



Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association
Annual General Meeting
March 2, 2024 – 10:00am
Milwaukee, WI

2024 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Chris Yustus (Midway District), Michael King (Kickers District), Dusty Rhodes (East Central District), John Janasik (Metro District), Kyle Trimble (SYRA), Francisco de la Rosa (Southwest District), Mike Recklies (Stateline District), Conor Caloia (Treasurer), Shan Amini (Waukesha District), Alex Schroeder (Ozaukee District), Ken Ward (Chair), Jay DeBruin (Vice Chair), Chris Lay (Secretary), Fred Yasatan (Racine District), Ernie Englund (Kenosha District), Kevin Wasco (Independent Director), Parker Conover (MAYSA), Susan Scott (Bavarian United), Colleen Warnick (Beaver Dam United Soccer Club), Kai Olsen (Capital East Soccer Club), Michael Koch (Croatian Eagles Soccer Club), Heidi Mertzig-McKone (Eau Claire United Soccer Club), Nicholas Hahn (Elmbrook United), Wytse Molenaar (FC Green Bay), Chad Collett (Fond Du Lac Soccer Association), Kim Lutes (Fort Atkinson Youth Soccer Association), Marissa Sperger (Fox Cities United Soccer Club), Liam Nevin (Guardians of the Valley Soccer Club), Andrea Islas (Hartford United Soccer Club), Jennifer Nash (Heart Of The Valley Soccer Association), Shari Peggs (Howard Fire FC), Roger Koessl (Kenosha Area Soccer League), Patrick McCarthy (Kiel Soccer Club), Christopher Lacey (Lakeshore United FC), Tony Wright (Madison 56ers Soccer Club), Rico Saenz (Magic Soccer Club), Shebra Elliott (Marathon County United Soccer Club), Erin Stanila (Mauston Area Youth Soccer, Inc.), Andy Witt (McFarland Soccer Club), Molly Bakker (Middleton United Soccer Club), Demitrius White (Milwaukee Simba Soccer Club), Kristin Gage (Mount Horeb Youth Soccer Club), Mike Jones (Neenah Soccer Club), Sarah Fastelin (New Richmond Area Youth Soccer), Gregory Kulas (Niagara Northern Stars Soccer Club), Brad Roudebush (Norski Soccer Club), Josh Haefs (North District Flyway Soccer Association), Joe Hammes (North Shore United Soccer Club), Eric Anderson (Oregon Soccer Club), Matt Callahan (Oshkosh United Soccer Club), Sharon Pink (Platteville Power Soccer Club), Joshua Balde (Plymouth Soccer Club), Bonnie Stadler (Polonia Soccer Club), Nicole Martin (Port Washington Soccer Club), Katie Ewert (Portage County Youth Soccer), Janet McClain (Regent Soccer Club), Matt Walters (River Surge FC), Michael Clarquit (Rock Soccer Club), Jonella Rademacher (RUSH WI West), Jess Nash (RUSH Wisconsin Soccer Club), Amiee



Amini (SC Wave), NicoleMarie Hall (Stoughton Area Youth Soccer Association), Jackie Bartanen (Synergy SC), Sarah Wolslegel (Thunder Area Soccer Kids), Bonnie Hilt (Tomah Youth Soccer Association), Eric Gebhard (United FC), Aleksandra Devic (United Serbian Youth Soccer Club), Abdul Nur (United Soccer of Allouez), Benjamin Filter (Viking Youth Soccer Association), Austin Backus (Village Of Wales Soccer), Heather Kuehn (Voyageurs FC), David Edwards (Water Cities Soccer Club), Neil Cumming (Waunakee Area Soccer Club), Megan Johnson (Wisconsin Rapids Kickers)

1. **Welcome** – meeting opens at 10:17 am.
 - 1.1. **Opening Remarks** – WYSA President Ken Ward reminded the membership that 2024 is the 50th Anniversary of WYSA and thanked past and current affiliated clubs, the board and staff for their dedication and efforts.
 - 1.2. **Moment of Silence** for our friends in soccer that we lost over the last year.
 - 1.3. **Introductions** – Ken introduced the WYSA Board and Staff. Ken noted that WYSA Staff is frequently recognized among their peers as among if not the best in the Region and Nation. Special mention to Jim Launder who in late 2023 moved to a reduced roll and Craig Carlson moved in the Director of Coaching. Jim has worked for WYSA for many years and has been steward of the game for many decades. WYSA thanks and recognizes Jim's past and ongoing contributions to the game.
 - 1.4. **Credentials Report** – roll call vote via Nemo. 44 clubs in attendance. Quorum is achieved.
2. **Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes & Board Actions** –Vice Chair motions to approve the 2023 Minutes, Fox Cities United seconds. Without further discussion motion passes by majority vote without objection.

Magic SC motions to approve Board Actions from 2023; Viking Youth Soccer Association seconds. Without further discussion motion passes by majority vote without objection.

Ken took a few moments to thank and recognize guests, vendors and partners at this year's AGM: Forward Madison FC, Keeper Goals, TOPSoccer, PlayMetrics, Veo, US Center for Mental Health & Sport, Soccer for West African Children

3. **State of the State** -- Ken shared some of the notable achievements for WYSA, its clubs, teams and players:



- Membership has risen to just over 51,500
- ODP placed 27 players into regional teams and 6 into national teams. There are currently 175 players in the developmental-age sessions
- National Championship Series – 18 teams at Regionals, 8 teams advancing to Nationals
- Presidents Cup – 17 teams at Regionals, 2 teams advancing to Nationals
- Referee initiatives – significant increase in the number of licensed officials largely thanks to WisRef commitment to more courses and instructors. Noteworthy, starting in 2024, first year grassroots referees will be issued a yellow whistle and should be given extra consideration.
- Over the last year three committees, comprised of WYSA Board members and members at large, were formed: Risk Management, Governance, Finance and AGM. The intent is/was to compliment & support staff, integrate more ideas & expertise, etc.
- Adam Hayes from PlayMetrics addressed the membership after a morning session with member clubs that preceded the general session. There are additional sessions to follow which will include live demos.

4. New Business

- 4.1. **2024/2025 Budget Review** – WYSA Treasurer Conor Caloia reviewed two specific fee increases (PreK \$3.50 to \$5.00) and etrainu (to address risk management). There have not been any fee increases for at least three years. Staff continues to outperform budget each year and there is a surplus/reserve if needed. Summary of fee increases is below:



Item	Increase	New Fee	Notes
Club Affiliation Fees	\$ 25.00	\$ 125.00	increased in 2017
Pre-K Player Registration Fee	\$ 3.50	\$ 5.00	increased in 2019, reduced in 2023
Risk Management	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00	increased in 2018
ODP			
State Pool	\$ 15.00	\$ 315.00	increased in 2018
State Team	\$ 50.00	\$ 500.00	increased in 2018
Presidents Cup			
13U & 14U	\$ 50.00	\$ 975.00	increased in 2022
15U & 16U	\$ 75.00	\$1,050.00	increased in 2022
17U & 19U	\$ 75.00	\$1,075.00	increased in 2022
State Cup			
15U & 16U	\$ 50.00	\$1,100.00	increased in 2022
17U & 19U	\$ 50.00	\$1,125.00	increased in 2022
Midwest Conference	\$ 50.00	\$ 175.00	
SECL			
11U - 15U	\$ 25.00	\$ 425.00	increased in 2018
16U-19U	\$ 25.00	\$ 300.00	increased in 2018
State League			
11U - 15U	\$ 25.00	\$ 425.00	increased in 2018
16U-19U	\$ 25.00	\$ 300.00	increased in 2018

Motion to approve made by Southwest District; seconded by Vice Chair. Without further discussion the motion passes by majority vote.

Conor discussed the interest to forecast of fee increases at regular increments (e.g., 1, 3 and/o 5 years) so WYSA and member clubs forecast accordingly. WYSA will be seeking input on this over the next months and year.

Conor gave special mention to Fred Yasatan (Racine District) and Kevin Wasco (Independent Director) for collaboration on the formulation of an investment policy. This will establish guidelines for the prudent management & allocation of financial resources and outline permissible investments. It also provides direction for investment and/or use of non-operating reserve funds & excess funds.

- 4.2. **Risk Management** – this committee was chaired by Mike Recklies (Stateline District). Annual background checks starting with 24/25 registration year. Window is June-early August. This will better capture & catch incidents that would have occurred in the interim of every other year. It will also renew the etrainu resources. Anyone renewing/verifying after May 31 in 2024. The increase to from \$15 to \$25 is due to costs of a more rigorous background check (down to the County level) and the access to etrainu.



- 4.3. **13U Ball Size changing from size 5 to size 4** – Per US Soccer directive and based on research (mainly through FIFA) pertaining to safety and quality of the game this will be implemented starting with 2024/25 competition year.
- 4.4. **Bylaw Changes** – Jay de Bruin introduced and generally reviewed the Bylaw changes. These specific areas were identified
1. Revision to Article II, Section 2. This specifies how a district is created, number of districts, club placement in a district and regular pattern for review of district boundaries. Motion to approve revision to Article II, Section 2 made by Viking Youth Soccer Association; second Polonia SC. Without further discussion the motion passes by majority vote
 2. Revision to Article 5. These changes are intended to clarify the Article title, establish minimum standards for Districts and Clubs and achieve consistency with US Soccer and US Youth Soccer policy. Motion to approve revision to Article V made by Neenah SC; second by Kenosha Area Soccer League (KASL). Without further discussion the motion passes by majority vote.
 3. Revision to Article VI. These changes provide clarification on qualifications to run for Director, the nomination process & election procedure. Motion to approve revision to Article VI made by Neenah SC; second by Oshkosh United. Without further discussion motion passes by majority vote.
 4. Revision to Article VIII. These changes address some redundancy as well as correct some numeration & punctuation. Motion to approve revision to Article VIII made by Neenah SC; seconded by Viking Youth Soccer Association. Without further discussion motion passes by majority vote.
 5. Revision to Article IX. These changes clarify the number of at-large directors, connect them to Districts, define the Independent Director and specify qualifications/selection/terms/vacancy rules & specific restrictions. Motion to approve revision to Article IX made by Beaver Dam United; second by Magic SC. Without further discussion motion passes by majority vote.
 6. Revision to Article X. These changes address the establishment of standing committees. Motion to approve revision to Article X made by United Soccer of Allouez; second by Lakeshore United. Included in the discussion was whether or not the WYSA Chair is a voting member of a committee or running a committee. Ken Ward clarified that the intention, generally, is the President does not Chair a Committee. Motion passes with majority vote.
- 4.5. **Elections** – the below positions do not have opposition



4.5.1. **Vice Chair** – Jay de Bruin – motion by Stateline District; second by Independent Director. Without further discussion or objection Jay is confirmed for a two-year term as WYSA Vice Chair.

4.5.2. **Treasurer** – Conor Caloia – motion made by Capital East SC; second by Milwaukee Simba SC. Without further discussion or objection Conor is confirmed by majority vote for a two-year term.

5. For the Good of the Game

Award Winners --

Administrator -- Kate Verheyen (Milwaukee Kickers Soccer Club)

Volunteer -- John Janasik (Metro District)

Coach -- Boys Recreational, Brandon Joly (Thunder Area Soccer Kids)

Coach -- Girls Competitive, Jon Szczepanski (RUSH Wisconsin)

Young Referee – Female, Kierstin McHugh (Madison Area)

Young Referee – Male, Jack Ryan (East Central Area)

TOPSoccer Buddy -- Rayna Young (Howard Fire TOPSoccer)

TOPSoccer Coach -- Brooklyn Turner (Howard Fire TOPSoccer) and National Award Winner

Post-AGM Break Out Sessions

Marge Domka – Mental Health

Sponsorship – Conor Caloia, Forward Madison

Drawings

Attendance Grant

\$1,000 – Beaver Dam United

\$500 – River Surge

\$250 – Fort Atkinson Youth Soccer

\$250 – Port Washington

Raffle prizes of items donated by partners.

Roni Andrew, WYSA TOPSoccer Chair – shared a wonderful & inspiring video highlighting these exceptional athletes within our State and the Buddies who help facilitate. Any club, coach or anyone else who want to help should contact Roni.



Roni has a goal of a TOPSoccer festival among the various sites, a Border Battle, Summer Festival, Power Chair, etc.

The membership thanks Mike Recklies – retiring from WYSA Board. Thank you for your work, especially with respect to risk management initiatives.

The membership wishes to thank Fred Yasatan – retiring from WYSA Board. Especially with respect to financial & investment guidance.

Adjourned at 11:44 am.