

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
May 3, 2010
Beaverton, Oregon

Meeting called to order by President, Ric Listella, at 6:39 PM

A quorum was declared by Ric Listella.

Board members attending:

Ric Listella, President
Steve Meckel, District Director (via phone)
Steve Hershberger, District Director
David Wagner, Treasurer & Secretary
Keith Ericson, District Director

Matt Madeira, Vice President
John Cronkrite, Director at Large
Al King, District Director (via phone)
John McCafferty, District Director (via phone)
John Thomas, District Director

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director
Mike Smith, Technical Director

Brian Scott, Member Services Coordinator
Scott Enyart, Leagues & Tournaments Director

Minutes & Reports

- Minutes from April 5, 2010 were amended to show that John Cronkrite attended via phone. They were then approved as modified.
- 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)
 - Leagues & Tournaments' Report (Exhibit E)

Board Discussion Topics

- OPL and Premier League Status
Chuck gave an overview of the meeting with OYSA board members and representatives of the OPL in a last effort to find common ground. Nothing productive came of the meeting.

New Business

- Policy 303 – 3: Advisory Committees modification
 - Motion made and seconded to approve the policy change as presented. After some discussion, "OYSA member" was deleted from the first sentence in section A and "giving due regard to having representation of both the geographic and size diversity of the clubs participating in OYSA sponsored leagues" was added to at the end of #1 in section A. Policy 303-3 was approved as amended.
- Chuck asked the Board for direction on various aspects of Club membership and how to deal with issues that arise when a club does not renew.
- Ric appointed an ad hoc committee (Matt Madeira, Dave Wagner, and John McCafferty) to assist staff with adjustments to the business model.

Old Business

- Club boundaries and 100% compliance issues were not discussed will be submitted at a later date for discussion

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Enyart, Director of Leagues and Tournaments

Exhibit A:

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

1. No disciplinary hearings were held in April.
2. No ORC meeting in April.
3. We are waiting a reply from the Willamette and South Metro districts asking for volunteers to fill the board vacancies for each district.
4. The nomination form for the 2011 OYSA Lifetime Membership Award will be published in the next Goal Lines.

Matt Madeira
Vice President

Executive Director's Report

May 3, 2010

OPL – April 12th, Matt Madeira, Mike Smith and I met with the Executive Committee of the new Mutual Benefit Corporation called the Oregon Premier Council (OPC) that seems to be conducting the business of what was previously known as the Oregon Premier League (OPL). The purpose was to negotiate and explore options to determine if there was any opportunity to salvage a working relationship with them for next season or whether our differences were so great that we would have to go our separate ways.

We had requested that their representatives be decision makers with the authority to bind their organization in the event a compromise could be agreed to. However they began by saying they were only there to listen and that whatever we had to say would be passed on to their board for a decision on April 14th.

We received a hand delivered letter on April 14th informing us that the OPC would be expanding their league and that the eight clubs “associated with” the OPC would not be participating in OYSA leagues for the 2010-2011 “calendar” year.

Two days later we sent an email to 1,100 competitive team coaches and managers – as well as key club personnel throughout the state – informing them of their intent, informing them that in order to play in our State Cup, etc., that teams had to participate in one of OYSA’s approved leagues. The announcement also described the competitiveness of our leagues, our new U12 ODP observation weekend and contrasted our membership organization with the OPC’s mutual benefit structure.

Early the following week we sent a document describing the structure and features of our upcoming Fall League, including the information that only teams that play in our premier league will be eligible for State Cup and the National Championship Series to every family with a competitive player in OYSA’s data base.

Early the week after that we sent a four-page email document to every family in our database describing the history of the current impasse with the OPC, our rationale for not sanctioning the OPL U12 league, the consequences of not being sanctioned by OYSA and a brief overview of who we are and what we do for youth soccer in Oregon. Other emails will follow.

Some non-OPC clubs have announced that they will be participating in the OPC leagues this fall and some have indicated that they will be playing in our leagues. No doubt many will be reconsidering their positions between now and the Fall League Registration Deadline on June 29th.

Staff has been talking with other clubs, the remaining members of the OYSA Premier Council and planning options to make our Fall League as good as it can be given the relative certainty of reduced numbers and the uncertainty of what those numbers will be and what the geographic representation of teams might be.

USL Portland Timbers – There aren't any new developments with the Portland Timbers organization. They appear to be moving forward with their intent to align their youth development program with the OPC rather than OYSA.

OYSA Premier Council – We have removed the OPC members from our Premier Council as it is clearly a conflict of interest to have representatives from a competing organization participate in the design of our leagues. We are in the process of assigning new representation to our Premier Council. A policy amendment is being submitted for the board to update our policies with regard to membership. We remain committed to using the Council as the primary vehicle for developing and assessing issues regarding premier soccer in Oregon.

FY 09/10 Budget – The cost saving adjustments we recently made to the FY 09/10 budget need to be reevaluated as our financial performance is not improving as rapidly as we would like. .

FY 10/11 Budget – The current year budget is the priority, however now that we are certain that the competitive players of eight clubs will not be registering with us next year, the preliminary work we did last month needs to be finalized. It appears we will not be losing all of their recreational players as we anticipated, however we will probably lose additional competitive players as a number of clubs have announced that they will enter their competitive teams in a league other than ours.

Soccer Pacific – We have received an estimate of about \$20,000 for six months for the costs of participating in this new collaborative venture with Washington State Youth Soccer and British Columbia Soccer. The actual costs are hard to predict as the “hard costs” of travel, web development and design as well as operating budgets of the potential projects are not included. The conservative annual budget impact of our participation would be a third of \$50,000, or \$16,000 to \$17,000.

Given the budget impact of another significant membership loss next year, I would be reluctant to commit this amount of money to this initiative at this time. They have expressed a willingness to waive our participation fee for the current year in order for us to continue our participation. I have suggested that the cost be distributed in proportion to each organization's total membership.

It is our turn to host the next Soccer Pacific meeting. It will be the second or third week of September and it might be a great time for some of our board to attend to get a real sense of the chemistry, resources and possibilities of this collaboration.

USL – Super U20 League – I sent an invitation to a number of clubs to see if they were interested in putting a team in the new Northwest Division of the USL U20 league. Nobody from Oregon is able/interested in registering a team for this year's league.

Sporting Goods Sponsorship – We have had a couple of very productive meetings with representatives of a large national sporting goods retailer and will be finalizing a proposal in the next week or two.

Hotel Chain Sponsorship – I have also had several conversations with representatives of a large, premium hotel company. I am reasonably sure we will receive some benefits from this company, even if the primary beneficiaries will be our participating member clubs.

Mia Hamm Soccer Showcase – The date for this exciting fundraising event is confirmed as September 19th – Sunday at the Tualatin Indoor Center. The top 50 fundraisers will be able to play a game with Mia, everybody that raises \$250 or more will be invited to bring a guest and attend a lunch event with Mia and the top 20 fundraisers will be able to sit at Mia's table. Forty percent of the money raised will benefit OYSA and 25% will benefit the Mia Hamm Foundation. The remaining 35% goes to the promoting and organizing company. We should have a co-branded website to direct people to in just a few days.

Applications to Host Region 2012 IV Planning Workshop and 2011 National Presidents Cup – We will be submitting bids to host these events. We already bid on the 2011 National Presidents Cup for Medford, but the National Board extended the deadline in the hopes of receiving a bid for a host venue that is near a National Airport hub. We interpreted this to mean they don't want to go to Medford due to the small airport so we will try to find an appropriate venue near Portland.

Member Services Report

May 3, 2010

Club Development

Hood River Dynamos, 4-H, and Hood River Community Education have reached an agreement to establish a community-wide plan for player development. The Dynamos will register and be responsible for all competitive and DRL level players and teams while recreational players will register with and be the responsibility of the Community Education recreation program. The Dynamos will work with the OYSA coaching department to arrange coaching education opportunities for the recreational coaches. We look forward to working with the Dynamos and hope that within a year all of the Hood River recreational players will be able to come together under the Dynamos umbrella as OYSA registered players.

Three Rivers Soccer is putting the finishing touches on their documentation for club status. When all of the documents have been received and approved they will be set up as a club in our online registration software.

Risk Management

Spring seasons for our member clubs has led to an increase in the number of adults whose risk status must be manually set. There have been no appeals filed to risk management decisions.

We continue to review how best to implement required printing of member passes for adults.

Discipline

Staff is assisting the OYSA Vice-president in arranging a disciplinary hearing for a coach. A hearing is scheduled for May 10, 2010.

TOPSoccer

The TOPSoccer program in Sisters had a successful beginning April 2nd and will continue its first "season" on Fridays, 5-6pm, through May 21st. To the extent possible, they will be running the program outdoors at Sisters Elementary School. They do have access to the gymnasium in case of inclement weather. We have provided T-shirts, pop-up goals, and soccer balls to this new program.

Planning continues for TOPSoccer at the Region IV Presidents Cup in Medford. We have been scheduled for a 2 hour event on Thursday, 6/17/10, that will include activity stations and small-sided game play. The TOPSoccer programs at Rogue Valley Soccer Club and Ashland have committed to participation, although all Oregon programs and Region IV programs are invited.

Eastside United will be running a summer camp for TOPSoccer players June 28-July 1, 2010 at Gradin Sports Park in Gresham. Details of the program and registration information are available on the OYSA website at <http://www.oregonyouthsoccer.org/players/topsoccer.aspx>.

Region IV TOPSoccer Symposium

John Hanna and I attended the Region IV TOPSoccer Symposium hosted by Colorado Youth Soccer on April 9-11 in Denver. Mike Smith also attended and participated as an instructor in the field sessions and the TOPSoccer Coaching Certification course. In addition to the TOPSoccer folks from Region IV, the event was attended by Bob Riggs, National TOPSoccer Chair, Jolene Nielsen, USYS Region IV Director, and Dr. John Thomas, USYS Assistant Director of Coaching. Region II TOPSoccer brought their annual Symposium to Denver to join with the Region IV program. Jim Robson, Region II TOPSoccer Chair was present along with TOPSoccer representatives from Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio North.

The program was excellent. Colorado was able to arrange for outstanding speakers who were able to provide in depth information about some of the specific challenges that many TOPSoccer players will present to our TOPSoccer programs. There was also an outstanding on field demonstration session with players and buddies as well as a TOPSoccer coaching certification course. Materials from the presentations will be made available on the OYSA website.

The 2011 Symposium will be held in Arizona and the 2012 Symposium will be hosted by Cal North. There was a general consensus from the regional and national chairpersons as well as the state association chairpersons present that US Youth Soccer should try to arrange a national symposium to be held in connection with the National Workshop. A possible date for the first national symposium would be in connection with the National Workshop to be held in Region IV in 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

Leagues and Tournament Report

May, 2010

Submitted by Scott Enyart, Director, Leagues and Tournaments

Region IV President's Cup Regional tournament 2010:

Our website and the Region IV website contain complete information on the tournament. Many of the hotels in Medford are full for the tournament dates and we are working with the Medford VCB to add additional hotels.

2011 President's Cup Finals:

Staff continued to pursue the USYS Presidents Cup finals – Medford will not receive the bid. However, with the assistance of Drew Mahalic at Oregon Sports Authority we are preparing a supplemental bid featuring Beaverton and downtown Portland. Due date is April 30.

2010 Oregon State Cup:

Mother Nature decided we had too easy of a time during the Winter league so weather forced the cancelation of games during the first weekend of play. That in turn created a waterfall effect and affected the schedules of many teams. We had one disciplinary issue, involving a coach, that has resulted in a two year suspension from Cup competition.

2010 Fall league:

Our Fall league plan is on the OYSA website and we have communicated with all teams that participated in the 2009 Fall league to describe the league. We are in discussions with District 5 in Washington to add the remainder of their teams to the league. Final decision on that option should come within a week.

2010 FWRL:

Region IV recently announced that they are adding a northern division to the Far West Regional league for Under 14 teams. They launched this new league in the Spring and had teams from Washington, Idaho and Montana participate. We have traditionally had 4 or 5 high school age teams play during the Winter, this is great addition to our offerings.

POLICY 303-3 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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) individuals~~ from OYSA member clubs with a majority of their competitive teams participating in OYSA sponsored competitive leagues within the previous 12 months 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.~~
1. The State Technical Director shall appoint no more than one individual from each eligible club to serve on the Premier Council.

2. All representatives shall be approved by the representative's Club President, 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.