governing was not important to the OPL, they just want to achieve desired results.
- If the Premier Council works then the OPL eventually move the rest of the U10-U12 under OYSA.
- Their intent is to offer kids from across the state an opportunity to qualify for Premier Soccer
- Joe Wedding with FC Portland said that the Coaches understand the OYSA Board has some key responsibilities that will limit the Premier Council. Coaches want to be heard and have partnership in addressing the items stated earlier.
- Ric asked for more details regarding the Council's involvement in ODP and Fees
 - John stated the ODP would be more calendar and scheduling focus. To assure that ODP does not conflict with club play.
- Ric asked how do we integrate other areas in Oregon
 - Mark stated that the council needs to be developed to the right size with the appropriate make up from across the state.
- The discussion concluded. Mike Smith will be meeting with all club coaches and presidents of clubs that had a team in premier/division 1 on February 8th to discuss the structure and composition of the Premier Council. The OYSA Board will meet on February 10th to discuss the proposal and a target decision was set for February 15th.
- At 8pm the Meeting went to recess.

The OPL group left attendance and the meeting reconvened at 8:15pm

The following items were accepted as presented:

- January 2010 Association Minutes
- Vice-President's Report- Attached as Exhibit A
- Executive Director's Report- Attached as Exhibit B
- Member Services Report- Attached as Exhibit C
- Program Services Report- Attached as Exhibit D

New Business:

- Interpretation of Bylaw 404, Section 7
 - This policy lists the exclusions for OYSA Board Members, except for Referees
 - Matt interprets this to include referee assignors, referee managers and mentors.
 - The Board will address this interpretation in 2 weeks and Steve Meckel will draft a Policy
- Proposed change to Policy 802-2 was postponed.
- Proposed change to Policy 801-1, Attached as Exhibit E
 - Motion made with amendment to "add effective date 7/1/2010 for Sponsored Leagues & Tournaments and 7/1/2011 for Sanctioned Leagues and Tournaments. Motion passed.
- New Club Membership Request
 - New Club is 3 Rivers Soccer, exclusively a TOPSoccer Club in the Willamette District. They are supported by WYSA.
 - The Executive Director would need to waive the 200-player requirement; they do not have the tax-exempt status and have not yet provided a budget or financial plan.

- Motion made to provide provisional membership contingent on the three pending issues resolution within 90 days. An amendment was made to restrict the club to only TOPS members. The motion failed and was referred to committee headed by Steve Meckel.
- March Board Meeting change to March 8th

The Board entered into Executive Session, the regular board meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

The next BOD Meeting will be held on February 10, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in Beaverton at the OYSA Office, conference calling will be available.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ward
Director of Administrative Services

Exhibit A:

To: Oregon Youth Soccer Association Board
From: Matt Madeira
Re: Vice President Report – January 2010

I am working with Chuck to have candidates to fill the vacant board positions. My goal is to have these positions filled prior to August 1, 2010.

I have not been involved in any appeals.

Matt Madeira

Exhibit B:

**Executive Director's Report
February 1, 2010**

Portland Timbers and ODP – A Letter of Understanding has been submitted to the Portland Timbers outlining the key principles and relationship of an integrated elite player development program between their youth development program and our Olympic Development Program.

Affinity Development Group – We have received an amendment to the contract with ADG implementing the reduced player registration fee. They are tying the reduced fee to a two-year extension of the contract, which otherwise would terminate in March, 2011. This was not part of the verbal agreement we made when we met in December. We are currently negotiating with them regarding these issues.

AGM/Awards Dinner – By all reports the AGM, Workshops and Awards Dinner went very well. Our members enjoyed themselves and all of the comments we received were that the workshops were informative and educational. Thanks to Kelly and all of the staff, board and partners who helped plan and conduct this event.

Southern Oregon Soccer – Mike, Ric and I met with representatives of Rogue Valley Soccer Club regarding the structure of the U11 Fall League. They were very frustrated last year with the timing of the schedule and lack of diversity of teams within the southern region. The schedule issues related, in part, to insufficient field time provided by participating clubs – something we were able to resolve in the recent Winter League Schedule. The diversity of teams is a function of the number of teams in the area registered to play in the league and the clubs willing to participate in the southern region – and travel to Medford.

Staff has designed a regional fall league structure for the U11 ages that incorporates a jamboree format, followed by a regular league format. We are meeting with RVSC to share ideas and address their concerns.

OPL – The head coaches of the clubs involved in developing, planning and executing the so-called Oregon Premier League for U10 through U12 last year met to discuss our response to their January 2nd e-mail. We have not received any formal response to date, but as we are meeting with their presidents at February's board meeting we hope that a collaborative, inclusive and unified solution can be achieved.

Premier Council – Mike is hosting a group of head coaches and their club presidents on Monday, February 8th at 6:00 PM to try to get agreement on criteria that will enable a more effective and consistent Premier Council to be established. We hope to identify the new council's membership at the meeting as well as make a group decision regarding the structure of the fall premier league and qualifying tournament/process for the fall.

FY 10/11 Budget – Staff has begun work on next year's budget.

Member Services Report

February 1, 2010

Club Development

Three Rivers Soccer has not yet submitted paperwork to become a member club of Oregon Youth Soccer. They have advised that they still intend to do that. I have spoken with representatives of some of the Willamette District clubs. They are generally supportive of the idea of Three Rivers Soccer providing TOPSoccer opportunities to their communities.

I have met with three different groups who have been considering the possibility of starting a club in Eastern Washington county with the primary emphasis of serving the Spanish speaking population of the area. None of the groups has yet gone so far as to incorporate. At least one of the groups is likely to pursue applying for club status in time to register players for fall 2010-11 season.

Staff continues to review clubs for compliance with corporate filing and reporting requirements with the State of Oregon, the IRS, and with OYSA's online registration requirements.

Risk Management

No new issues have arisen in this area. Staff continues to work with Affinity to reduce the issue of duplicate registrations. This remains primarily a matter of registrar training.

Much of the discussion at the AGM's recreation forum dealt with how best to implement a requirement of having member passes printed for all adults who are required to have background checks. There was considerable sentiment for having a uniform method of displaying that a person had a risk status of Approved after successfully completing a background check that could be enforced in all competitions, regardless of whether player passes are required for the league. Staff is investigating options for card stock differentiation, lanyards, *etc.*

Staff is continuing work on a disciplinary manual to combine procedural aspects of risk management review, disqualifications, and appeals with procedures for hearings and appeals in disciplinary matters.

TOPSoccer

John Hanna reports that several clubs expressed interest in starting TOPSoccer programs during discussions at the AGM. John will be following up with them during the next few weeks.

I am still waiting for a club application from Three Rivers Soccer for their planned program.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

**Leagues and Tournament Report
January, 2010
Submitted by Scott Enyart, Director, Leagues and Tournaments**

Winter League:

Games have started – we had 9 red card issues the first weekend.

2011 USYS President's Cup Championship Finals bid:

I will be presenting a bid on behalf of OYSA for the 2011 finals. Medford would be the host site

Region IV President's Cup Regional tournament 2010:

Based upon information from Region IV, 90 teams should be in attendance at the June regional tournament in Medford. Hotels are reporting that they have already begun seeing reservations. We still need to work out with Region IV details regarding the referees for the event.

I had meetings January 25 and 26 with the Medford VCB and Parks Department staff to continue the build up to the June event. Our first status report is due to the Region February 15.

Fall League: (2nd season)

Schedules for the 2nd season of Premier have been posted and games begin in a week or so

Referee Development:

We have scheduled 13 referee training classes at the OYSA offices for the calendar year. Each of these will be full with a waiting list. Staff continues to monitor and develop additional training and certification opportunities for referees

February events:

Spring league registration deadline: February 2

Premier coach's meeting: February 8

USYS Coach's convention and workshops: February 18 – 21 in Fort Worth

OYSA currently requires that all Administrators of the Association or any of its member clubs be registered with the Association and have a risk status of Approved as a result of successfully passing a background check once each seasonal year. The current definition of Administrator is in Policy 801-1, Section 2.A:

POLICY 801-1 RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 2. Definitions

A. **Administrator** - any adult participant in the activities of the Association or its member clubs who acts as an official representative of the Association or club, including:

1. Board members
2. Employees
3. Coaches
4. Assistant coaches
5. Team Managers
6. Trainers
7. Other adult Volunteers
8. Youth over the age of 16 who serve in any of the positions listed in Section 2.A.1-7
9. Any applicant for any of the positions listed in Section 2.A.1-7

We propose to amend this policy to include referees among those who are required obtain an annual background check by adding them to the list of Administrators.

The amended policy would read as follows (new material is in *italics*, deletions are marked

with strike through):

POLICY 801-1 RISK MANAGEMENT

Section 2. Definitions

A. **Administrator** - any adult participant in the activities of the Association or its member clubs who acts **as** in an official **representative of capacity** for the Association or club, including:

1. Board members
2. Employees
3. Coaches
4. Assistant coaches
5. Team Managers
6. Trainers
7. Other adult Volunteers
8. *Referees officiating matches in any league, tournament, or other competition sponsored or sanctioned by OYSA*
9. Youth **over the age of 16 or older** who serve in any of the positions listed in Section 2.A.1-7~~8~~
10. Any applicant for any of the positions listed in Section 2.A.1-7
11. Section 2.A.8. applies only to referees in OYSA sponsored competition from 7/1/2010. Section 2.A.8. applies to referees in both sponsored and sanctioned competition from 7/1/2011.

Reasons for the change

Referees are present at every match and have interaction with players. Referees are the only adults having interaction with our players who are not currently required to have background checks. Our surrounding State Associations require referees to pass background checks. The Federation requires referees to comply with the risk management program of the Organization Member through which they participate [USSF Policy 531-1, Section 5].

While it would make the logistics of conducting background checks simpler if all referees registering with the ORC completed background checks, we can manage the process using our online software.

We can require that all referees who officiate OYSA games complete online registration using our software. We already require that our referees complete an application, sign a contract, and provide us with information necessary to handle payment for services. Requiring online registration that runs a background check would just be a simple additional step. Background checks can be run in the same way as they are for other administrators. Costs for the program should be approximately \$5 per referee each seasonal year, including the cost of the background check and the online registration.