

FLORIDA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
August 6, 2021

President Velmer called the meeting to order at 10.04 am.

Roll call

Present: Kai Velmer, Greg Zack, Mike Flood, Daragh Cullen, Justin Goldman (proxy from Carlton Talbot), Alice Smith, Russell Walker, Mike Goodman, Mike Sroka (proxy from Moncef Hadiji), Mike Connell, Ed Kinsey, John Withkowski, John MacDonald, Terry Straub

Absent: Chris Ellison, Carlton Talbot, Moncef Hadiji, Renee Pippy, and one vacant position

Also attending, Executive Director Joel Dragan, Past President John Stacey and Parliamentarian Maurice Henderson

Guests: John Bauman, Tom Tianich, Jennifer and Dave Ditillio, Barb and Dennis Newton, and Mike Strickler

In view of the absence of the Board Secretary, President Velmer asked Terry Straub to record the minutes. Without vacillation, he leaped into the breach.

Motion to adopt the agenda made by Ed Kinsey, second by Daragh Cullen, motion passed

Motion to approve Board Minutes for April 20, May 21 and June 15 made by Mike Sroka, second by Daragh Cullen, absentia Ed Kinsey, motion passed

No Correspondence

John Bauman from FRS reported to date there were 3,748 referees which is approximately the same as last year, 248 new registrations, grassroots certification 33, ready program 65. A discussion on new referee information to be placed on the web site in attempt to attract more registrations. Additionally, there was support for restarting the referee uniform opportunities through the Bucks program. No BOD action requested.

President Velmer's report included a Zoom Call that he and Joel hosted covering a variety of issues including tryout dates, loopholes to avoid tryout restrictions, referee abuse, solicitation of new referees, and disappointment ID camps. No BOD action requested.

No Secretary report

Treasurer Justin Goldman reported that the new budget is forecasted for a deficit of \$32,000. Reliance on income from International games may be quixotic. Discussion of supplementing

FYSA's income streams covered a variety of alternatives. Continued exploration and analysis of the budget was deferred to the next scheduled meeting.

VP/Player Development Cullen indicated he, Joel and Sarah have been working on the sponsorship package with Publix and that three other corporate sponsors have reached out. No BOD action was requested.

VP/Administration Flood discussed that risk management continues to be difficult for FYSA. Additionally Mike talked about proposed bylaw amendment for Sunday indicating that a tremendous amount of work had been accomplished by Barb Newton, Jennifer DiTillio, and Tom Tianich.

VP/Competition Zack reported that completing all FYSA tournament matches had been challenging given the external issues. He complemented the FYSA staff for their hard work and perseverance to complete all the competitions.

Registrar Alice Smith announced current registration numbers at 81,767 compared to registrations for 19/20 at 97,576, and for 18/19 101,610. Discussions centered on determining causes for the continued decline including COVID. Alice Smith moved to approve reaffiliations, seconded by Mike Sroka, motion passed.

Region A comments included a successful region AFM, referees performing well, negative comments about the new registration system and two National Champions from the region.

Region B comments included successful league participation in spite of COVID, Commissioner's Cup games were on sight, competition impacted by the business of soccer as parents are not getting sufficient information on the subordinate tournaments, and making these competitions enjoyable for parents.

Region C comments were directed at their huge Commissioner's Cup negatively impacted by referee shortage which is directly affected by independent tournament that are paying the referees higher fees. Mike Connell is not seeking re-election Region VP. Best wishes and a kick in the grass to a Rowdie.

Region D comments included the region's continued struggle with competing leagues, thanks to Mike Strickler for his ODP work in the region and the region needs to focus efforts on increasing Commissioner's Cup participation.

Executive Director Joel Dragan's report included complements to Sarah on the AGM organizational process, creating a female friendly culture, Roberts Rules of Order, proper hearing procedures, announced the resignations of Jill and Jonathon, and the eight day national event received very well with substantial staff assistance the event may be back in 2 years.

Director of Player Development Mike Strickler's comments included regional DOC meetings, D&C licenses, instructors' meeting the previous day, still doing virtual sessions, planning on field session in January, MLS programs and put together a national team list of each groups of females and males.

New Business – A broad discussion of referee registrations and background checks took place. There appears to be an issue with credit reports. It was indicated that Jennifer Murphy was not pulling credit reports but looking to revise language relative to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Additionally uncertified referee assignors were discussed.

Proper Hearing and Appeals Procedures

Jennifer DiTillio and Barb Newton conducted a wonderful presentation of procedures relative to hearing and appeals followed by a general discussion. (Sidebar recommendation that the presentation be recorded and loaded on the web site.)

Also under new business was a lively discussion of the new GotSport registration system. Decorum prohibits further recordation of comments and input. Mike Sroka moved, seconded by Olaf Henke that leadership of FYSA (Kai and Joel) should schedule a meeting within 5 days with GotSport to determine how and when the new system will be fixed in a reasonable timeframe. Motion passed.

Parliamentarian Maurice Henderson observed that currently FYSA did not have a Secretary and that the BOD needed to appoint a temporary Secretary to perform accredit credentials as well as run the required elections at the AGM. John Stacey graciously accepted this appointment.

For the Good of the Game

Ed Kinsey indicated that youth who volunteer to help with FYSA activities earn Service Hours should also be awarded hours for their travel time to and from the events. Everyone agreed.

Team Boca sent 4 teams to nationals with the 13's winning a championship.

Executive Session

- Administrative Hearing Discussion

- Personnel Discussions

- Motion by Mike Sroka, seconded by Daragh Cullen to postpone decisions to Sunday passed.

Upon return from Executive Session motion made to adjourn by Chuck Roast and seconded by Nosmo King to adjourn, motion passed.

Sine Die 1:52 p.m.

Next BOD Meeting 8.8.21 post AGM