

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
August 4th, 2008
Beaverton, Oregon

1. Meeting called to order by President, Ric Listella, at 6:35 PM

2. A quorum was declared by Ric Listella, a sign in sheet was distributed.

Board members attending:

Ric Listella, President	Dan Dieter, Vice-President
David Wagner, Secretary/Treasurer	Matt Madeira, District Director
Al King, Director via Phone	John Cronkrite, Director via phone
Steve Asakawa, District Director	Steve Meckel, District Director
Dick Matti, District Director via Phone	

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director	Brian Scott, Member Serv. Director
Scott Enyart, Director Program Services	Girma Zewdie, Parent

3. Consent Agenda:

A motion was made and passed to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Board Minutes from June Regular & Special Board Meeting.
- Board Minutes from July.

4. The following Board and Staff Reports were accepted as presented:

- 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- Exhibit D

4. Board Discussion of Strategic Topics:

- Bylaw Changes for the AGM
 - Any proposed bylaw changes should be ready for review at the October board meeting.
- Funding/Fee Changes
 - A discussion was held concerning the planning process for the 2009-2010 OYSA fiscal year.
 - The Finance Committee will be meeting during August & September to begin discussions on any funding & fee changes for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

5. New Business

- Town Halls
 - In light of not holding a Soccer Summit this year, it was discussed whether town halls should be scheduled.
 - The general consensus was that it would be beneficial to schedule up to three town halls in October, one potential topic would be the 2009-2010 operating budget.
- Standing Rules for Board Meetings
 - A committee was formed (Staff and Matt Madeira) to develop procedures for participation of the public at board meetings.
- Bandon Youth Soccer Club
 - A motion was made and passed to accept the application for membership from the Bandon Youth Soccer Club.

6. Old Business

- OYSA Policies
 - A motion was made and passed to approve OYSA Policy 802-1, Section 5, B, 4.
 - A motion was made and passed to amend the wording of OYSA Policy 802-1, Section 5, A, 2, Item 1.
 - A motion was made and passed to modify the wording of OYSA Policies 802-1, Section 2, D and Policy 802-1, Section 5, A, 2. The modification was to make the two policies consistent with one another.
- Updates
 - Scott Enyart provided the board with updates on the implementation of online registration (Affinity contract) and the U-11 fall league.

The September BOD Meeting will be held on September 8th, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in Beaverton at the OYSA Office, conference calling will be available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer

Exhibit A:

Date: July 27, 2008

To: All Board Members

From: Dan Dieter
Vice President, Oregon Youth Soccer Association

Re: Vice President's Report for August Board Meeting

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

As of this writing, appeals filed by Westside Metros have not proceeded past the US Youth Soccer Board of Directors. As an organization, we need to find closure for this case.

I am still attempting to rewrite our Protest and Appeal policy using a model from New Mexico. I have planned to meet with Brian Scott this coming week, and we hope to get this policy into a final draft. I will forward the next draft in an effort to get this on the September agenda. Please let me know if you have any questions.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

We have several board members nearing the end of their terms. If any of you have additional names for prospective board members, please let me know.

RISK MANAGEMENT

There were two appeals that resulted in hearings last week. One was overturned, and one was upheld. Brian Scott and I will also be looking at Risk Management Policy 801-1 in an effort to make it reflective of current conventions.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Dieter
Vice President
Oregon Youth Soccer Association
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503-453-6761(C)
teamdieter@centurytel.net

Exhibit B:

Executive Director's Report August 4, 2008

Apparel and Equipment Sponsorship – I am pleased to announce that while Nike's Sports Marketing Department has declined to continue to sponsor OYSA, we have entered into an agreement with Nike Club, another department of Nike, to support our Olympic Development Program (ODP). The overall value of the agreement is comparable in value to our past arrangement but significantly reduces our marketing obligations outside of ODP. Nike is our official partner and supplier.

New Sponsor – Estate Solutions - is an independent financial services agency that specializes in home and auto insurance. In addition to direct financial support to OYSA as a sponsor, they will provide discounted insurance to our members and a financial donation to the member's club when a policy is purchased.

US Youth Soccer Annual General Meeting – Ric and I attended the US Youth Soccer AGM in Little Rock, Arkansas last month. Larry Monaco was re-elected as President and Tony Buiniskis was re-elected as Secretary. David Messersmith completed his last term on the board as Past President – he had served for 10 years on the board. The FY 08/09 budget was passed and a number of bylaws, policies and resolutions were considered; the most noteworthy being a proposal to establish a National Referee Program under US Youth Soccer.

The referee proposal was referred back to the Board of Directors with the requirement that they more fully describe the program and that information about how it would be funded and administered be presented again next year.

US Youth Soccer National Championships – These were also in Little Rock prior to and during the US Youth Soccer AGM. The most interesting aspect of the National Championships this year was that Region IV only had 6 teams in the finals. Cal South, which typically dominates at Nationals, did not deliver a single champion. North Texas, from Region III, had 9 teams in the finals and 7 champions. North Texas does not have any US Soccer Developmental Academy Clubs so the speculation is that they retained their best players while Cal South and other traditionally strong states were negatively affected by Academy Clubs competing for elite players.

Two other interesting observations are that the US Youth Soccer National League, which provides access to the National Championship Finals, produced 7 teams that made it to the finals and that 3 of the 4 teams in the U16 and U18 divisions came from teams linked to MLS franchises.

Region IV Council Meeting – Ric and I also attended the Region IV Council/Annual General Meeting in Little Rock. Jolene Nielsen was re-elected as Region IV Director and Brent Mangus was re-elected as a Deputy Director. The most notable subject was the new Region IV Director's Cup – similar to Far West Regionals for "mid-tier" level U14 to U17 teams. The first Director's Cup was actually held this year, however only states with less than 30,000 players were eligible to participate. All states will be eligible to participate in 2009. Each state can determine how their teams qualify. We have decided that our President Cup Champions/finalists will be provided the option to represent Oregon in 2009. We will probably have to increase the entry fee for President's Cup by \$50 or \$60 to provide the revenue for the estimated \$450/team entry fee. We will also need to send referees.

ODP Camps – We set a new Oregon record with the number of ODP players selected to the Regional Pool with 36 this year (27 girls and 15 boys). This is up from 8 in 2003! We are ranked number four in the Region after Cal South, Cal North and Colorado. We have 9 more players in the pool than the fifth ranked state, Washington, and they have twice the number of registered members as we do. Congratulations to Erik Lyslo, our ODP Coordinator, our ODP Coaches, our clubs and, of course, all of our players who worked so hard to develop their skills.

Exhibit C:

Member Services Report

August 4, 2008

Club Development

4-H Soccer League

The 4-H group's future as an independent club is currently on hold. I am waiting for further information from 4-H and the Dynamos on the results of any further meetings.

Bandon

The person managing the effort to create a club in Bandon has not replied to messages left with her this past month. It does not appear that the group will be able to complete organizing in time to register teams for the fall 2008 season.

Wallowa County

I have been in contact with Sophia Millar about the effort to create a club. The group did meet and agreed that they do want to become a club, they are not, however, able to have everything completed in time for board action prior to the start of the fall season. They have decided to take a little more time over the next few months to get all of the documentation completed. Their current target is to submit an application for membership this winter so that they will be completely ready to begin registration for the 2009-2010 season before the end of the school year in spring 2009.

The group has inquired about hosting one or more coaching clinics. We are in discussions with them about dates and pricing for that since they are not yet members of the Association.

Club Services

Risk Management

Changes in the availability of the CRIS site for submitting background disclosures seems to have had the desired effect of prompting coaches and club administrators to complete applications in the Affinity database. As of 7/25/08 we have 3,750 administrators registered in Affinity, with the vast majority having their risk status approved without the need for any human intervention. We anticipate a large number of additional registrations in the next month as the recreational programs complete their registrations

TOPSoccer

OYSA, Eastside United, and the Portland Timbers are working to put on a TOPSoccer night at the Timbers at a Timbers home game in September. Part of the festivities would include having TOPSoccer players hold a scrimmage at half-time. Discounted tickets are being made available to TOPSoccer players and their families by the Timbers.

Coaching Education

We have presented 38 courses in the 2008 calendar year and currently have another 53 booked through September 3rd. We continue to receive requests for additional clinics this summer. We have not yet had a clinic request that will be affected by the new fee schedule that took effect for clinics booked after July 1st.

We plan on presenting a D License course in Grants Pass August 9-10 and August 15-17. This course is available for registration through our website.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

Exhibit D:

Program Services Report

July 2008

Submitted by Scott Enyart, Director, Program Services

2008/09 competitive season:

August 8 is the start of the competitive season with the qualifying tournament. 227 teams will be playing games in Canby, Corvallis, Keizer, Hillsboro and Beaverton. Staff was able to secure club hosts this year which should be helpful.

Referees might be a concern as we are out of the metro area for many games, although the volume of games should convince most referees to at least attempt to assist us.

Referees:

We continue to emphasis referee development and a number of meetings were held last month. Patrick Duffy, state referee administrator, Kevin Watts, ORC coordinator and David Gravbac OYSA referee coordinator are assisting us with the process

Winter League 08/09:

I sent a proposal to all clubs asking for input regarding the Winter league and how we might make it better. Clubs had until August 1 to respond. The responses have been all over the map from "how dare you!" to "let's try this instead." I will be making a final document available to everyone by mid August.

State Cup 2009:

Our entire state cup will be played during the months of April and May. I have requested additional field time from THPRD so that I can move the finals to a later weekend. That has not be received well but we continue to talk. My idea is for us to have a soccer weekend: Saturday – semi final and Sunday – finals. It opens up a tremendous number of opportunities for additional functions to be held.

Kohl's American Cup finals:

We have been informed by the national office that the Kohl's interactive truck will be at our finals on Oct 19th at the Rec Center. Games and give aways, Kohl's staffers to assist. In addition, national sponsor Liberty Mutual will be setting up a tent. Announcements will be going out to the recreational community shortly announcing the Kohl's Cup and the information about the finals.

Exhibit E:

Memo:

To : OYSA Board of Directors
From: Chuck Keers, Executive Director
Date: August 4, 2008
Subject: Definition of a Competitive Team

At the Board Meeting on June 9, 2008, staff was directed to modify the wording Policy 802-1, Sections 2, D and Policy 802-1, Section 5, A, 2 so they are consistent with each other.

Staff proposes the following:

POLICY 802-1 TEAM FORMATION

Section 2. Definitions

- A. Registration – The signing of intent to play the sport of soccer and the paying of fees to become a member of Oregon Youth Soccer Association (OYSA) through a member club.
- B. Rostering – Assignment of a registered player to a team.
- C. Recreation Team – The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited.
- D. Classic or Competitive Team – A team formed on the basis of player ability or talent as determined through the use of a tryouts that is publically advertised and open to any eligible player who wishes to participate. ~~invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team the basis of talent or ability is permitted. Refer to Policy 802-1, Section 5.~~

Section 5. OYSA Sponsored League and Tournament Policies

- A. These policies apply specifically to teams formed for entry into OYSA sponsored competition.
 - ~~1. To be considered a recreational team, the team must be formed without the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players on the basis of talent or ability. —~~
 - ~~2. To be considered a Classic team, the team must be formed through a tryout. This tryout must be publicly advertised and open to any eligible player who wishes to participate.~~
 - 1. Select teams are not eligible to participate in State Cup or OYSA sanctioned leagues.
 - 2. Any team comprised of any players that have been informed by an agent of a club that they need not attend tryouts to make the team shall be considered a select team.

Exhibit F:

Memo:

To : OYSA Board of Directors

From: Chuck Keers, Executive Director

Date: August 4, 2008

Subject: Staff Recommendations Re: U10's playing up (OYSA Policy 802-1, Section 5, B, 4.)

At the June 2, 2008 Board Meeting, there was a request to allow an exception to OYSA's policy of restricting U10 players from playing up more than one year. The board asked staff to collect more information and bring back a recommended policy change.

OYSA's Head Coach, Jimmy Conway, subsequently observed the young man in question, Kirubel Zewdie, and strongly advises that he be allowed to play at the U12 level.

The current edition of Best Practices for Coaching Soccer in the United States, published by the US Soccer Federation, addresses the question of playing up:

"The majority of clubs, leagues and district, state or regional Olympic Development Programs in the United States allow talented, younger players to compete on teams with and against older players. This occurs as a natural part of the development process and is consistent throughout the world. Currently, there are isolated instances where rules or policies have been imposed that restrict the exceptional player from "playing up." These rules regarding this issue vary. Some absolutely will not allow it. Others establish team or age-group quotas while the most lenient review the issue on a case-by-case basis.

Associations that create rules restricting an individual player's option to play at the appropriate competitive level are in effect impeding that player's opportunity for growth. For development to occur, all players must be exposed to levels of competition commensurate with their skills and must be challenged constantly in training and games in order to aspire to higher levels of play and thus maintain their interest and passion for the game."

Further, the Best Practices manual recommends, "When it is appropriate for soccer development, the opportunity for the exceptional player to play with older players must be available. ...the decision must be carefully evaluated by coaches and administrators familiar with the particular player."

Staff notes that there is no such restriction in existing OYSA policy regarding any aged player playing up in the recreational arena. In addition, there are no similar restrictions at any other age level within the competitive arena. It seems reasonable, therefore to, at the very least; allow limited exceptions to Policy 802-1, Section 5, B, 4.

Staff therefore recommends the following modification:

Approved 09/09/2008

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U10 players may not play up more than one age bracket in OYSA sponsored competitive/classic competitions without the express written permission from the player's parent (s) and/or guardian (s) and the State Head Coach and/or Technical Director.