

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
April 6, 2009
Beaverton, Oregon

Meeting called to order by President, Ric Listella, at 6:28 PM

A quorum was declared by Ric Listella.

Board members attending:

Ric Listella, President	Dan Dieter, Vice-President
David Wagner, Treasurer (via phone)	Al King, Director at Large
John Cronkrite, Director at Large	John Thomas, District Director
Steve Meckel, District Director	Matt Madeira, District Director
Dick Matti, District Director (via phone)	

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director	Brian Scott, Member Services Coord.
Kelly Ward, Director Admin	Mike Smith, Technical Director
Scott Enyart, Director Leagues & Tournaments	

The following items were accepted as presented:

- March 2nd Association Minutes
- President's Report- Attached as Exhibit A
- Treasurer's Report- Attached as Exhibit B
- Vice-President's Report- Attached as Exhibit C
- Executive Director's Report- Attached as Exhibit D
- Member Services Report- Attached as Exhibit E
- Program Services Report- Attached as Exhibit F

Board Discussion of Strategic Topics:

- Staff report on Advisory Committee formation and structure
 - The Board discussed Staff's report (Attached as Exhibit G). They discussed that they would like to see the President have the ability to appoint members to committees and that the committees have access to the Board to discuss strategic issues. Staff will incorporate the Boards feedback into the report.
- Principles and Benefits of OYSA Club Membership
 - The Board discussed the report prepared by staff after discussions from National workshops (Attached as Exhibit H).
- Consideration of Eliminating Policy 802-1, 3, F 1 & 2
 - The Board discussed the possibility of eliminating this policy. Options of making this a league rule or giving the Board the ability to grant a waiver to a league was discussed. Ric updated the Board that the National office still "strongly recommends" small sided games, but the vote to mandate it failed just a few months ago. A number of the board expressed the opinion that the Association might want to exercise some flexibility regarding policy 802-1, 3, F, 1 & 2.

New Business

- Board Resignations & Appointments
 - Steve Raye resigned from the Board. The Board accepted his resignation with regrets and thanked him for his service to soccer.
 - John Thomas resigned from the Tualatin Hills District Director position. The Board accepted his resignation.
 - Ric Listella appointed John Thomas to the Central Eastern District Director position. A motion was made to ratify the appointment and passed.

- Matt Madeira was appointed to serve as Ric Listella's proxy on the Oregon Referee Committee.
- Old Policy 404-2, Section 3
 - Chuck provided background that this policy was voted on and approved in October 2007, but it was never added to the policy document. In September 2008 the Board voted to eliminate Policy 404-2 (without this text). A motion was made to reinstate the policy under an appropriate policy, the motion passed.

The next BOD Meeting will be held on May 4, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in Beaverton at the OYSA Office, conference calling will be available.

Ric announced he wanted to go into executive session to discuss some sensitive issues. There being no further regular business, the open meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Ward
Director of Administrative Services

March 28, 2009

To: Oregon Youth Soccer Board of Directors

From: Ric Listella, President

April 2009 Board Report

1. Brian Scott and I attended the Oregon Sports Action Symposium in late February. The symposium brought together representatives of numerous sports organizations in Oregon as well as several past Oregon Olympians. The purpose of the symposium was to develop a vision for what sports in Oregon would look like in 20 years. I'll share a summary when it becomes available.
2. Sunil Gulati and several representatives of the Federation met with State Technical Directors and State Presidents in San Jose at the US Youth Workshop. The Federation is developing a new "Soccer Best Practices" program, which will incorporate small-sided games as well as other game related recommendations. It remains unclear whether the Federation will ultimately mandate small-sided games, however, the presidents that were in attendance were largely in favor of a mandate.
3. A week later the Federation held a Board Meeting and during the course of the meeting, one of the members called for the Federation leadership to develop a position on small-sided game citing over a year of study without an affirmative result. Sunil agreed to present that during the June Federation Board Meeting.
4. At the Federation National Council Meeting, the small-side game policy came up for a vote and it was defeated.
5. Steve Raye has resigned from the Board citing personal reasons and I accepted his resignation.
6. Al King asked me to consider a replacement for him on the Oregon Referee Committee. I spoke with representatives from the ORC and based on their input and prior experience, I've appointed Matt Madeira as my representative on the ORC. Thank You Matt for accepting this assignment.
7. A little over a year ago we approved a policy to recognize individuals having made a positive impact on soccer in Oregon and more specifically, Oregon Youth Soccer. I've asked Matt to chair the committee to select our initial recipients this year for recognition at the upcoming AGM.

Respectfully Submitted

Ric Listella

Finance Committee Meeting
March 23rd, 2009

Review of Fiscal Year June 30th, 2009 Operations through February 2009:

A review of budget vs. actual operating results as of February 29th, 2009 was conducted. The most significant item noted was it appears that membership of recreational players has decreased by up to 5,000 players for the current fiscal year. This item will have to be taken into consideration in preparation of next year's budget.

Activity fees for events are currently higher than budgeted. Kelly Ward will review this area to provide more detail by specific event.

On-line registration is currently under budget by \$59,900. This item is tied to the early payment for online registration made in fiscal year June 30th, 2008, but budgeted for June 30th, 2009.

At this time, staff is not aware of any large or unusual items that may deviate from budgeted amounts for the balance of the current fiscal year.

Address Board Members Questions:

The only questions submitted to the Finance Committee from the previous board meeting were from John Cronkrite. Kelly Ward and Dave Wagner will address and respond to the unanswered questions.

Potential Budget Effects: Leagues and Program Changes:

A discussion was conducted regarding the effect of potential league and program changes on next year's budget. The budget is currently being prepared by each department and any potential operational changes are being addressed in the budget preparation.

Tentative Dates for Budget Meetings:

Meeting dates for reviewing the June 30th, 2010 budget are tentatively scheduled for:

April 21st @ 5:30 p.m.

April 30th @ 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by David Wagner, Secretary/Treasurer

Date: March 28, 2009

To: All Board Members

From: Dan Dieter Vice President, Oregon Youth Soccer Association

Re: Vice President's Report for April 2009 Board Meeting

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

We now have the opportunity to test out our new protest and appeal policy and manual. There are three items of note. One, we received a complaint from David Barlos about not releasing his son from Washington State. Two, we have an upcoming disciplinary hearing against a member of a club. Three, we have a grievance that will require board action. I have attached the portion of the new rules that apply (GPA Manual, Section 5 Grievance Procedures, part(C)) and we as a board will need to decide how to proceed in this case.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

I have two potential appointment candidates that have submitted the necessary forms for appointment. I have attached their background statements to this report. Please read them and let me know if you have any questions. Our bylaws indicate (Bylaw 404 Section 5) that the President appoints directors between election opportunities.

RISK MANAGEMENT

At the current time, there are no cases in the hopper.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Dieter
Vice President

**Executive Director's Report
April, 2009**

New Sponsor – Biokleen has become our newest sponsor. Biokleen makes a variety of effective, non-toxic and environmentally safe household cleaning products. It is a modest sponsorship at this time but we are pleased to add them to the list of valued partners supporting Oregon Youth Soccer.

Major League Soccer –Meritt Paulson, owner of the Portland Timbers, has announced that Portland has been awarded a MLS franchise to be launched in 2011. The new MLS team will be called the Portland Timbers. This is very exciting news and should help generate interest and participation within the youth soccer community. Meetings have been set with Meritt's staff and with our counterparts in Washington and British Columbia to pursue marketing and partnership strategies.

Portland Youth Soccer Association – Recent discussions with representatives from PYSA suggest there may be a possibility that the clubs in the Portland District will stay with OYSA next year. PYSA is seeking to hire a Development Director to work with the clubs in the Portland District; however their current budget does not support this new expense.

Bridlemile Soccer Club has requested consideration of reduced recreational dues to enable them to dual register with PYSA next year. They have a competitive program and all of their players need to be registered with the Federation in order for their competitive players to be eligible to participate in our competitive leagues and tournaments. At this time no specific dollar amount has been suggested.

Leagues and Tournaments –We hosted Far West Regional League games the weekend of March 28/29. Two of our teams, the THUSC Neon and the Eastside Liverpool, have qualified for the FWRL playoffs. If they win, they will qualify for a wild-card spot at the Far West Regional Championships – part of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series.

State Cup and President's Cup will begin on April 11, 2009. President's Cup Finals will be April 26th and State Cup Finals will be May 9th.

We have been approved to host the Region IV Presidents Cup Regional Tournament in June, 2010. Venues are currently being studied and we will announce the site and specific dates soon.

We will be submitting a letter of intent to bid on the new US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup National Championships scheduled to be held in mid-July, 2011.

We will also be submitting a bid to host the Region IV Planning Conference for 2011 or 2012.

Referee Development – We provided referee mentorship/support and Referee Academy training at the Far West Regional League games on March 28/29. National referee Peter Stilling came up from Northern California to help us mentor our referees and ran a classroom session for our Academy referees about his experiences and perspectives as a player, coach and National referee. David Grbavac and Jim Lakehomer also participated in the weekend as did Eduardo Irigoyen, Oregon's only National referee. Congratulations to David Grbavac who was awarded his Grade 4 referee certification last month.

US Youth Soccer Workshop and Coach's Convention – The most significant event at the workshop this year was the rejection (by a slim margin) of the proposed separate US Youth Soccer Referee certification program. There was a fascinating three-hour exchange between Sunil Gulati, President of the US Soccer Federation and all the Presidents, State DOCs and Executive Directors regarding mandating small-sided soccer for all US Soccer Organization Members. Ninety percent of the state associations want SSG mandated and Sunil was adamantly opposed to it – even though the Federation recommends SSG at U12 and younger in their Best Practices Manual.

US Soccer AGM – The most significant event at the AGM this year was the defeat of a policy proposal to mandate Small Sided Soccer at U12 and younger for all Federation Organization Members.

Member Services Report

April 6, 2009

Club Development

Wallowa Valley Soccer Association has been set up in the Affinity system. They have not yet configured the 2009-10 season for registration. The OYSA registrar has been in touch with the club. They will be scheduling training soon and will work with Rhonda to be sure all of the administrative procedures have been met. They have also discussed coaching clinics and player training options with Mike Smith. They plan to schedule activities for this summer.

Risk Management

The pending beginning of spring leagues around the state has led to quite a few new coach/administrator registrations that have required attention. There have been a few risk management actions taken, but none have resulted in appeals.

TOPSoccer

The Region IV TOPSoccer Symposium was in Boise, Idaho April 3-5. John Hanna, Mike Smith and I attended. I will have additional information from the symposium for the next Board report.

We have spring programs beginning at Beaverton, Gresham, Hillsboro, and Medford. The Medford program is in the planning stages of expanding to add at least one additional location. The Gresham program continues to expand and has applied to US Youth Soccer for a grant to assist with continued expansion.

Sue Protz from Eastside United has arranged with the Portland Timbers for a TOPSoccer night at the Timbers on September 13, 2009. TOPSoccer players will have an opportunity to meet the Timbers players before the game and will be featured in a TOPSoccer game at half time. The Timbers are making discounted tickets (\$16 tickets for \$10) available to all TOPSoccer players, their families, and the buddies from our TOPSoccer programs. Additional details are on the TOPSoccer page of our website.

Eastside United will again offer a TOPSoccer summer camp June 29-July 2, 2009, for a registration fee of \$25. The camp provides two sessions each day. Details are on the TOPSoccer page of the OYSA website.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

**Leagues and Tournament Report
March, 2009
Submitted by Scott Enyart, Director, Leagues and Tournaments**

Winter and Spring League

League games end April 5. There will be some make-up games played later in the month when teams are available.

State Cup 2009:

Schedules are posted. Some creative scheduling was needed to accommodate the number of teams we had with the number of available dates. Some games are being played on weeknights and some brackets have had their quarterfinal games moved to May 2 and semi finals to May 3. Finals will be at the Rec Center.

Fred Meyer President's Cup:

With the limited number of teams, scheduling was a difficult so in many cases we have combined age groups for preliminary play and then created a semi final/final by age level. We got a tremendous assist from the Affinity technical staff as they made the schedule program work. Finals will be played at Portland Community College – Rock Creek Campus on April 26.

Fall League revamp:

Mike has been assisting in communicating with clubs and head coach regarding changes to the qualifying tournaments and to the Fall league premier levels. In addition I continue to work with our neighbors to the north to make the Metro league fit into our plans.

Referee Development:

We have had a tremendous response to the class schedule for new referees, most a filling up with a waiting list. New this year, is mandatory training for State Cup referees. We have conduct 14 sessions statewide for referees seeking to be assigned Cup matches. The classes have been well attend and well received by the referees. SYRA Jim Lakehomer, OYSA referee development coordinator Dave Grbavac, OYSA assignor David Brown and Kevin Autio desire a great deal of credit for pulling this off.

There will be an "academy" type program for the referees for the semi finals and finals of the State Cup. We are trying to secure a National instructor to come in and do the trainings and mentoring.

Region IV President's Cup Regional tournament 2010 –

I had the opportunity to spend 2 days in Medford doing a site visit with the visitor's association and the folks from Medford Parks and Recreation. US Cellular Park is a tremendous new facility in the area and will be a tremendous asset to their community.

I will also be looking at the CFC facility in Salem and Crystal Lake in Corvallis as alternatives.

**Oregon Youth Soccer
Proposed Advisory Committee Structure
March, 2009**

- Overview:** The Bylaws require the establishment of three standing advisory committees, specifically, the Premier, the Competitive and the Recreational Advisory Committees. The Bylaws are silent on how these committees are formed and what their composition and function will be.
- General:** Advisory Committees are, by definition, advisory. As such they have no authority to directly change operational procedure, programmatic priorities or policy considerations of the Association. However, member/customer input and council on these matters is critical to effective service delivery and customer satisfaction. Effective attendance and participation on these committees, as well as our ability to listen and implement ideas that emerge from them, is essential to the continued enhancement of the operations and governance of Oregon Youth Soccer.
- Inclusion:** 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.
- Confirmation:** The Advisory Committees are advisory to the Executive Director as stipulated in the Bylaws. As such, all individuals assigned by clubs to their respective committees shall be approved by and serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director.
- Function:** 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, especially related to specific categories/levels of play that they represent. This would include sponsored and sanctioned league and tournament rules, regulations and structures as well as coaching and referee development considerations. Virtually anything related to the design and operation of activities associated with our Premier, Competitive and Recreational constituencies.

It is also anticipated that on policy and/or Bylaw proposals would occasion emerge from discussions within the advisory committees. Staff would bring such proposals and recommendations to the board of directors for consideration.

Proposed Directions for OYSA

Section 1. Membership:

- " Take steps in policy, application forms, and procedures to enforce OYSA Bylaw 202, Section 5 which states that, "Every player, coach, assistant coach, team manager, programs administrator, club officer, including all board members and club employees, must be registered with a member club and OYSA."
 - Member clubs would be required to meet this standard to remain as a member of the Association.
 - Enforcing this Bylaw can be done without violating USSF Bylaw and Policy so long as "non-member" clubs are allowed to enter teams into OYSA leagues and tournaments, except for USYSA events, such as the National Championship Series and Presidents Cup.

- " Adopt an OYSA Code of Ethics and make it applicable to member clubs so that all individuals and member organizations are subject to its rules.
 - Provisions of the Code of Ethics would include Conflicts of Interest provisions that make :
 - # working for an organization in competition with OYSA a conflict
 - # serving on the board of an organization whose goals compete with or are in conflict with OYSA's goals a conflict.
 - Violation of the Code of Ethics would be a basis for disciplinary action which could include expulsion from membership.

- " Apply meaningful limitations on the benefits available to "non-member" clubs that want to play in OYSA competitions, but do not want to register all of their players with OYSA. Such limitations would include:
 - Not able to participate in the governance of the Association, including advisory committees and the AGM;
 - Not eligible for club liability insurance or club D&O insurance;
 - Club's coaches not eligible to officially represent OYSA as ODP coaches or coaching department instructional staff;
 - Not eligible for sanctioning of leagues that would involve participation of teams from OYSA members;
 - Not eligible for tournament sanctioning to allow participation by OYSA member club teams or teams from other state associations;
 - Teams that do play in OYSA competition not eligible to participate in USYSA member competition such as:
 - # National Championship Series
 - # Presidents Cup
 - # Farwest Regional League

- Club would not be eligible for free coaching clinics or player development clinics
- Club's coaches would not be eligible for participation in OYSA coaching clinics, except by paying an additional non-member participation fee
- Club would receive background checks only on the adults who actually participate in OYSA programs
- Club would not be eligible for assistance with dispute resolution
- Club would not be eligible for any club services assistance

! **OYSA Policies:**

Revise to move operational details to staff maintained manuals in the following areas:

- " Club Membership
 - Some details from policy move
 - Additional details and forms are provided

- " League and Tournament Sanctioning
 - Team formation details move
 - Sanctioning guidelines are provided
 - Forms are provide for league and tournament sanctioning applications
 - Rules of competition are provided both for OYSA sponsored and recommendations for sanctioned leagues

- " Registration Operations
 - Details for rules of eligibility, transfer, etc.
 - Forms provided and directions to online forms

- " Discipline
 - Details for handling referee related matters from USSF
 - Details for handling disciplinary matters coming from sponsored leagues and tournaments
 - Connect with GPA manual to cover all parts of discipline

! **Drafts:**

Currently completed:

- " Code of Ethics
- " Club Membership
- " League Host Application