

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
March 8, 2010
Beaverton, Oregon

Meeting called to order by President, Ric Listella, at 6:30 PM

A quorum was declared by Ric Listella.

Board members attending:

Ric Listella, President	John Thomas, District Director
Steve Meckel, District Director	John Cronkrite, Director at Large
Steve Hershberger, District Director	Don Newell, District Director (via phone)
David Wagner, Treasurer & Secretary	John McCafferty, District Director (via phone)
Keith Ericson, District Director	

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director	Brian Scott, Member Services Coord.
Scott Enyart, Leagues/Tournaments Director	Kelly Ward, Admin Director
Kevin Primerano, Rogue Valley SC	

Minutes & Reports

- Minutes from February 1, 2010 are approved as presented
- Minutes from February 10, 2010 are approved as presented
- Board Reports accepted as presented
 - Vice President's Report (Exhibit A)
 - Finance Committee Report (Exhibit B)
 - Executive Director's Report (Exhibit C)
 - Member Services Report (Exhibit D)
 - League & Tournaments Report (Exhibit E)

Board Discussion Topics

- Club Boundaries/Service Areas
 - Ric and Steve M provided history of this issue and explained that WYSA clubs have registered complaints that ESU is advertising in other club areas.
 - OYSA has been informed that ESU is placing advertisements under a different name. The Board directed staff to inform ESU that they must advertise using their true name.
 - Steve M stated that the Board's intent when lifting boundaries was to allow players the flexibility to play for the club they desired, not to allow clubs to encroach into other clubs service area.
 - This has been an issue for other Oregon clubs.
 - Discussion for and against reinstating club boundaries continued.
 - The Board directed staff to draft language regarding club service area boundaries to be reviewed at the May Board Meeting.
- Premier Council Progress Report
 - Members for the Council have been selected and the committee has met twice via conference calls.
 - Members include: Jim Rilatt, FC Portland Rep, John Bain, Gordon Williamson, Kevin Primerano, John O'Sullivan, Jurgen Ruckaberle, Mike Smith and Scott Enyart.
 - Mike sent the committee members a summary the discussions via e-mail. The committee has continued to share ideas via e-mail and will be meeting again soon to make their final decisions regarding the Fall League structure. League structure needs to be determined by April 1st.

- The OPL continues to express their desire for OYSA to sanction their U12 fall league; however they have not submitted all of the necessary paperwork requesting sanctioning to date.
 - Kevin said that the OPL is eagerly awaiting a position from the OYSA Board as to how they are going to handle the U12 league sanctioning.
 - Chuck discouraged the Board from making a decision on this issue as Mike Smith was the individual charged with this task and is not present to provide input.
 - Discussion about the decision whether or not to sanction this league continued.
 - The Board reviewed the "Oregon Youth Soccer League Principles" (Exhibit F) that was developed on January 27, 2010. Motion made to adopt the Principles. Amendment was made to strike "Far West Regional League" in item #7. Motion passed.

New Business

- Proposed change to Policy 802-2 (Exhibit G)
 - Motion made to adopt Policy 802-2, seconded and discussed. An amendment was made to make effective September 1, 2010. The motions as amended with an effective date of September 1, 2010 passed.
- 100% Club Compliance
 - Board discussed this issue and asked staff to research how other states handle it.
 - Board directed staff to present the prior plan to require 100% compliance at an upcoming meeting.
- Policy 303-3 Premier Council (Exhibit H)
 - Motion made to accept as drafted, seconded, and passed.

Old Business

- Ratify Soccer Across America Grant
 - Executive Board approved via e-mail this month the Soccer Across America Grant Request to USYSA. Request is for \$7,500 in support from USYSA in FY09-10 and \$15,000 in both FY10-11 and FY 11-12. Motion was seconded and passed by the full Board.
- New Club Membership Request, Committee Report (Exhibit I)
 - Steve Meckel distributed a work paper on a new OYSA Policy that would allow clubs to be Affiliate Clubs and not full member clubs. The board discussed the pros and cons of this change at length and no action was taken.
 - Motion made to accept Three Rivers Soccer Club as a member providing their bylaws restricts their programs to operating TOPSoccer exclusively. Motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ward
Director of Administrative Services

Exhibit A:

To: Oregon Youth Soccer Association Board
From: Matt Madeira
Re: Vice President Report – February 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.

There have been no meetings of the ORC.

Exhibit B:

Finance Committee Meeting
February 1st, 2010

The Finance Committee met on February 1, and discussed the following items:

Mid-Year Review of Operating Results:

The Finance Committee met with staff to review operating results for the current fiscal year as of December 31st, 2009. As of December 31st, operating results reflect a deficit from budgeted amounts in the amount of **\$(196,036)**.

Major Deviations from budget include the following:

Membership dues are under budget by \$95,000. Recreational Dues \$52,000 and coaches dues of \$23,000 are the largest components of this deficit.

Activity Fees are under budget by \$173,000. The major components in this amount were the decision not to hold Winter QT's during the current fiscal year. Other events such as QT's, DRL, Kohls Cup, and BioKleen all were under budget. ODP also contributed to this deficit with ODP tryouts and Regional Camp coming in under budgeted amounts.

Associated expenses, such as referee fees, player insurance and on-line registration were all under budgeted amounts.

One unbudgeted expense item carried over from last fiscal year was paid during the first half of the fiscal year and contributed approximately 20% of the budget deficit for the first half of the year.

In November, the Finance Committee recognized the need to rebalance the current budget. Staff has identified approximately \$120,000 of reductions to address the current year operating deficit. These reductions were formally adopted at this meeting.

The majority of the Associations income has been collected for the current fiscal year. Staff was task with identifying additional budget adjustments to make up the current years deficit. Currently, these total, at a minimum, approximately \$75,000, although the finance committee feels these may trend upward during the final five months of the fiscal year and reductions in excess of \$75,000 are probably warranted.

February Post-Meeting Update:

At January 31st, 2010, operating results a deficit from budgeted amounts in the amount of (\$189,600). Staff has now identified and the Finance Committee has approved **\$153,800** in revisions to the original budget.

Submitted by
David Wagner, Secretary/Treasurer

Exhibit C:

Executive Director's Report

March 8, 2010

USL Portland Timbers – The Timbers have agreed to contribute \$30,000 worth of Nike product (retail value) to OYSA as a first step toward a collaborative elite player development program. Our joint effort will satisfy their obligation with Nike to establish an academy program for elite players and we will be able to offset some ODP and other expenses this fiscal year as a result.

MLS Portland Timbers – A final draft of a “memo of understanding” or “letter of intent” has been forwarded to the Timbers to sign. Once signed by Merit Paulson, we will peruse a more detailed agreement/contract that delineates the shared marketing, programmatic and financial structure of our combined/subcontracted ODP Program/elite player program, which would become effective January, 2011. We remain aligned on most of the programmatic elements of the plan; however some key financial and contractual elements have not yet been determined.

OPL/Premier Council – The structure of the reconfigured Premier Council was agreed to at a meeting facilitated by Mike Smith on Monday, February 8th. Every club head coach and club president with at least one team in Premier Gold, Silver or Division 1 in last year's Fall League was invited to participate. The structure was for three OPL representatives to have membership, three other representatives from other regions of the state (Southern, Central and Eastern, i.e., Rogue Valley FC, Eugene Metro FC and the Oregon Rush, respectively) and one “at large” position appointed by Mike.

The first “meeting” (it was a conference call) was Tuesday, February 23rd, as the coaches from the OPL clubs delayed identifying their representatives to the Council. The primary topic of discussion was whether OYSA was going to sanction an OPL U12 Premier league. It was a short meeting and a follow up was scheduled for Monday, February 29th.

US Youth Soccer Workshop/Convention – Ric and a number of staff attended the US Youth Soccer Workshop and Coaches Convention in Fort Worth, Texas between February 23rd and the 28th. They offered the usual array of coaching and administrative sessions as well as the Leadership Development Symposium (formally the Soccer Learning University) for Executive Directors. In addition, President Larry Monaco held a special meeting of the National Council to consider making the Director at Large position on the council a permanent position. It would have been eliminated if and when US Soccer gained a seat on the Federation Board of Directors. The position was approved and is occupied by John Sutter, President of North Texas.

US Youth Soccer spent over \$365,620 defending the complaint by US Club Soccer. The outcome was very positive and benefits all US Youth Soccer associations. Several club presidents asked the general membership to pay back the reserves used by US Youth Soccer with a one-time, \$.10 per player assessment. This would cost OYSA about \$4,000. No action was taken.

The Annual Awards Dinner honored numerous coaches, administrators and volunteers of the year. Oregon was privileged to have Kimberly Wriggle and Tom Yaeger represent Region IV for Volunteer of the year and Competitive Girl's Coach of the year, respectively. Neither of our candidates won the National Honor, however.

The 2011 workshop will be in Louisville, Kentucky and the 2012 workshop will be in Boston.

There was also a Region IV Council Meeting in Fort Worth. Greg Faulk, former President of Cal South, was elected Treasurer to finish the term of Ken Edmonds, who resigned recently. Johnnie Garza is the new President of Cal North and Pete Zopfi is the new President of Cal South. The next Region IV Meeting will be at the US Youth Soccer National Championships in Overland Park, Kansas in July. We will be electing the Regional Director, Deputy Director and Treasurer at that meeting.

The next Regional Planning Meeting will be in Denver, Colorado in October 2010 and Whitefish, Montana in 2011. We intend to bid on hosting the Planning Meeting in 2012. The bid presentation will be in February, 2011.

Far West Regionals will be in Arizona in June of 2011. They won the bid against Bakersfield, California. The 2010 FWR tournament will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the 2011 FWR tournament will be in Boise, Idaho.

Staff also met with officers of Region IV to discuss plans for the 2010 Regional President's Cup in Medford. The draw for the event was held in Fort Worth and there will be 108 teams participating. The 2011 Regional Presidents Cup will be in Park City, Utah.

The 2010 National President's cup will be in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in July. Next year's Regional Presidents Cup will be in Park City, Utah in early June.

We have a bid pending to host the 2011 National Presidents Cup also in Medford. The US Youth Soccer Board will make a decision on this at their next meeting and we believe we have a very good chance of being selected.

FY 11/10 Budget Adjustments – The decision not to hold a Winter League Qualifying Tournament, a 5% drop in membership and other revenue/expense variances has caused us to continue to assess and adjust this year's budget. At this time we are predicting a \$36,000 year-end deficit.

FY 10/11 Budget – Staff has been working on next year's budget as well. We will almost certainly be making significant changes to our service model as a result of the recent decline in membership/participation as well as potential league changes (such as the elimination of the fall Qualifying Tournament).

Exhibit D:

Member Services Report

March 8, 2010

Club Development

I attended the THJSL Board meeting on 2/2/2010. Clubs in THJSL are concerned about increasing program expenses due to increasing field use charges from THPRD. The board approved an adjustment in referee payments that would base the center referee pay in the U8-U14 ages on the game format (6v6, 8v8, 11v11) rather than on the age of the players. The Board also approved recommending Keith Erickson to OYSA as a possible Tualatin Hills District Representative on the OYSA Board. I have committed to THJSL that I will continue to attend their Board meetings on behalf of OYSA.

One of the groups with which I had discussed the process for forming a club has filed Articles of Incorporation with the Oregon Corporation Division. They have not, however, submitted a formal application for club membership with OYSA.

I have met with the Oregon representative of Pachuca, a Mexican professional soccer club. Their organization is looking at ways to become active with youth soccer in Oregon as part of a youth development program in the United States. I have encouraged them to explore partnership with our existing clubs before trying to start a new club in the Portland metro area. I expect to hear more about their plans in the near future.

Risk Management

US Youth Soccer's Risk Management Committee is releasing a new pamphlet for parents regarding risk management issues in youth soccer. They have also created an electronic "welcome to Youth Soccer" document that can be electronically sent to parents when they register their children. Details of the new documentation will be available soon on the US Youth Soccer and Region IV web sites. US Youth Soccer has entered into an agreement with Backgroundchecks.com naming them the preferred provider of online background checks for US Youth Soccer. The agreement includes availability of background checking services to US Youth Soccer member organizations at the rate of \$3.50/check, with a fixed price guarantee for the next 5 years. Staff will review their services to be sure that we continue to receive the best quality background checking services for our money.

I met with vendors in Fort Worth to research information about the costs of professionally prepared risk management member passes. I will be getting further information soon as we evaluate how best to implement the requirement that all adults with official duties for a club have printed member passes showing risk approval.

At the February, 2010 board meeting the OYSA Board voted to include referees working Oregon Youth Soccer sponsored or sanctioned games to be included in the background checking requirements of Policy 801-1. The Board asked for a revision of the proposed language of Policy 801-1, Section 2. to make clear when referees would be required to comply. A revised version of that Policy is attached which states the effective dates of referee coverage. Staff requests that the Board approve the amendment to Policy 801-1, Section 2.

TOPSoccer

We have two new programs preparing to get started with TOPSoccer programs. Sisters Soccer Club is preparing to begin a program in April. Thank you John O'Sullivan and Oregon Rush for helping get this program organized. Milltown Soccer Club has announced its plans to begin a TOPSoccer program in the fall. They have a program director lined up and are busily preparing all the details to get the program started.

Cascade Futbol Club is looking to extend TOPSoccer in the Salem area to include an outdoor playing component beginning this summer. We will continue to work with them to make sure the new program is ready to begin operations.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

Exhibit E:

Leagues and Tournament Report February, 2010

Submitted by Scott Enyart, Director, Leagues and Tournaments

Winter League:

Winter league has gone well – no weather related cancelations. Tremendous improvement in the league schedules has drawn praise from members. We still have issue with the misplacement of teams in Winter league brackets. A set standard of procedures needs to be adopted.

Region IV President's Cup Regional tournament 2010:

While in Fort Worth for the USYS Coach's convention, I attended the Region IV President's Cup draw and 104 teams are scheduled to visit us in June. A volunteer registration website has been created by Medford Parks and Recreation and they have begun recruiting the 200+ volunteers we are going to need for the event. The event has been expanded by one day with games starting on Wednesday June 16 to accommodate the number of teams.

2011 President's Cup Finals:

OYSA did submit a bid for the 2011 National Finals for the USYS President's Cup. Our bid was well received and we should know by mid March if we have been selected to host.

2010 Oregon State Cup and President's Cup:

Registration deadline is March 9. Staff plans to have schedules out to clubs by March 17 or 18 for approval prior to the start of the Oregon spring break. Semi final and final locations have not been determined at this time.

2010 Fall league:

The Premier council has held two meetings to discuss the league and various other items. No decisions or recommendations have been made at this time. Mike is going to be on vacation for the time being and unavailable to conduct meetings so final decisions will likely need to wait for his return.

Oregon Youth Soccer League Principles

Draft – Developed January 27, 2010

1. Unify competitive and premier soccer in Oregon; play will be under one umbrella and authority. This will ensure that the strongest teams in the state are able to play each other, resulting in the most developmentally effective elite soccer experience for our members.
2. In order to provide a premier league with administration, rules and access that is free from geographic or club conflicts of interest and that is “owned” by and representative of the entire Association membership, OYSA will not sanction any other entity to administer a premier level league in the state of Oregon.
3. U10 and U11 leagues are developmental – neither classic nor premier - therefore OYSA may allow other entities to run U10 and U11 developmental leagues.
4. OYSA’s Premier Advisory Committee, also known as the “Premier Council,” is charged with making recommendations regarding premier league play – OYSA’s Executive Director will establish the Council’s leadership.
5. OYSA establishes all player dues (including premier level players) and approves all Association fees (including league fees). Fees and dues are not the purview of the Premier Council.
6. Regional play reduces travel, time and cost and will be promoted, when possible. Care needs to be taken to balance the level of competition within regions to ensure equal developmental opportunities for all members.
7. OYSA’s sponsored premier leagues are the only “approved” leagues that qualify teams for eligibility for the State Cup, the National Championship Series and the Far West Regional League.

Changes to policy 802 -2 Specific Competition

Current language:

Section 2. State Tournament

A State Tournament will be held annually for the following age groups:

Under 19 Girls Under 19 Boys
Under 18 Girls Under 18 Boys
Under 17 Girls Under 17 Boys
Under 16 Girls Under 16 Boys
Under 15 Girls Under 15 Boys
Under 14 Girls Under 14 Boys
Under 13 Girls Under 13 Boys
Under 12 Girls Under 12 Boys
Under 11 Girls Under 11 Boys

Generally the winners of the U-19, U-18, U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14, U-13 and U-12 ranges will represent OYSA at the USYSA Regional Competition, however OYSA reserves the right to determine its state representative (s) based on other criteria at its sole and absolute discretion. The Director of Program Services is the State Cup Tournament Director

Proposed language:

Section 2. State Tournament(s)

A State *Cup* Tournament will be held annually for the following age groups:

Under 19 Girls Under 19 Boys
Under 18 Girls Under 18 Boys
Under 17 Girls Under 17 Boys
Under 16 Girls Under 16 Boys
Under 15 Girls Under 15 Boys
Under 14 Girls Under 14 Boys
Under 13 Girls Under 13 Boys
Under 12 Girls Under 12 Boys
Under 11 Girls Under 11 Boys

- *Any team playing in OYSA sponsored Premier Leagues is eligible to enter the Oregon State Cup. No other teams are eligible.*
- Generally the winners of the U-19, U-18, U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14, U-13 and U-12 *age groups* will represent OYSA at the *USYS National Championship Series* Regional Competition, however OYSA reserves the right to determine its state representative (s) based on other criteria at its sole and absolute discretion.
- The Director of *Leagues and Tournaments* is the State Cup Tournament Director.

A President's Cup tournament will be held annually for the following age groups:

*Under 19 Girls Under 19 Boys
Under 18 Girls Under 18 Boys
Under 17 Girls Under 17 Boys
Under 16 Girls Under 16 Boys
Under 15 Girls Under 15 Boys
Under 14 Girls Under 14 Boys*

Under 13 Girls Under 13 Boys
Under 12 Girls Under 12 Boys
Under 11 Girls Under 11 Boys

- Any team that plays in an OYSA sponsored or sanctioned league is eligible to participate in the OYSA President's Cup tournament
- Generally the winners of the U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14, and U-13 age groups will represent OYSA at the USYS President's Cup Regional Competition, however OYSA reserves the right to determine its state representative (s) based on other criteria at its sole and absolute discretion.
- The Director of Leagues and Tournaments is the President's Cup Tournament Director.

Rationale:

States are allowed to determine who and how teams become eligible for the state. Staff recommends the addition of the language limiting team eligibility to the OYSA sponsored Premier Leagues. Recreational and lower level competitive teams do not take part in this tournament. All other team eligibility policies are addressed in the NCS policies.

The President's Cup has become a USYS National tournament and authority for the tournament should be included in the policies and it is not currently addressed.

Exhibit H:

Draft – 3/8/10

POLICY 303-3 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Section 1. ~~A principle of inclusion will be applied to the composition of all committees. As such, every club with at least one team in one or more of the categories of play shall have a seat and representation on the respective advisory committee. The actual individual assigned to represent a club shall be determined by the club president.~~

Advisory Committees are formed to help staff identify opportunities and design methodologies to improve the operations and governance of Oregon Youth Soccer's programs, priorities and services. Except as provided for below, the individuals assigned to represent a club shall be determined by the club president. In addition, the President of OYSA shall have the authority to appoint people to the committees.

A. The Premier Advisory Committee shall be called the Premier Council and shall be comprised of a total of eight (8) individuals; seven (7) from OYSA member soccer clubs and the State Technical Director, who shall serve as Chair of the Committee.

1. Three representatives shall be from among the following clubs: Westside Metros Soccer Club, Tualatin Hills United Soccer Club, FC Portland Academy, Oregon Soccer Academy, Lake Oswego Soccer Club, Eastside United F.C.- Classic, Southside Soccer Club, and Portland City United Soccer Club.
2. One representative shall be from each of the following OYSA districts: Southern District, Central Valley District, and Central Eastern District.
3. One representative shall be a Member-at-Large selected by the OYSA

Technical Director.

4. Representatives shall be appointed by agreement of the clubs within the groups they represent, except for the Member-at-Large.

5. The OYSA Technical Director shall appoint the Member-At-Large at his discretion, except that the Member-At-Large shall not be from one of the clubs already represented on the Premier Council.

6. All representatives shall be approved by the representative's Club President, the OYSA Technical Director, the OYSA Executive Director and the OYSA President.

B. The Classic Advisory Committee shall be comprised of one representative from any club with at least one team participating within the previous 12 months in a sanctioned or sponsored OYSA league in which players were selected for teams on the basis of tryouts.

C. The Recreational Advisory Committee shall be comprised of one representative from any club with at least one team participating within the previous 12 months in a sanctioned or sponsored OYSA league in which teams were formed without use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players on the basis of talent or ability.

~~**Section 2.** The committees will help staff identify opportunities and design methodologies to improve the operations and governance of Oregon Youth Soccer's programs, priorities and services.~~

Exhibit I:

Policy – Draft
Alternate Participant Affiliation

Background:

Recently, a request for a new club membership application with OYSA was submitted by a group who was interested in affiliation with OYSA. The primary participation of the players and adults related to this program were for the purpose within OYSA's purpose Bylaw 102. Yet it was not for participants who will be in the range of programs and age levels of the current club supported activities, as in recreation, classic, or premier soccer, known in the existing club structure.

At first look, this appears not to be a true club that has age level ranges and the participants who will be engaged in the widest range of recreational, classic, or premier soccer competitions as would normally be viewed as part of a club affiliated with OYSA.

Review of Bylaws and Policies indicates the following:

1. OYSA Board of Directors has authority to develop Policy that addresses unusual circumstances where participants and adults supporting such activities are not part of the normal full range of programs.
2. Bylaw 102; Bylaw 106 Section 2; several sections of Bylaw 202; Bylaw 301 Section, especially 2f. give the Board authority to make new policy and procedures that address alternative approaches to organizational needs.

3. *Rather than create another club for a narrowly specific program, it might appear better to create an alternative solution.*

Clubs are the normal umbrella under which most all activities in youth soccer are managed and coordinated within OYSA. If for some reason there is a specific program or activity that does not fall under an existing club or region of Oregon, OYSA could create an “administrative support club” (ASC) for housing temporarily participants until such club relationship can be developed and thus not delay player participation for an organizational reason. This would not be used for the normal creation of more full service clubs associated with recreational or classic or premier youth soccer in Oregon.

Every effort should be made to have these unusual participants/groups housed under an existing club structure. Board should require documentation that this effort has taken place both by the participants/groups and OYSA.

Also, a review of each participant/group should take place each year to determine if they could be placed under an existing club or continue in the ASC.

It would take a Board decision on each participant/group of participants to place affiliates in the ASC, plus the annual review of this ASC.

Policy Outline:

Policy 202-X

Scope: Define ASC...participants

Purpose: Temporary housing of participants

Procedure:

Application process...

Fees...

Limited services...

Decision of Approval by Board...

Review for annual continuance...

ASC does not conform or equate to the member clubs as currently noted in Bylaw 202 and related policies...

ASC will be a loosely grouped entity of participants or groups of participants that meet the admittance requirements of the ASC...

[perhaps there is more that needs to be fleshed out on this, but this is basic structure]

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