

The Florida Youth Soccer Association (“FYSA”) Executive Committee meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM.

Roll was taken by Lois Epps, Secretary – All present

Guests in attendance were Mike Strickler, John Weekley, Ed Thiebe.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

A. Approve Previous Minutes – May 3, 2008 Executive Committee – Approved as presented.

B. Correspondence – None.

C. Reports

a. President:

i. US Youth Soccer AGM – Tommy Thompson had Jerry Matlak present report since he attended the meeting. Georgia Youth State soccer Association changed its name to Georgia State Soccer Association, the ODP National Championship Committee will now be called the ODP Championship Committee and the Soccer Start program will now be called Soccer Across America. The proposed National Championship policy was withdrawn. The resolution for national competition failed. The resolution for the national referee program passed; US Youth Soccer is now putting a referee program together for grades 7, 8 and 9. Once guidelines are drafted they will require final approval. Grades 6 and higher will be done through USSF. The proposal will be presented at the Region III meeting in October in Texas. The resolution for membership rebates failed; membership development grants were withdrawn. The resolution for the ODP National Championships failed also. Bringing the U20’s back into the National Championships failed. In addition, there is still discussion about increasing the roster size for the U16 age group from 18 to 22; however, nothing was decided at this meeting.

b. Secretary:

i. AGM Credentials – Lois Epps reported on credentials pickup schedule for the members of the FYSA Board of Directors.

c. Treasurer:

i. 2008-2009 Proposed Budget – Scott Maxwell presented the proposed budget with bottom line of a \$300,000 increase over last year. Copies of the proposed budget were distributed to the EC members. Discuss ensued regarding an explanation of items listed in the regional accounts, ODP, registration, computer costs, State Cup, President’s Cup, Kohl’s American Cup and Sunshine State Games relating to revenue and expenses. It was noted that the

- proposed budget reflects an increase in sponsorship dollars. Discussion then centered around changes that needed to be made to the proposed budget in the software and State Cup programs.
- ii. Financing of President's Cup – Tommy Thompson then began the discussion of regional financing of President's Cup. Sandy Parker then related the issues that President's Cup has with its associated costs in relation to a finite number of teams entered into the competition. This led to discussions on potential ways to offset the deficit. ***Motion by Dave Ditillio to allocate \$20,000 of the Boar's Head sponsorship dollars to help defray the costs of President's Cup. Seconded by Marino Torrens. Approved.***
- d. Vice President of Player/Coaching Development:
- i. Academy Certification and Application – Mike Strickler presented. Information will be posted on the FYSA website after the AGM so that clubs would know what is defined as an accredited academy and FYSA can begin to promote the academy idea. Education Modules will be prepared; parents will also be educated. Mike will work with Linda Lathrop to determine best registration procedures to put in place.
 - ii. Recreational League Certification – Mike Strickler then lead the discussion about how to define a recreational league – a league composed of teams selected without tryouts. The issue at hand is teams coded as recreational teams and playing in competitive leagues while only paying the recreational player fees.
- e. Vice President of Administration and Communication:
- i. Risk Management Proposal – Barb Newton presented the background information on the process that was taken to compare the current company used for background checks (e7sports) and another proposed vendor (SportsSignUp). Barb stated that she had more confidence in the data results from SportsSignUp. Discussion ensued about the perceived reduction of exposure of liability for false positive reporting through SportsSignUp. Bob Rollins is currently in discussion with Markel (FYSA's insurance carrier) about a potential reduction in cost or rebate for the enhance search through SportsSignUp and the reduction of false identifications. The SportsSignUp process does include a courthouse search for ambiguous records and management tools either not available with the current vendor or at a greatly increased price. The reduction in false positives also reduces the potential for lawsuits. Staff and board member time spent reviewing the reports should be significantly reduced allowing the reallocation of staff time to other projects. The difference in cost is \$2 for the current check versus \$6.75 for the proposed check. ***Motion by Myrna Foster that FYSA begin to use SportsSignUp for conducting background checks and that a budget amendment be done to account for the projected \$15,000 difference in the proposed budget. Seconded by Marino Torrens. Approved.***
- f. Registrar:
- i. Linda Lathrop related that she included a registrar's report as Exhibit 6 of the book of reports. She discussed changes in team coding being planned for the upcoming season to include NCS

(National Championship Series) protected. Teams using those codes should have protections that will prohibit the 19th and 23rd player registrations; this information has already been disseminated to the affiliates. Linda stressed that there would be no recoding of teams without her express approval since this action causes a loss of history. Linda then addressed the enhanced confirmation page received by affiliates after player/coach uploads informing the affiliate if registrations have been accepted or if additional action is required. This has eliminated the need for the “return card list”. Affiliates need to make sure that they verify the birth date of players they register with original birth certificates or passports; issues are still occurring of falsified birth documentation.

g. Vice President of Competition:

- i. Sandy Parker related that the 2008-2009 calendar is pretty well set and 2009-2010 season calendar is in the finalization stages. They are getting input from the regional vice presidents. Hosting agreements for State Cup Championship Weekend and President’s Cup need to be finalized; those competitions will be held in Region A and Region B, respectively.

h. Region Vice Presidents:

- i. Region A – No report.
- ii. Region B – No report.
- iii. Region C – No report.
- iv. Region D – No report.

i. Executive Director Report:

- i. Ed Thiebe complimented the staff on the organization of the weekend’s events. He also solicited the board’s assistance in volunteering their time during the weekend to compliment the staff involvement to help the weekend run as efficiently as possible. He told the group that a revision to the policies and procedures manual had been submitted to Lois Epps for review to incorporate a universal leave policy. In addition, all the job performance plans have been reviewed with staff in relation to their weighted goals and responsibilities. He then gave a report on the Lake Myrtle complex including the fact that the groundbreaking would take place on Monday, August 11th and that Tommy would speak on behalf of FYSA. He also relayed that FYSA is in the closing stages of negotiation with Polk County on revenue sharing and event management sponsorship agreements. He also related that the proposal for assistance with financial support for the building of the event management and building complex from the Publix foundation was turned down and that the foundation recommended turning the focus to the corporate side of Publix; this is in the works. Mr. Thiebe then informed the group that there would be an afternoon presentation from Boar’s Head, a new FYSA partner. They will be providing monies and in-kind items for the next four years. This is an example of a co-vendor relationship. Ed told the group that he is working on other sponsorships but has nothing solidified to present at this time.

j. Director of Coaching Report:

- i. Mike Strickler presented his year-end report regarding projects that he and Virgil Stringfield have been working on. These projects include the pilot event for the academy festival; they are planning a repeat of the event for the new season in Region C and hopefully will do one in Region A. Guidelines for the academy accreditation program continue to be refined. Mel Simon was beginning a Soccer Start project in Sanford. Playing up issues are increasing; denied requests demands more time he needs to devote to this process. The newest version of the coaches' manual was presented and is included in all the goodie bags to be distributed during the weekend. He also told the group that USSF changed the coaching curriculum and the staff had to be retrained on the new courses. There will be a Spanish license course in south Florida and two national license courses (Vierra [Melbourne area] and Tampa). Mike then told the group that Florida has 92 players named to the Region III ODP pool and that is a record. Florida had 5 teams qualify for the ODP regional championship. Mike is also planning a TOPSoccer coaching course and he will be taking four people to Dallas to the Region III fall meeting to get them certified as instructors for this course. It is Mike's intention to add a local TOPS program to the academy festival events in the future (TOPS-O-Rama). The coaching education group is working on the publication of a parent education module; Virgil is working on expanding and rotating the Spanish courses throughout the state. Mike is also looking at developing an ODP alumni list and then using that group to help promote the program. Mike also relayed to the group that there are three Florida ODP alumni players in Beijing as part of the US Olympic team.

- k. FYSA Committee reports are in the book of reports for the AGM.

D. New Business

- a. FYSA Committee Nominations – Tommy Thompson stated that there was a listing of the current committees in the book of reports and asked that they talk to the DC's and other potential volunteers so that assignments can be made at the Sunday meeting after the AGM.
- b. Mailing Lists – Tommy Thompson asked the group if they wanted to allow affiliates to purchase player lists. After some discussion, it was decided that members should talk to the affiliates as to what they think about the current procedure and then this matter will be put on the agenda for the September EC meeting for further discussion and a decision. As a side to that discussion will be whether clubs can register players to the club address rather than the legal residence of the player.
- c. DC Elections – Tommy Thompson began a discussion of either DC elections could be held via email or other electronic means. The rules do not specifically permit it or exclude it; however, there are no procedures in place as to how this could be accomplished. *Motion by Mac Shepard that Lois Epps and a committee develop the procedures for holding DC elections by electronic means and report back to the EC at the January EC meeting. Seconded by Joe Goldian. Approved.*

E. For the Good of the Game

Tommy Thompson announced that there would be a short EC meeting on Sunday following the Board meeting after the AGM.

F. Next Executive Committee Meeting

September 20, 2008, at JW Marriott Grande Lakes-Orlando (time to be determined)

G. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **11:51**