

The Florida Youth Soccer Association (“FYSA”) Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Roll was taken by Lois Epps, Secretary.

Mac Shepard, Vice President-Region D – Proxy to John Weekley.

Paul Piquet, DC-A1 – Proxy to Marino Torrens

Absent – Marc Zimmerman, DC-C4 and Miguel Denny – DC-C5

Guests in attendance were Jennifer Slattery, Ed Thiebe, Barb Newton, John Curtis, and Jozsef Michna.

The agenda was adopted as amended.

**A. Approve Previous Minutes.**

- a. July 27, 2007 Board of Directors – Approved

**B. Correspondence.** – none

**C. Strategic Planning Update** – John Curtis provided the results of the surveys taken by the BOD and EC members (included in board packet). It was noted that the affiliates would be the next to receive the survey but revisions still need to be made. Further, it was stated that a ‘not applicable’ option needs to be added so a question can be left unanswered and one can move forward with the survey. Updates will be provided at future meetings. A retreat will be scheduled; to be determined at some point in the not too distant future.

**D. Unfinished Business.**

- a. Polk County Complex: Ed Thiebe provided an update on the construction of the soccer complex. Permits should be complete by the end of January and then will take two to three months for approval. Eighty-eight acres of land have been purchased to accommodate the construction of the Polk County Sports Marketing office and two baseball complexes. Preliminary designs are in the preparation stage. Through a joint effort with the City of Auburndale a proposal will be made to the Publix Foundation for \$2.5 million to construct the FYSA offices and an additional \$2.5 million for the stadium development. This proposal is supported by nine clubs in Polk County (C4). A decision may be forthcoming in the next ten to twelve (10-12) weeks. Ed Thiebe was advised that an understanding of the expenses that would be incurred and how FYSA was to offset those expenses must be made clear before any permits are obtained and any building takes place. One potential is the adjustment of the Polk County Fee structure. Ed Thiebe to prepare a profile; he feels it can be delivered in two to three (2-3) weeks. Scott Maxwell is working with the current FYSA office landlord regarding a lease extension as our needs dictate; there is no problem anticipated with this effort.
- b. Open Committee Assignments: Board members were asked to provide names for open committee positions to Barb Newton by Friday, February 1st. Once those names are received, the chart of committee member assignments will be sent to the EC for approval.

**E. Reports.**

- a. President:
- i. Overage players and consequences. It was agreed that notification regarding consequences for the submission of forged or altered birth documentation would be sent to the affiliates and posted on the

website. An amnesty period will be effective immediately and end on March 14, 2008 @ 5:00p.m. EST. During this time affiliates may come forward to correct any forged or altered birth documentation. After that date, penalties will be imposed and enforced.

- ii. AGM award nominations were discussed. Copies of the nomination forms were distributed and will be put in *Touchline*, on the website and in affiliate mailings. Tommy Thompson asked that each region look for nominations in each district for the awards. The due date for nominations is May 1, 2008. It was reiterated that the Recreational Club of the Year award will remain in force. Mario Martinez will be working on getting nominations for the Young Referee of the Year award.
- b. Secretary: Lois Epps reported that Mike Strickler's contract will be extended through August of 2012. In addition, Glorivee Valentin has been hired to fill the vacant receptionist position in the office.
- c. Treasurer:
- i. Scott Maxwell presented a review of the financial statements provided along with revenue expectations (handout distributed to members) and investments.
  - ii. Scott reported that a motion was passed in the EC meeting on January 26, 2008, allowing the FYSA Treasurer to place clubs in "not in good standing" once those clubs are 60 days in arrears of their financial responsibilities to FYSA, unless a payment plan is in place. The applicable regional vice president, district commissioner and agent of record of the club will be notified of the action to be taken. In addition, FYSA Rule 302 will need to be amended to accommodate for the new procedure. The following clubs will be placed in "Not in Good Standing" as of February 1, 2008: A2HYS, A2MLS, and A2TCU.
  - iii. Florida Soccer Foundation – Discussion of creation of a foundation; purpose of foundation would be to provide funding for programs. FYSA President would be member of the Board. Attorney is reviewing Articles of Incorporation & By-Laws; their response is due within a few days. EC recommended authorization of \$1,000 expenditure to begin process of establishing Foundation as a 501(c)3 organization.  
***Motion by Marino Torrens to approve authorization of expenditure of \$1000 to process necessary documents to establish the Florida Soccer Foundation as a 501(c)3. Seconded by Joe Goldian. Motion passed.***
- d. Vice President of Administration and Communication:
- i. Proposed new versions of game report and supplemental report forms were presented. Suggested changes should be forwarded to Myrna Foster or Mario Martinez. It was noted that the existing USSF form must continue to be used when Referee Abuse/Assault is involved.
  - ii. Current policies related to website advertising are being reviewed and updated with Jennifer Slattery, FYSA's Director of Communications; to be discussed further at a future meeting. Jennifer is working with Demosphere to redesign the FYSA website to provide a new look and reorganization of the site. By May options other than Varsity should be available to us. Jennifer could do E-newsletters in-house. Discussion of the need to obtain viable email addresses for 08/09 season led to query of risks associated; assured no risk as long as we do not sell them and we provide opt-out on the site. Region vice presidents are reminded to work with Jennifer regarding information they place on their region pages of the website. Jennifer will review the region pages on a regular basis, ensuring sponsor compliance, assisting with issues and offering suggestions for enhancing the page.

It was also noted that President's Cup Rules, etc. would reside in its own section once the redesign takes place.

- iii. It was reiterated to the BOD that people completing the coach/volunteer registration form need to ensure they are providing all information requested. The Risk Management Committee can only mitigate issues with full disclosure (fully answering the questions on the form). BOD members should assist with the education of the affiliates as to risk management procedures.
- iv. New affiliation applications: The following applications were presented for approval/denial:
  1. ***Motion made by Patty Wilson to approve the affiliation of Ft. Lauderdale Select FC. Seconded by Myrna Foster Motion passed with one no vote.***
  2. ***Motion made by Nancy Rocabado to table the approval of the affiliation of Palm Beach Gardens Youth Soccer Association until the May EC meeting due to missing information. Seconded by Terri Towers Motion passed with two no votes.***
  3. ***Motion made by Diana Robertson to deny the affiliation of Clearwater International FC Galactics. Seconded by Frank Villaizan. Motion passed.***
  4. ***Motion made by Diana Robertson to approve the name change of the Northeast/St. Pete Raiders to Everton Football Club. Seconded by Wayne Scott. Motion passed.***
- v. Affiliation Procedures and Notifications:
  1. Myrna Foster and Linda Lathrop reviewed the revisions, approved by the EC on January 26, 2008, to FYSA Rule 102, 103, and 201.6 (Affiliation Procedures and Registration) to designate an orderly progression of affiliation paperwork so that registration can take place and passes be made available for coaches and players prior to the beginning of the early league seasons.
  2. In addition a revision to the language currently posted on the FYSA website with regard to procedural changes for re-affiliation and new affiliation that was approved by the EC on January 26, 2008 was also reviewed
  3. ***Motion made by Marino Torrens to amend FYSA Rule 102.1 to include 'part 4' stating that condition of membership is that affiliate agrees to pay all fees and fines. Seconded by Joe Goldian. Motion Passed.***
- vi. Tournament and Travel:
  1. Myrna Foster reviewed the new tournament manual and tournament approval notification procedures.
  2. Myrna then presented the approved revision to FYSA Rule 902.12 regarding the submission of post-tournament reports. The revised rule requires that red card summary reports and the supporting game and referee supplemental reports all be submitted to the FYSA office within 72 hours of the completion of the tournament and to restate that a red card summary report must be submitted even if there are no red cards given in the tournament.
  3. The results of the discussion at the EC meeting on January 26, 2008 regarding proposed fines against specific affiliate members for non-compliance relating to the submission of post-tournament reports. Affiliates will be notified of the decisions.
  4. Tournament red card reports will be emailed to the appropriate DC's and RVP's when there are outstanding games to serve. All violent conduct charges (whether served or not) will be sent to the entire BOD. Also, the sanctioned tournament chart will be distributed to the BOD one time per month.
- vii. Review & Discipline: BOD was reminded that guidelines and procedures must be followed for conducting hearings and/or responding to the findings of the Review & Discipline Committee.

Region Vice Presidents and District Commissioners need to ensure all are handled in a timely manner.

- e. Vice President of Player/Coaching Development:
  - i. Jerry Matlak presented the DOC report (handout distributed to members).
  - ii. Reviewed the academy program accreditation documentation that was approved by the EC at the January 26, 2008, meeting.
  - iii. Recreational League Certifications – Tabled until May EC meeting.
  - iv. Reported EC approval at January 26, 2008 meeting to hire a full-time assistant director of coaching.
  
- f. Registrar:
  - i. Linda Lathrop and Myrna Foster presented a revised coach/volunteer form for the 2008-2009 seasonal year which will now be called a “Risk Management Application”. This form was approved by the EC on, January 26, 2008. Returning coaches will register through online registration system. New coaches will be required to scan/fax the new form to office.
  - ii. Tryout Dates – ***Motion made by Marino Torrens to set one state-wide date for tryouts of all age groups to the Tuesday following Memorial Day each year; to be effective immediately. Seconded by Dave Ditillio. Motion passed by a vote of 15-14.***
  - iii. Linda Lathrop discussed July registration and 2008-2009 seasonal year registration timelines. As approved at January 25, 2008 EC meeting, going forward, the FYSA Registrar and Vice President-Administration & Communication will set the registration timeline each seasonal year. For seasonal year 2008/2009 last day as free agents is 7/15/08.
  - iv. Roster freeze will be enforced through FYSA website; therefore any changes to rosters approved by a Region Cup Committee would have to be processed manually working directly with FYSA Registrar and office.
  - v. “Playing up” rule (205.2) – Tabled until May EC meeting
  - vi. Problems associated with recoding of teams (e.g., loss of historical player data, etc.) were discussed. Also, the current problem with lack of unique affiliated codes for leagues and clubs; associate affiliate codes will now begin with the letter “X”. The associate affiliates will be notified of proposed new codes.
  - vii. Team codes cannot be changed without written approval of the FYSA Registrar.
  - viii. COS fee revisions – Tabled until May EC meeting.
  
- g. Vice President of Competition: Sandy Parker presented an overview of the State Cup draw results. There are 385 teams in this year’s competition; 12 teams were not accepted into the competition. The sites, dates and draw will be posted on the FYSA website by February 1<sup>st</sup>. The 2008 Florida State Cup Finals will be held at Santa Rosa Park in Pace. The 2008 FYSA President’s Cup will be held at Pine Island Park in Plantation on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
  
- h. Regional Vice President Reports and Issues:
  - i. Region A: There are over 495 teams in Region Cup. State Cup Registration format used; very positively received. The Cup schedules will be posted on the website this week. New scheduling program working well. The finals will be in Plantation. The date and location for the Region AGM

have not been set. Region A and Region C to do joint competition for the Division II winners from the two Region Cup competitions; hope to expand to more Regions next year

- ii. Region B: There are over 110 teams in Region Cup which is only for Division I teams. Region AGM was held. Representatives from various aspects of FYSA attended/presented which helped ensure a successful event.
  - iii. Region C: There are 550 teams in Region Cup. Kohl's American Cup will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Braden River.
  - iv. Region D: There are over 30 teams in Region Cup.
- i. Executive Director/State Office Report: Ed Thiebe reported on the current staff update and reported on the progress being made on the development of a performance management plan/evaluation with the assistance of June Sabo-Nelson of Advantec. He then reiterated the internal management plan in place regarding job assignments and the identification of EC members associated with those assignments. Jennifer Slattery then discussed the draft of FYSA communications plan; she asked the EC members to review and provide any suggestions to her. Barb Newton then gave the members an update on the plans for the AGM. Have increased block of rooms. Registration form available online and mailed to affiliates. Hiring a professional master of ceremonies for banquet. A form to provide suggested workshop topics was distributed and will be mailed to affiliates. May EC meeting to be held at AGM venue.
  - j. Director of Coaching Report: (Incorporated into the Vice President of Player/Coaching Development report)
  - k. Referee Liaison Report: Mario Martinez reported that Jim Vars will be the State Cup and President's Cup referee assignor. He then encouraged all BOD members to get with the affiliates in their area and encourage the scheduling of entry level referee courses. A formal proposal for a program to mentor young referees to be developed for presentation at the May EC meeting. Reminded members that the nominations for Young Referee of the Year awards are due by May 1, 2008.
  - l. SRV/SYRA Report: Jozsef Michna relayed that three Florida referees were selected to go to the US Youth Soccer National Championship, two Florida referees were selected to go to the Region III ODP Championships in Houston, and one Florida referee was selected to go to the national ODP competition. There are currently 4,992 registered referees in Florida with 6 recertifications yet to take place.. FSR will send referee mentors to President's Cup and State Cup competitions instead of assessors. Any referee coming into Florida will go through background check. BOD to remind their affiliates to anchor goals even during practice. Pro Clinic will be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in conjunction with the State Referee Committee meeting. FSR is setting up a referee academy to enhance referee development; documentation on the academy format was distributed to the members.
  - m. Standing Committee Reports: None presented.

#### **F. New Business**

- a. Discussion questioning whether suspensions are for league only or for all FYSA activities. It was noted that any suspension exceeding 60 days or 6 games MUST be forwarded to FYSA per Rule 611.4; it

cannot remain within the league. Tommy Thompson will organize a meeting or teleconference of league presidents to address this matter and the due process issues relating to these suspensions.

- b. Linda Lathrop reviewed the revision to FYSA Rule 302.3, approved at the January 26, 2008 EC meeting, regarding the process for placing a player or coach in "Not in Good Standing" status.
- c. Tommy Thompson then relayed to the BOD that the EC approved the procedure whereby new affiliations can be approved with contingencies issues. Those issues must be resolved within ninety (90) days or with the approval of the Vice President of Administration and Communication. Registration of players and/or coaches cannot take place until all contingent issues have been resolved/fulfilled.
- d. Mr. Thompson reiterated that challenges to current affiliations are due to the FYSA Office by July 1, 2008, to be heard at the August meetings of the EC and/or BOD.

**G. For the Good of the Game:** Nothing to report.

**H. Next Board of Directors Meeting:**

- a. August 8, 2008 (time to be determined; to be held at the JW Marriott Grande Lakes-Orlando)

**I. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.