

## DRAFT

State Board of Directors Meeting  
August 5, 2023 – 10:00am  
Franklin, Wisconsin

### 1. Attendance & Call to Order

Board Members in Attendance: Ken Ward (WYSA President), Jay DeBruin (WYSA Vice President), Connor Caloia (WYSA Treasurer), Chris Lay (WYSA Secretary), Alex Schroeder (Ozaukee), Shan Amini (Waukesha), Dusty Rhodes (East Central), John Janasik (Metro), Fred Yasatan (Racine), Ernie Englund (Kenosha), Michael King (Kickers), Melissa Zielinski

Chris Yustus and Mike Recklies excused.

Staff in Attendance: Meghan Ward, Katie Schauer, Cesar Castillo, Patrick Hodgins, Danny Sweeney

Ken Ward calls meeting to order at 10:03 am. Ken thanked Shan Amini for hosting the meeting at Rock Sports Complex.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (06/17/23)

Jay DeBruin motions to approve June 17 minutes; John Janasik seconds. All approve. Motion passes.

### 3. President's Updates

- SYRA – Brandon Wachholz has completed his two year term as SYRA and decided to not seek another term. The WYSA Board recognizes Brandon's numerous contributions and thanks him for helping referee-related issues move forward. Ken and Jamey Walter, SRA, met and agreed that Kyle Trimble would be a strong and suitable SYRA. Kyle has agreed to accept the role.
- USYS AGM – Ken, Melissa, and Patrick were in attendance at the US Youth Soccer National Championships in Orlando. Ken shared that there was strong representation in championship games from Midwest Region teams. Ken and Melissa participated in the USYS AGM and shared items related to bylaw amendments, relationship with State Associations, etc.
- Jim Launder, who has served as the WYSA Director of Coaching, has asked to move to a modified/not full-time role within the Coaching Education Department at WYSA. Jim has worked diligently for many years at WYSA and will continue to be a strong asset for the State. Craig Carlson, who has served as the Associate Director of Coaching will become the Director of Coaching. Melissa discussed long term planning for coach educators for Wisconsin.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

- Year-on-year, strong with a solid cash position.
- Employee Retention Credits have been received.
- GotSport agreed to match Demosphere transaction rates.
- Connor thanked Fred Yasatan for very good leadership & guidance in the Finance Committee.
- Ken added that WYSA was within budget in numerous key areas, largely thanks to staff efforts and competency. Staff have been recognized accordingly within performance reviews.

### 5. New Business

- Member Survey -- Ken shared the process and results of the WYSA survey. Some level of disappointment regarding the response rate. Key areas of response include field maintenance, access to field spaces, retention of players and knowledge/awareness of programming & financial support. Ken recommends sending the survey out again to, hopefully, acquire more information. Further, asked everyone at the Board level, as District representatives, to complete the survey. Perhaps we can better identify trends within certain areas of the State and/or club type.

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Extensive conversation ensued regarding alternative programming, registration in non-WYSA/USYS and demographics in general. There will be more discussion and informed idea sharing leading up to the November retreat.

- Retreat – Ken is recommending a Facilitator to assist in guiding & focusing the discussion.

### 6. Old Business

- Committee Updates
  - AGM – Committee Chair Alex Schroeder shared that the 2024 AGM will be at Lambeau Field in the Legends Club on March 2. Focus will be on engagement with Presidents, technology instruction, supplemental coach education and (maybe) referee education. Alex thanked Meaghan for her staff level help with AGM preparation.
  - Finance – Committee Chair Fred Yasatan shared that they are updating the financial & investment policy. Melissa recommended that the policy is shared for vote with the board electronically. Additionally, Fred and Connor are working with staff on a calendar of key financial actions that will be a useful resource to staff and board alike. A significant area of focus is the reserves on hand which are substantial enough to dedicate to place in more productive investments.
  - Governance – Committee Chair Jay DeBruin shared that some key areas being addressed include but not limited to: manners in which Directors are elected, how long Directors can or should serve, how Officers are nominated in advance of the AGM. The proposed changes were included in the June packet and will be discussed at the September board meeting.
  - Risk Management – Committee Chair is Mike Recklies. In his absence, Katie and Melissa shared there is ongoing review and exploration of going to a yearly background check and annualized expiration date. It is recognized that these are worthwhile initiatives; however, there are some technology-related obstacles and awaiting decision at the USSF level.
  - Executive Director Report – Melissa has provided a report, but the highlights are WYSA has notified Demosphere that other registration options/services are being reviewed for 2024/25. GotSport, for scheduling, has thus far been good; they have hosted at least webinar as a service to members. WYSA website will soon be moving its online platform to NBC Sports. Melissa reminded the Board that, as it is a new registration year, being current with risk management and completion of conflict of interest form. Melissa and Ken will again be applying to an Innovation to Grow grant with US Soccer with an emphasis on assisting particular demographics with registration assistance.

### 7. For the Good of the Game – congratulations to SC Wave who made it

- Michael King thanked some of the WYSA staff for participating in the Milwaukee Kickers' America Scores golf outing.
- Meghan shared that a new TOPSoccer programs was starting in Eau Claire.

Alex Schroeder motions to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 am; seconded by Francisco de la Rosa.