

Oregon Youth Soccer Association
Regular Board Meeting
December 3rd, 2007
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	Rick Puckett, District Director
Al King, Director	John Cronkrite, Director via phone
Steve Asakawa, District Director	Steve Meckel, District Director

Others attending:

Chuck Keers, Executive Director	Brian Scott, Member Services Director
Scott Enyart, Director Program Services	

3. Consent Agenda:

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

- Board Minutes from November 5th, 2007.
- President's Report- Attached as Exhibit A
- Vice-President's Report- Attached as Exhibit B
- Executive Director's Report- Attached as Exhibit C
- Club Services Report- Attached as Exhibit D
- Program Services Report- Exhibit E

4. Board Discussion of Strategic Topics:

- Strategic Plan Update
 - The two top "strategies" as voted on by board members were a:) improving club resources and support, and b:) Improving the consistency and operations of the State office systems and departments.
 - Chuck Keers will have a draft plan available for review in two weeks.
- Online Systems Update
 - Eight vendors submitted proposals for online systems.
 - Three vendors were selected to provide demonstrations of their product to the online registration committee.
 - The online system should handle items such as registration, scheduling, rosters, referee assignments, etc.

5. New Business

- AGM- Club Submission of Policy or Bylaw Changes
 - Two clubs have submitted changes with respect to the current policy for U-10 players playing up.
 - Southside Soccer Club- This proposed policy would not allow for U-10 players to play up at the U-11 age group. No reason was provided with respect to why the current policy should be changed. A copy of the proposed policy change is attached as Exhibit F.
 - Portland City United- This proposed policy would allow for unlimited U-10 players to play up at the U-11 age group. A copy of the proposed policy change and rationale for the change is attached as Exhibit G.

6. Old Business

- Update on Referee Committee Meeting
 - The committee discussed ways which the State association may positively affect referee attendance.
 - The referee committee will be a panel at the AGM.
 - Al King recommended that more comprehensive notes from the meetings be provided to the OYSA board.
- Board Member Applications.
 - Ric Listella made a recommendation that Dick Matti be appointed as the Southern Oregon District Director.
 - A motion was made and passed to accept Dick Matti as the Southern Oregon District Director.
 - Blake Ironside is still under consideration for several other vacant board positions.
- State Youth Referee Administrator (SYRA)
 - Ric Listella appointed Jim Lakehomer as the new SYRA. The SYRA will be a two-year appointment beginning in 2008.

The January BOD Meeting will be held on January 7th, 2008 at 6:30 in Beaverton at the OYSA Office, conference calling will be available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer

Exhibit A:

December 2007 President's Report

To: OYSA Board of Directors

From: Ric Listella

1. On Tuesday November 6th we attended the THJSL Town Hall Meeting. Meeting topics centered around referee training, the ORC, our online registration system development, and competing soccer clubs.
2. Dan and I have been busy working to find Board Members to fill vacant positions. Dan is working on the Central/Eastern Oregon District with Bryan Daines and I've been contacting the Presidents of the Willamette District.
3. I participated in a conference call November 15th with the Presidents and Officers of USYSA Region IV. USYSA is considering adding a U20 or U23 age group and doing away with the U19 age group. U19 is difficult to fill with players, so moving the age group up would allow the remaining U19's to play up to U20 or U23 and allow USYSA to have a more robust league. The Region is continuing to develop a policy to deal with adverse environmental conditions, specifically to deal with turf fields and extremely hot turf conditions. USYSA is considering re-establishing the Director's Cup, which is a mid-level tournament where the region would establish a set of criteria for teams to advance from state league play to the tournament. The Director's Cup would be meant to offer an alternative to the Far West Regional Tournament for teams from states that are largely unable to effectively compete in the Far West Regionals.
4. I spent Sunday November 18th at the President's Cup Finals and presented awards to the teams. The weather was wet and cold, but everyone had a great time and we watched some really good soccer.
5. US Youth Soccer presented a proposed policy on small-sided games to the US Soccer Federation on Monday November 19th. The proposal is based on the Federation's Best Practices document and Rule 303 of our Players and Playing Rules Policy. The proposal was referred to the Federation's Technical Committee for consideration and report.

Exhibit B:

Date: November 27, 2007

To: All Board Members

From: Dan Dieter
Vice President

Re: Vice President's Report for December Board Meeting

GRIEVANCE, PROTEST AND APPEAL PROGRAM

There is currently only one issue that I am aware of in the hopper. It involves boundaries and we have been aware of the complaint since September. We are still in the process of gathering information, reviewing our policies and trying to determine if the issue is even one that would require us to hold a hearing.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Ric Listella will be making an announcement about the two candidates Dr. Dick Matti, and Blake Ironside soon. Both candidates have returned the necessary information to OYSA. I have also contacted Bryan Daines about his upcoming district (Eastern / Central) election. Bryan said that he was not planning on running for reelection, and that he would try to supply a few names for potential candidates.

RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

There are currently no issues in the hopper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Dieter
Vice President

Exhibit C:

Executive Director's Report December 3, 2007

West Coast Bank Sponsorship – I am pleased to announce that on January 1, 2008 West Coast Bank will become the new official bank of Oregon Youth Soccer. It is three year commitment on terms that are more favorable than those of our previous financial institution. They will sponsor the summer player clinics that we have provided for the past ten years and also continue to support ODP with two \$500 player scholarships during our annual Awards Dinner.

Unique Donations - We received a \$210 donation from the Willamette United Pinto 16, a U13 Boy's team in the name of Dean Pinto, Barry Larsen and Jeff Phillis for our TOPSoccer Programs.

The Oregon Premier Soccer League has also adopted our Soccer Start Program as the recipient of funds raised through admission fees from their Finals.

Strategic Plan – I used the board feedback following last month's meeting to guide a further revision of the plan. Staff has contributed to the process of refining the projects and activities and identifying tasks as well as benchmarks and measurements of success that can be directly assigned and monitored.

Premier Council – I sent an e-mail to the coaches and the Presidents of the clubs that comprise the Premier Council expressing concern that they were not meeting with staff to work through the details of the proposals that they made earlier in the year. Further, a number of the Council Members recently expressed interest in delaying or significantly modifying the model that they had originally proposed.

National Youth License – I attended a National Youth License course in Frisco Texas last month by special invitation of Jim Cosgrove, Executive Director of US Youth Soccer and Sam Snow, Director of Coaching Education.

Ad Hoc Committee on Referee Issues – The committee that was formed following the joint ORC, OYSA Board of Directors Meeting in October met in early November. We discussed a number of ideas that might be employed to improve the number of and the training of the referees that service our games. The Committee confirmed and refined the activities identified in our draft strategic plan involving the establishment of a Referee Coordinator position to provide positive feedback and constructive criticism to the referees who work our games, expand our current Referee Academy and Mentorship Program and to work with our clubs and the Oregon Referee Committee to help recruit, market and train referees, particularly in our most underserved communities. The Committee also supported plans to assess/modify our staffing structure and allocation of resources dedicated to referee assignments – particularly for the fall season.

THJSL Town Hall – Ric, Dan, Brian and I attended the Tualatin Hills Town Hall which was hosted by the Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League. One of the key issues for them was the difficulty of obtaining referees for their recreational league and how hard it was to get the Oregon Referee Committee to return calls and hold certification classes. We shared recent efforts to work with the ORC to help organize and

market referee certification classes and offered to help coordinate classes for their clubs. We also discussed the collaborative efforts regarding last year's coaching clinics and how we can improve attendance next year. There were also some questions about our new on line risk management process, our plans to implement a state-wide on line registration system and some opinions expressed about the positions and proposals of the Premier Council. It was a very positive meeting.

Exhibit D:

Member Services Report

November 26, 2007

Club Development

Newberg SA

I met with Don Swan, president of Newberg SA, about strategies to use their "soccer in the park" program to add new members to their club and to OYSA. He will be submitting a proposal to OYSA in the near future outlining how their program would fit with Soccer Start to develop new members. We will continue to work with him on coaching clinics and club development.

Club Services

Risk Management

Online background checks went live on November 1st. Club presidents and registrars were sent email notice of the new program by OYSA. CRIS sent user IDs and passwords to allow access to the registrar's section of the CRIS website to those presidents and registrars for whom we had valid email addresses. We will be contacting the remaining presidents and registrars about the program and encouraging them to establish email addresses to allow use of the new program.

I have received only a handful of questions about the program since the announcement. Reaction has been nearly universally positive. We will be presenting a workshop on the new system at the AGM.

TOPSoccer

All of our TOPSoccer programs are on a bit of a hiatus at the present time. I anticipate that activity will pick up after the first of the year. We are planning to present a workshop at the AGM that will preview the new TOPSoccer coaching course developed by USYS.

Coaching Clinics

We have scheduled an E License to be presented in Medford in February of 2008. We are working with RVSC on a D License. We have had several inquiries about coaching clinics for the coming year. I anticipate that our clinic season will be a very busy one. We anticipate hosting at least one additional D License course in the Portland area this year. We are targeting June 6-9 and June 13-15 for that course. We have submitted an application to US Soccer to host a C License course in 2008. We consulted with Dave Schumacher of Washington Youth Soccer to establish a compatible date that would potentially allow both Oregon and Washington to host C License courses in 2008. Washington will be applying for a course in June. We have applied to host a course March 8-16 at the University of Portland campus. The University of Portland has offered use of their facilities at that time as they will be taking their spring break that week. We have not yet received a response from US Soccer to our application.

We have received tentative approval from US Youth Soccer to host a National Youth Module Instructor course in 2008. The dates will be June 23-28. We do not have a site secured yet, but we are hoping to be

able to secure space at the Tualatin Hills Rec Center. THPRD has informed us that they will not begin allocating fields for spring through fall of 2008 until after January 1. We do not anticipate any significant problems in securing appropriate space for the Y License course well before the scheduled dates.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scott
Member Services Coordinator

Exhibit E:

Program Services
November Board Report
Submitted by Scott Enyart

League play: Our Fall competitive and recreational leagues have completed play. League champion award medals are being sent out to teams that won their divisions.

Fred Meyer President's Cup: A wet and chilly Sunday finals failed to dampen what was a very competitive tournament. Thanks to the staff and Ric Listella for braving the elements to the benefit of the members.

State Cup: The preliminary rounds of the U11 through U14 tournament are complete. Next step is the Spring quarterfinals for these age groups and the full event for the U15 through U18 age groups

Online registration: We received a number of responses to our request for proposal for a state system.

Kohl's Cup: Just a quick follow-up. The National office has been in touch and wanted to confirm our dates so that they could schedule their Kohl's truck. This interactive exhibit is a great feature that we are excited to add to the event.

Referees: staff has developed a schedule of classes to be held at our offices, the next step is to begin identifying areas where we can hold classes in conjunction with our clubs and leagues.

Staff is currently meeting to develop our 2008 Fall leagues and tournaments, our target is to be able to have a document available at the AGM.

Exhibit F:

Submitted by Southside Soccer Club

CURRENT POLICY

802-1 Team Formation
Section 5 Classic Policies
D. Process

1. A club may allow a maximum of 20% of a U11 team to consist of U10 players. This includes U10 players playing on OYSA sponsored U11 league and tournament play. A club should only do this when it is in the best interest of the player. The following table can be used to determine the Maximum number of U10 players on each team according to their size:

<u>U11 Team Size</u>	<u>Max # of U10 players</u>
9 and below =	1
10-14 =	2
15-18 =	3

2. There are no playing up restrictions for U11 or older players but note that OYSA recommends that they play in age groups most appropriate for their physical size and skill level.

Note: If a team loses one or more members during the season, such that the number of players playing up is now more than the 20% maximum, the younger players' status is unaffected and they can still play and participate in league and tournament events etc. If this team adds players to its roster, it cannot add younger players unless conditions of D. 1 above have been met.

AMENDED POLICY

802-1 Team Formation
Section 5 Classic Policies
D. Process

1. A club may not allow a ~~maximum of 20%~~ of a U11 team to have any ~~consist of~~ U10 players. This includes U10 players playing on OYSA sponsored U11 leagues and tournament play. ~~A club should only do this when it is in the best interest of the player. The following table can be used to determine the Maximum number of U10 players on each team according to their size:~~

<u>U11 Team Size</u>	<u>Max # of U10 players</u>
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2. There are no playing up restrictions for U11 or older players but note that OYSA recommends that they play in age groups most appropriate for their physical size and skill level.

~~**Note:** If a team loses one or more members during the season, such that the number of players playing up is now more than the 20% maximum, the younger players' status is unaffected and they can still play and participate in league and tournament events etc. If this team adds players to its roster, it cannot add younger players unless conditions of D. 1 above have been met.~~

Exhibit G:

Submitted by Portland City United

Current Policy

802-1 Team Formation

Section 5. Classic Policies

A. These policies apply specifically to teams formed for entry into OYSA sponsored competition.

B. To be considered a Classic team, the team must be formed through a competitive tryout. This tryout must be publicly published and open to any player who wishes to participate.

1. Classic teams formed without the benefit of a tryout are considered select teams and are not eligible for State Cup Competition.

2. Any team that informs the prior year's players that they need not attend tryouts to make the team shall be considered a select team.

C. Clubs may not require a player to play above his/her nominal age group.

D. Process

1. A club may allow a maximum of 20% of a U11 team to consist of U10 players. This includes U10 players playing on OYSA sponsored U11 league and tournament play. A club should only do this when it is in the best interest of the player. The following table can be used to determine the Maximum number of U10 players on each team according to their size:

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Note: If a team loses one or more members during the season, such that the number of players playing up is now more than the 20% maximum, the younger players' status is unaffected and they can still play and participate in league and tournament events etc. If this team adds players to its roster, it cannot add younger players unless conditions of D. 1 above have been met.

Proposed Policy

802-1 Team Formation

Section 5. Classic Policies: Playing Up

~~A. These policies apply specifically to teams formed for entry into OYSA sponsored competition.~~

~~B. To be considered a Classic team, the team must be formed through a competitive tryout. This tryout must be publicly published and open to any player who wishes to participate.~~

~~1. Classic teams formed without the benefit of a tryout are considered select teams and are not eligible for State Cup Competition.~~

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Note: If a team loses one or more members during the season, such that the number of players playing up is now more than the 20% maximum, the younger players' status is unaffected and they can still play and participate in league and tournament events etc. If this team adds players to its roster, it cannot add younger players unless conditions of D. 1 above have been met.

When appropriate for soccer development, the opportunity for the exceptional player to play with older players must be available. If there is a concern regarding the individual situation, the decision must be carefully evaluated by coaches and administrators familiar with the particular player. When faced with making the decision whether a player ought to play up, adult leadership must be prepared with sound rationale to support their decision. Under no circumstance should coaches exploit the situation by holding players back in their quest for winning team championships nor should parents push their child in an attempt to accelerate their ascension to the top of the soccer pyramid. In addition, playing up under the appropriate circumstances should not preclude a player from playing in his or her own age group when it is evaluated to be in the best interest of the player's development.

Rationale: This policy is not consistent with the current US Soccer Player Development Guidelines: "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." – From US Soccer Player Development Guidelines; Best Practices for Coaching Soccer in the United States, page 48.