

APPROVED

WYSA State Board of Directors Meeting
January 26, 2021
Conference Call

Attendance: Chris Lacey (President), Alvaro Velez Garcia (Vice President), Chris Lay (Secretary), Ken Ward (Treasurer), Chris McCormick (Kickers), Mike Recklies (Stateline), Francisco de la Rosa (Southwest), Chris Yustus (Midway), Kurt Femrite (MAYSA), Ernie Englund (Kenosha), Jay DeBruin (East Central), Tony Klockow (Ozaukee), John Janasik (Metro), Rhonda Jankowski (Waukesha), Melissa Zielinski (WYSA Executive Director) Craig Carlson (WYSA Associate Director of Coaching), Jim Launder (WYSA Director of Coaching), Tom Mesalk (WisRef)

Chris Lacey calls meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. President's Updates

Collective Group Recommendations – Chris Lacey encouraged strategic groups to reinstate and move forward with initiatives. Among the key tasks: Board efficiency and/or consolidation, Director onboarding, referee outreach/recruitment/retention/collaboration. If additional committees (or combining) may be appropriate the Board is willing to consider.

Operations Report – please see attached, per WYSA Executive Director. Registration numbers, due to ongoing COVID challenges, remain down year-on-year. Chris Lacey emphasized that if districts have ideas for ways in which WYSA can be proactive or supportive please alert the Executive Committee or staff.

The March 13 WYSA AGM voting system will hopefully be revised to reflect 19/20 registration numbers (pending approval by US Soccer) and districts are asked to remind their clubs to register for the event. Voting will be electronic and likely followed by Q&A and/or breakout sessions.

The WYSA scholarship application deadlines are approaching; another opportunity to share with members. Lastly, coaching courses are ongoing and largely virtual with field time adhering to social distancing requirements. WYSA is still booking courses through June and July.

Similarly, Wisconsin Program for Referee Development is hosting virtual courses through the winter and into the Spring; all districts are encouraged to promote the courses.

Melissa shared that the staff and Treasurer are preparing the budget for review at the February Board meeting. In addition, staff are working on a "Club Operations Manual" which is intended to guide clubs and club leaders, especially new club leaders, on the roles of WYSA, District, referees, etc. This will be shared with the Board of Directors within the next several days with a 2-3 week period for review.

2. Treasurer's Report

December 2020 Financials - Ken Ward noted that we are down \$200k YTY due to registrations down due to COVID while maintaining a fair number of expenses. However, PPP loan forgiveness was recently granted. All things considered, Ken's summation is that we are doing "okay" and the hopefulness that we will have more registrants in the Spring of 2021.

Motion to accept the financials through December 2020 made by John Janasik; seconded by Tony Klockow. No further discussion, motion passes.

3. New Business

2021 Tryout Policy – WYSA staff hosted three meetings with clubs and developed a draft policy accordingly. Clubs, in general, prefer to have two different offer dates and for them to be completed prior to July 4. Early offers

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remain a useful tool. Smaller clubs (i.e., those with limited ability to have multiple teams at an age group and a reliance on combining age groups) need some relief, especially for the 14/15 age group.

Ken Ward made a motion to accept the 2021 Tryout Policy; seconded by Jay DeBruin. There was discussion that reviewed pros/cons and further vetting the policy; however, the policy passes and is approved.

4. Spring COVID Prevention Policies Melissa Zielinski

Game day and event protocols to address COVID prevention will continue to be drawn from US Soccer guidance with local health orders superseding. Preventative measures for the Spring will be largely similar to those implemented in the Fall (2020). Travel permits are being issued by WYSA to US Youth Soccer sanctioned competitions to States that are accepting teams/players traveling from outside the host State.

5. Referee Mentorship & Retention Initiative

The RMRI is normally capped per District relative to the number of players registered in the registration year. Until further notice, the Board recommends that districts can apply for an amount up to the invoiced and paid-in in the current year calendar year. Ken Ward makes this motion; seconded by Francisco de la Rosa. Motion passes. This would enable clubs and districts to access more funds for referee recruitment, retention and development.

Chris Lacey adjourns meeting at 8:25 pm.