

APPROVED

WYSA State Board Meeting  
August 27, 2018  
Via Conference Call

Dial in (641)715-3580  
Access code 123599

In attendance: Chris Lacey (President), Alvaro Velez-Garcia (Vice President), Chris Lay (Secretary), Melissa Zielinski (WYSA Executive Director), Ted Blazel (MAYSA), Chris Yustus (Midway), John Janasik (Metro), Fred Yasatan (Racine), Rhonda Jankowski (Waukesha), Nancy Ziaja (Milwaukee Kickers), Mike Recklies (Stateline), Sal Garcia (WisRef), Ernie Englund (Kenosha), Tony Klockow (Ozaukee)

Meeting called to order by Chris Lacey at 8:03 pm.

1. President's Update – Chris Lacey reported on recent attendance at US Youth Soccer AGM. The US Youth Soccer budget was rejected and a new/revised budget will be submitted in the near future. Issues of concern included timing (i.e., after most states are within their FY), difficulty of US Youth Soccer to justify, which groups will bear the financial burdens, etc. However, fee increases should be anticipated in the future and WYSA should prepare accordingly. There is also a new US Youth Soccer President/Chair (Pete Zopfi) and Secretary (Kathy Zolad).

Chris shared ideas on growing participation from US Youth Soccer AGM: Success in Soccer, TOPSoccer, etc.

Wisconsin Women's Soccer Advisory Council – there is a lot of activity and engagement throughout the State. They have had numerous meetings and will be hosting a symposium in December with notable guest speakers. Visit them at [Wiwomeninsoccer.com](http://Wiwomeninsoccer.com)

Chris thanked the Board and Staff for their work with Programs: State Championships, ODP and Coaching Courses.

Three referees from the State represented the State at National Championship events. North Shore U16 Girls earned a berth at Nationals. Sal added that all referees from the State of WI assisted at a TOPSoccer event.

2. Proposed WYSA Risk Management Policy -- Melissa reviewed the new US Youth Soccer Risk Management Policy. It is highly recommended that all State Associations abide by the same policy. Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Referees and Managers – anyone who could have direct contact with the youth player – should have the background check. WYSA has had this Policy reviewed by Legal Counsel.

Motion to approve made by John Janasik (Metro); seconded by Nancy Ziaja (Kickers). No further discussion. Motion passes. This Policy will go into effect immediately.

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On a supplemental note, Melissa added that WYSA Legal Counsel has reviewed WYSA bylaws and strongly recommends significant revision. In short, policy should be removed from bylaws and, overall, WYSA bylaws are too lengthy.

3. Demosphere update – note that WYSA has satisfied requirements with LeagueOne; access turned off on August 31. Melissa has submitted a five-page document to Demosphere which requests revisions, changes and updates. Districts and club representatives are encouraged to communicate directly to Melissa so that a consistent, consolidated message and task list is sent to Demosphere. The feedback is valuable and continues to be welcome.

A common theme is that Demosphere will need to adapt to the WYSA hierarchy: WYSA->District->Club. The transition has been arduous but Demosphere and WYSA remain committed and responsive to making this partnership work optimally.

Demosphere scheduling/league system has worked exceptionally well. It has saved work hours, is user-friendly and enabled WYSA to better meet deadlines than prior systems.

4. Player Registrations (year over year) – Melissa reviewed the player registration numbers, comparing 16/17 (54,787) to 18/19 (52,948); -1,839. Overall, at the registrations are down slightly, which is on-trend nationwide. The Birth Year registration change (2016) and completion from other sports are cited as likely reasons for decreases. Chris Lacey reminded everyone that strategic goals include working with unaffiliated groups: e.g., Parks & Rec and/or players 5 and younger.

For the good of The Game:

Sal Garcia brought it to the attention of the Board that there is inconsistency with referee fees on WisRef (incorrect fees) vs WYSA websites. Sal will follow-up with Melissa in an attempt to resolve the confusion.

Melissa reminded everyone that the WYSA Fall Board meeting will be Saturday, November 10. Location TBD

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm.