Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association State Board Meeting Minutes June 13, 2009 Madison, WI

<u>In Attendance:</u> Peter Mariahazy – President, Terry Donini – Vice-President, Toby Whipple – Secretary, Kurt Sonnentag – Treasurer, Yvonne Bennett – Executive Director, Barry Hartup – MAYSA, Ken Ward – Waukesha, John McCue – Southwest, Kelly Strait – Stateline, Ernie Englund – Kenosha, Drew Dion – Milwaukee Kickers, Beth Bishop Perrigo – ODP, Dawn King – East Central, Howard Hoffman – Midway, Carl Micke – WSA Board Representative

Guest: Bill Podewills – USYSA Region II

<u>Absent:</u> Phil Sherwood – Ozaukee, Arlyn Clarksen – WSA Board Representative, Peter Saemann – Metro, Ken Pieper – Northwest, Sue Walter – SYRA, Nathan Thompkins – Racine

President Peter Mariahazy called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM.

Peter introduced our guest USYSA Region II Director, Bill Podewills, who was in the Madison area for the US Youth Soccer Region II Presidents Cup.

Motion: To approve the minutes as written from 2/7/09 and 2/28/09 board meetings. Moved by Terry Donini, 2nd Ken Ward. *Motion Passed*

President's Update – Peter Mariahazy

A discussion was held regarding tryout and recruitment policies and potential changes that should be made to them. Terry Donini was asked to chair a task force to bring forward recommendations to the board. Carl, Beth, Ken & Ernie volunteered to assist with the effort. District reps were also asked to discuss with their clubs and bring feedback back to the WYSA board.

Peter provided the Board with an update on the League One implementation to include the development of the scheduling component. He provided kudos to Melissa Vukovic for her work on this project over the past year.

Peter reminded the Board that the League One player registration implementation is required unless a club has specifically requested a waiver and receives an importing data exception from him. He also asked that all District reps remind their clubs that they should not request copies of player birth certificates as part of the registration process due to Wisconsin state law prohibiting copying of birth certificates.

Peter apologized to the Board and specifically to Sue Walter regarding his curtness pertaining to the referee discussion at the 2/7/09 Board meeting.

Peter initiated a discussion pertaining to a possible tiered WYSA registration fee, making it less expensive for younger in-house league recreational players. Yvonne will bring

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forward recommendation for consideration at the next board meeting as part of the 2010-2011 planning and budgeting process.

<u>Competition Report</u> – Terry Donini

Motion: Players aged appropriately to U10 and below teams are all considered recreational players. Clubs and coaches should concentrate their efforts at these age groups on recognizing a player's skill and ability level and provide player development activities based on their emerging developmental abilities. Therefore, U10 and younger players will not be allowed to play up more than two single year age group levels from the age group that they should actually be rostered to. Moved by Terry Donini, 2nd by Ken Ward. *Motion Passed*

Tryout calendar for SE Wisconsin was discussed. Terry is to take a look at a five-year window with those representing SE Wisconsin districts and develop a tryout schedule that will be published on the WYSA web site.

Beth Bishop-Perrigo left the meeting at this point - 5:13 PM.

Motion: Approve the Age Exemption Policy as presented in the packet. The policy will be as stated below:

It is recognized that age divisions are a necessary component of youth soccer. They ensure that children are grouped based on their physical, emotional, and social development, affording each child the opportunity to thrive in the safest, least restrictive environment possible. However, there are also times when exceptions to a strict age deadline would advance these objectives.

Therefore, this policy is intended to permit students in the same school grade, born shortly before the age cutoff, to play soccer with their classmates on recreational teams that are registered with the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association.

The following criteria must be met for Age Exemption Eligibility:

- 1. The request for exemption must be initiated by a player's parent(s) or guardian in writing.
- 2. The player must be participating on a recreational team playing in a recreational division of play.
- 3. The player must be in the same school grade as his or her teammates.
- 4. The player must not be more than 6 months older than the normal August 1st deadline.
- 5. All of the following three forms of documentation must be kept on file with the Club which may be reviewed at any time by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association for Compliance.
 - a. The player's parent(s) or guardian's request for the age exemption in writing.

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- b. Written statement from the respective team's coach indicating that the player wasn't an exceptional player and was appropriate for the team's league placement.
- c. Written approval by a Club official.

Moved by Carl Micke, 2nd by Howard Hoffman. *Motion Passed*

Player Substitution Policy

Motion: Approve the Player Substitution Policy revision as presented in the packet effective August 1, 2009. This revised policy was written by Chris Lay. The policy will be as stated below.

In the interest of not slowing down play Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association affiliated matches while offering ample opportunities to enter players into the game the following proposal is being submitted pertaining to substitution of players:

Substitutions may be made prior to a throw-in in favor of your team, prior to a goal kick by either team, following a goal by either team, following an injury to a player from either team, or at half time. Substitutions may also be made for your team on the opposing team's throw-in if the opposing team also has a player at the half-way line.

Please note that the underlined section is an addition to the rule, as it previously existed, in the 2007/08 seasons. This should offer more opportunities to substitute but will also minimize the total amount of time required to execute substitutions. In short, a win-win.

The substitution rule enacted for the 2008/09 season, i.e., "at any stoppage" is generally viewed as "time wasting", rewarding of the coach who fails to plan and interfering with the flow of the game. In addition, it creates opportunities to employ gamesmanship (both intentionally and unintentionally) by coaches. Finally, it unrealistically requires that young/new referees, still gaining experience, track & add extra/injury time with an inordinately high frequency.

This rule change would not pertain to WYSA State Championships.

Any substitution rule that is adopted should be communicated to districts, clubs, teams & coaches with the accompanying reminder that "a substitute only enters the field of play at the halfway line and during a stoppage in the match" and "after receiving a signal from the referee." In other words, players must be at the half-way line prior to any stoppage and cannot be "run-up" to the half-way line.

Moved by Drew Dion, 2nd by Ernie Englund. Carl Micke called the question. *Motion Passed with three opposed.*

Treasurer's Report – Kurt Sonnentag

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Motion: Combine the equity accounts in the Budget, except for 345-Rich Ilk Memorial Scholarship Fund, into 300-Retained Earnings. Moved by Kurt Sonnentag, 2nd by Ken Ward. *Motioned Passed*

Terry Donini and Kurt Sonnentag left the meeting at this point – 5:35 PM.

<u>Executive Director's Report</u> – Yvonne Bennett

Yvonne reviewed highlights of her report that was contained in the agenda packet.

Disbursements of the Association

Motion: Approve the WYSA Financial Policy revision as distributed in the meeting packet and as written by Yvonne Bennett. The policy revision regarding disbursements of the Association will be as stated below.

Documentation Required

Disbursements shall be paid only as a result of documentation supporting the expense. Such documentation must include the Association funds form with proper attachments (e.g. receipts) invoices, other written billing and/or written calculation of the amount of disbursement. The Treasurer will have final approval over all disbursements with the exception of his or her own requests, which the President shall approve. In special circumstances, the President may approve expenses.

Account Disbursements

The outside accounting service provider, under the supervision of the Executive Director, shall process and handle the payment of all expenses of the Association. Expenses shall be paid by check from the Association's operating account only.

Issuing Refunds – Electronic Payments via Credit Cards (NEW SECTION)
Refund policy shall be set as appropriate for each WYSA service or program. In the event of a refund being issued after payment has been processed by credit card, every attempt shall be made to issue the refund through the e-commerce system (currently Authorize.net). In such cases, a funds form shall be prepared be the Program Administrator and submitted with the supporting documentation to the Executive Director for review and approval. The funds form shall be clearly marked "Electronic Refund" on the top of the document. Once approval has been granted, the refund may be issued via the e-commerce system.

If however, the refund cannot be issued through the e-commerce system a check shall be issued from the Association's operating account. The normal process for issuing association checks shall apply to include obtaining the Treasurer's approval.

Timeliness of Disbursements

Requests for disbursements must provide the Association ten working days to produce the check.

Moved by Ken Ward, 2nd by Barry Hartup. *Motion Passed*

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Adult Player Registration Fees

Motion: Approve the following recommendations regarding adult registration fees made by Yvonne Bennett as distributed in the agenda packet.

- WYSA discontinue the practice of purchasing Bollinger Insurance, or any other supplemental insurance, above and beyond that which is provided through USASA membership.
- For the 2009-10 playing year, we set registration fees at \$20.00 per adult player which provides \$15.00 for the USASA membership/insurance and \$5.00 to WYSA for administrative services. (Note: This fee will also apply to the WYSA administered leagues WPL and U23 Men's.)
- If there is an increase in direct costs (USASA, or any other additional expenses) WYSA will increase the player registration fee to cover that additional expense effective at the time of the next WYSA fiscal year. (Note: This would include the possibility that WYSA must register players with/through the WSA adult division and pay a per player registration fee to WASA.)

Moved by Carl Micke, 2nd by Ernie Englund. *Motion Passed*

Drew Dion left the meeting at this point -5:50 PM.

Old Business

Peter Mariahazy provided a brief update regarding our application to USSF for affiliation which would result in our separating from WSA. Peter and others will be attending a hearing conducted by USSF on 7/17/09 in Chicago.

He also provided a brief update on collection issues with WASA for payroll that WYSA processes on their behalf for two part-time employees.

New Business

John McCue notified the Board that he was stepping down as the Southwest District representative after this meeting. He also thanked the Board members for the wonderful time he has had working with them over the years. The Southwest District representative will be Jonella Rademacher. John also announced that Andy Olson will be the new president of the Coulee Region Youth Soccer Club.

For the Good of Soccer

Carl Micke thanked Pat Hodgins for the great job he did with organizing the WI State Championships Tournament. The WI State Championships went extremely well and the participation numbers were up from last year. There may be some proposed rule changes coming for next year.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM. Moved by Ken Ward, 2nd by Dawn King. *Motion Passed*