

**Marino Torrens:** OK. Good Morning. Cody, we ready? OK, Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the 2012 FYSA Annual General Meeting. First thing on the Agenda will be to adopt the Agenda that you have in your books, it's the blue page, I think it's the second page. Everybody got their books? Going to do worse than me yesterday that couldn't read half that stuff? No, I need three pairs of glasses. Anybody wants to add or delete anything to the Agenda? Adjust? See none. Move to adopt the agenda.

**Member:** I move that we adopt the agenda.

**Member:** I second it.

**Marino Torrens:** OK. Ok. Next, I'm going to call Tommy Thompson, the Secretary for the Credentials report.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok. As you guys know this is the first year we used electronic proxies. We actually collected this year 89.87% of the eligible votes were picked up.

**Marino Torrens:** Good job, good job!

**Tommy Thompson:** The numbers are up here on the screen for you. I'm not going to bore you by reading them off. You can write them down if you want to.

REGION A – Of the available votes, they picked up 1,849, or 95.6% of their votes were picked up.

REGION B – Has 2,360 available votes. For Region B since there is an election, a simple majority is 2,107 votes and they picked 89.28% of their votes.

REGION C – Picked up 2,329 votes, or 92.97% of their votes.

REGION D – Bill, you got a little bit of work to do. They picked up 44% of their votes.

So the numbers are up there. Are there any questions?

I make a motion to accept the Credentials report as posted on the screen.

**Member:** I second it.

**Tommy Thompson:** Any comments, discussions? All in favor?

**Members:** Aye.

**Tommy Thompson:** Opposed?

**Marino Torrens:** That was quick.

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, for the rules of procedures from, wait a second – excuse me a minute – Ok, never mind. For the procedures, we are going to present the rule changes as they are in your books. We are going to ask the person that proposed the rule changes if they have any comments or additions or if they want to explain why they're doing it. Then from there on, we're going to have one person in favor to speak and one person against to speak. We will be alternating. There will be a time limit of two

minutes, three minutes, just to keep it short. If, after somebody that speaks for or against, we don't have anybody else to be the opposite, there will be no more comments from the floor. We all understand that? Ok. Proposed rule changes, here we go.

**Marino Torrens:** I'm sorry. Becky McLaren.

**Becky McLaren:** If you turn to the white section in your books, that's where the proposed rule changes are and they are going to be posted on the screen. The only time that I will read anything, is if there, after the workshop that we had yesterday for proposed rule changes, if there was a change made to it, then I will go to the screen and will read it because it will be different than what's in your book. Ok?

And the first one is involving Bylaw 4.1, Page 7. This one does have a change to the suggested change – Cody, if you could move down just a bit – It's going to be, "The President is the Chief Operating Officer of the corporation. The President shall:" and then the duties will be numbered underneath it. It was taking point number 1 and moving it to the top and then adding that, that would be the only change that's in your book.

I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen.

**Member:** Second.

**Becky McLaren:** Any discussion? Seeing no discussion, all those in favor, say Aye.

**Members:** Aye.

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstention? **Passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** Bylaw 5- Mr. Kimbrell, if you're in the room, would you like to speak to your motion? Would you like to speak to your proposal?

**Marino Torrens:** Guys, is it on? There is a little switch on the bottom, you can hardly see it.

**Steve Kimbrell:** My name is Steve Kimbrell. Club Directors League (CDL). Please take a moment at the bottom of this sheet where the rule change is proposed and read the committee's report. It's very important what they say.

The purpose of proposing this rule change is to give the membership of this association the opportunity to vote Yes or No on the issue of a state-wide league run by FYSA, which you have not been given otherwise. This could become the biggest program that FYSA has in the long run, and yet you as members have been bypassed to approve or disapprove. I personally believe the current FYSA leadership knows most of Florida wants to run its own local and regional leagues. So they have to back-door this to meet their agenda. Today, you get to decide what's best for Florida, because of this rule change proposal. In the response given at the bottom of the page here, the review committee is recommending denial. Two things stand out in that short paragraph:

Number 1 – It says the FYSA state league will not compete with other leagues in the state. This is bogus. It not only will compete with leagues, other competitive leagues, but it will cannibalize the other competitive leagues. FYSA's plans do not stop at just using a round of 16 teams. They intend to expand

their league in the future. Require that if you are going to play in State Cup, that you play in their league. And basically reduce all the other competitive leagues to a second level or put us out of business. For example, if you have 16 teams in an age group that are playing in their league, that's 15 games if you play just one team each. Most teams it would be impossible for them to play in another league. Fifteen games is a lot of games; There's not enough time, not enough space to play in other local or regional leagues.

Number 2 – It says, “For FYSA to survive” they have to have this league. That's pretty disturbing. I kind of thought the state was running pretty good. But with that statement, it now reveals the true motive for the league and that is to stop other USSF affiliates, mainly US Club Soccer. But the truth is, competition will be reduced by having only one main competitive league, and I believe FYSA has this backwards. In my opinion the best solution is to form a coalition of your top leagues. Assign the top finishers in those leagues the right to get into State Cup. This puts the best teams in the State Cup, it forces coaches to put their best talent and keep them in the FYSA local leagues, and now all the leagues in the state are working together on behalf of the FYSA. Sadly, with one main competitive league, many local leagues will choose to leave FYSA, so they can survive.

The next logical step after creating an affiliate league to compete with your other leagues is maybe there will be affiliate clubs. You know, maybe the folks in Jacksonville and Orlando and Tampa and Miami, they're not doing as good a job as they should developing players, so maybe FYSA, big brother, will come in and say, “well, look. We'll just develop some clubs in those areas. Call the ODP clubs. And those will feed into our new league” You say, well, that's ridiculous. Well, did you believe that they would compete with your own league and the state? Did we create FYSA to run leagues and clubs? No, affiliates run leagues and clubs and this is a clear conflict of interest.

It boils down to this. Control and power – are you today prepared to give up control and power of your local leagues and give it to FYSA? Today will be your only time to decide this. Choose wisely.

**Becky McLaren:** The discussion is going to go, will go For and Against. Obviously, that was a For, now it would be somebody speaking against the motion.

**Tommy Thompson:** Steve, with all due respect, you've taken a league

**Male Member:** Name?

**Tommy Thompson:** Tommy Thompson, Secretary FYSA – You've taken a competitive league here that we are trying to form and taken it way beyond (garbled)

**Becky McLaren:** Tommy, we can't hear you. You have to get closer to the mike.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok. With all due respect, Steve, you've taken a proposal here and taken it way beyond the intent or the desire of this program. You say there has been no local representation of this. This was approved by your Board of Directors, with your DC's and RVP's present. So you did have local representation when this decision was made.

Two – nowhere has anybody said that you have to be in this league to play in State Cup. State Cup, by definition, is an open tournament, it's open to anybody. That is not in the proposal for the league. The

only thing that is in the league is possible seeding in State Cup points. There is no requirement anywhere that you must play in this league to enter State Cup.

Third point – FYSA isn't a competitive marketplace for your players. The coaches and DOC's out there have expressed a desire to us for a more competitive league. Now, they haven't talked to the administrators, that's a dysfunction between you and your DOC's and your coaches. There is another state wide league being formed at this moment in this state by one of our competitors, US Club, The Florida Premier League. If we don't have the authority to do this, we are going to lose players and teams to that league because that's what the people seem to want.

Again Steve, with all due respect, don't read something into the proposal that's not there. FYSA has no desire to come down and run the CDL to USA BYSL Jacksonville league. This league is restricted to the top 16 teams. From the round of 16, three or 4 of those each year go on to play in the Premier league, so we're talking about 11 or 12 teams maximum. We did have the authority to add one extra team to average out the brackets. That's one extra team. And as far as picking the top teams from each league to play in this league, we don't want to anoint one league is better than another league. Who's to say Jacksonville is weaker than CDL, or worse than South Florida United or something like that. The criteria right now is set. Round of 16 teams only. There has been no proposal to take it any further than that. Thank you.

**Marino Torrens:** I'm sorry, excuse me Barry. There are some pens being passed around because, I guess if someone who hasn't raise if anyone hasn't got a pen to make sure for the vote, please. Sorry, thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Barry.

**Barry Witlan:** Barry Witlan, South Florida United. Um, I'm in favor of this proposal

**Becky McLaren:** Wait, I've got to have an against, um in favor. Oh wait, you're in favor. Oh, I'm sorry, go ahead. I'm sorry, go ahead.

**Barry Witlan:** Tommy and I never disagree, but this time we do.

**Becky McLaren:** I'm surprised.

**Barry Witlan:** I'm in favor of this proposal. First off I think philosophically FYSA should not compete with its affiliates and I'm not sure what definition of competition FYSA is attempting to use here, but you are going after the teams in our leagues to play in your league. That is a pure definition of competition.

Secondly, just because another league is offered by some other USSF affiliate doesn't mean it's a good idea that FYSA should follow. I think FYSA should be leaders and rely on what they have done best, which is administer, and let us do what we do best, which is run our local leagues.

Third, for the last several years, all we've heard from FYSA, the mantra has been, "we don't want the kids to play more games." So if FYSA is saying, "Well, we're going to allow these teams to compete in

the state wide league, plus your local leagues.” That’s pretty hypocritical because what they’re saying is you are going to be able to play more games and the kids are encouraged to play more games. And I thought that was exactly the opposite of what FYSA’s been saying.

And lastly, I think the concept of a state wide league, given the make-up of our state geographically, it becomes too costly. And when you are talking about games starting in August and September, when you’re thinking of coming from south Florida to play in Sarasota with the weather problems and everything else, I think what you’re creating is a league that will go against what we have all started with our local leagues, which is a family and the parents being able to spend time with their children. Now they are paying money to have their children pay elsewhere and not experiencing it with them which I think is against what FYSA has done best and what the local leagues provide. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion?

**Sandy Parker:** I’m short; I have to pull it down. I’m Sandy Parker, Vice President of Competition. I’m speaking against the proposed rule. There are approximately 40 other state associations within US Youth Soccer who have premier league structures in place for their state organizations today. We are one of only 15 who do not have this in place. It is our Charter from US Youth as an affiliate state association to develop, conduct, and sanction programs for the better development of our organization, our players, our coaches, and we have been hearing for approximately 5 years from the grass roots, at the coaching level, at the player level, that this is what they want. They want additional seeding within State Cup, and the only way to do that is by competition where they are playing each other on the field, not on paper. And the concept of selecting 2 or 3 current existing leagues out of 15 that offer competitive scheduling would be detrimental and disparate treatment by anointing a few to the detriment of the others. Therefore trying to have this on a state-wide level so that the games can determine who gets placement is the most equitable way to do that, in fairness to all affiliates and all leagues rather than just anointing a few.

We have no plans to require this to be a part of State Cup. Our participation in the current Regional Leagues and National Leagues that has expanded over the past 6 to 8 years, has increased our presence in those avenues and those venues and culminated in 2 National Championships this year for Florida, which is the first time since 1997. So by providing this competition for our teams allows them to better position themselves with competition that’s at their same levels.

And to answer the response relative to adding games, it was at the meeting that we had in February with the league presidents to try to work in partnership with them, that the leagues asked us to encourage our teams to participate in both and our position was that we would not require teams to play exclusively in ours and if they chose to play in both, that was fine. But, however, to counter-balance that argument that we would be offering additional games that were adding to the structure, we allowed them that if there were going to be games against local leagues or regional league opponents that are also in the Florida State Premier League, you would only have to play the game once and it would count for both leagues. So we feel that we have taken the right steps through the feedback from our coaches and clubs who’ve asked for this in working partnership with the existing leagues, and don’t form any threat or competition to our standing leagues than the formation of any other affiliate

league would be. So I encourage you to please vote no to this proposal so we can move forward and provide the program that we're hearing from our coaches and teams that they want.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Seeing no discussion. Yeah, I need another For before you could do that. I've got somebody coming. Yes?

**Heather McDonough:** Heather McDonough, Space Coast United. Um, I just wanted to point out, Tommy made the statement that there's no plans to expand this league, or this tournament league anything beyond 16 teams, yet on the FYSA website it indicates that the league will expand and evolve in the coming years in order to offer the highest quality competition around the state. So it sounds to me like there are some contradictory plans for the future for this.

**Becky McLaren:** Now you may

**Paul Van Steenbergen:** My name is Paul Van Steenbergen, F.C.Tampa. I'm the President. Right now this association our association here really is characterized in my opinion by two separate types of organizations. That's simplifying it for the sake of exposition right here; I'm going to use it. One is the old soccer, the Youth Soccer organization. The other is a Youth Soccer business. We're all in this together, but we have different operations, different organizations and different needs.

I'll characterize the business first. It's say characterized by hyper or ah or hyper recruitment, merchandising, fees far in excess of the variable cost of playing soccer, and third, right now, the inability to return on investment. In other words, whatever has been promised at those prices hasn't come to pass. It's bad for the customer, understandable for the business. I don't, I don't mind the businesses, I think they are probable good for the sport. The businesses are currently engaged in trying to consolidate the existing soccer capital in the state. They're not after clubs; they're after leases, because when all of the areas that are used up, um, if there are no more fields to play on, you're going to play on their fields.

This I see, so this profusion of playing coalitions, the profusion of leagues that we've seen, have been attempts to some degree to eliminate the youth soccer organizations, and to keep them down. So you can compare yourselves as a business, today's youth soccer organizations and say really their not very good. That's why you should come play here. This league opens that up, it democratizes the play, and lets all the merchandising and recruitment and everything else, take place on the field. So we think we are in favor of it. We community soccer organization are in favor of it because we think it gives us the opportunity now to get on the playing fields and to really, you know, get some kind of democratic outlet for us to compete. And I think that without it we are going to continue to consolidate to the point where we have 3 or 4 businesses. They're coming; we're not going to stop them. The franchises are coming. This is the beginning of what we'll see, a complete change in it. This organization is either going to become a business organization or it's going to remain a youth soccer organization. We'll see in the next couple of years where it's going to go. This is an attempt, this league is the first attempt I've seen

to move back and give the youth soccer organization, the volunteer organizations, some ability to democratize the play. So we are in favor of it. We like to see the league, we, we, and we don't think it's going to destroy any of the leagues we play in USA. We're not at all concerned about it because we know it's 16 teams in the entire state. It is not going to collapse us in any way, shape or form. And we have 400 teams playing in that coalition. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Are you For or Against?

**Claudia Palombo:** I'm kinda Against.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok, then I need another For before I can say that the lady

**Claudia Palombo:** He was a For, now I'm Against.

**Becky McLaren:** No, he is against, he is against the proposal.

**Claudia Palombo:** I'm For

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. I'm sorry.

**Claudia Palombo:** That's what I meant to say. I'm sorry. I meant to say I was against what the other guy

**Becky McLaren:** 'Cuz when you said "Against". That's why

**Claudia Palombo:** I just wanted to make sure everyone was awake. The only

**Becky McLaren:** Identify yourself first.

**Claudia Palombo:** I'm Claudia Palombo, Florida United Girls Soccer Association FLUGSA. I'm a league, of course, and the only thing that concerns me the most is that if changes are made to, if this proposal passes and changes are made, I mean, doesn't pass, and changes are made, in this new league that FYSA is proposing the changes that are made, will be let known to the other leagues as to not eventually choke us by taking more and more and more teams and choking us. Ok, as leagues. That's my main concern with this new league, ok is the simple fact that now it's good, it's great in the books, the way they're saying it, ok, but my concern is that it changes later on to the point of hurting us as leagues because we've been affiliates for many years and it is not fair that all of a sudden it's like it's taking part of, like the gentleman said, our business. Even though this is not a business because we all volunteer to help, and in my opinion all the leagues that we have out here have made very good strides, they've really helped these kids and I think they have done a really good job, so far. Ok, which I want to make a point. But that's my main concern. If everything was done without, without kind of talking to us first would changes be made that in the future it will hurt our leagues because it will shrink us by taking more teams. That's it. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** And anybody else? Any other discussion against the motion? Seeing no other discussion against. I have to go back and forth, there's not against, then I have to, ah close discussion. All right. Take out your ballot books because this requires a 2/3 majority. Take out your ballot books and take out Ballot A, as in apple. Ok, I just want to remind everyone, ok, that voting for the motion is voting against the state wide league. If you vote against the rule proposal, you are voting for the state wide league to be able to happen. I know. This is for the change. This would restrict FYSA from doing this if you vote for. Ok?

**Member:** (not clear)

**Marino Torrens:** I'm Sorry?

**Becky McLaren:** Once you have written your vote on your ballot, if you will hold the ballot up

**Marino Torrens:** Hold on a second.

**Member:** (not clear) for or against

**Becky McLaren:** I'm sorry? Write Yes or No. Yes, that you're for the proposed rule. No, that you're against the proposed rule. Ok, if you fold your votes in half, pass them down to the end of the row, toward the center, towards the center where the microphones are. And we have people that are going to be coming down the aisle to pick them up.

**Marino Torrens:** Have we got everybody here? The workers have all come down?

**Marino Torrens:** Ok.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Hello. If you vote Yes, that means you are voting for the proposal. If you vote No, that means you are against the proposal.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Make sure, have all ballots been collected? Make sure you pass them down to the center. Guys, if somebody still has a ballot, hold it high so they can, they can collect them. Looks like we have, while they are totaling, while they are totaling,

**Marino Torrens:** They are still collecting

**Becky McLaren:** Yeah.

**Marino Torrens:** Make sure we have them.

**Becky McLaren:** Have we received all ballots? Does anybody

**Marino Torrens:** Mia, hello

**Becky McLaren:** Colin

**Becky McLaren:** Do we have all ballots now? Seeing no more ballots, we're going to go ahead while they total the votes; we're going to go ahead and go on to the next proposal so that we can keep things moving.

**Becky McLaren:** I've got to put my glasses back on. Ok.

**Marino Torrens:** Might as well stay there. The next one is yours too.

**Tommy Thompson:** (laughs)

**Becky McLaren:** Stay there. Let's go ahead to Rule 8.7 as presented on the screen. Tommy, would you like to speak to your proposal?

**Tommy Thompson:** All right. I think it's self-explanatory. We used the electronic proxies this weekend; we had 96 of them submitted. I think we only had 4 or 5 papers. We had people submitting proxies up to 5 minutes before close of Credentials. I think that's why we got 90% of our votes this year which is the highest percentage that we ever got.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Seeing no other discussion, all those in favor say Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? **It passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** I'm waiting for Cody to get to the screen. Ok. Next one is C90.1. I move that we accept the proposal as presented on the screen. Mr. Thompson, would you like to speak to your motion?

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok. Again, I'm just deleting out two words from the Objectives here, "and Implementing". It is not the responsibility of the Personnel Committee to implement policies. It is the responsibility of the Personnel Committee to develop the policies, and then the Operating Officers of the corporation, right now your President, based on what we passed earlier, would be the one to implement the program. There doesn't need to be two people in the state office trying to implement the programs. Not the Personnel Committee and the President, it should come from the President and Executive Director right on down. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other Discussion? Seeing no other discussion, all those in favor say Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? **It passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** C90.3.4 I move that we accept those changes presented on the screen. Mr. Thompson, would you like to speak to your motion?

**Marino Torrens:** You might as well just stand up here.

**Tommy Thompson:** Again, I think the explanation of the changes is fairly self-evident. It's just, delineating the procedures in the office and, again, it's removing the Personnel Committee from the operational side of the office and putting it where it should be.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Seeing no other discussion, all those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. I have to switch places with you because I have to talk to my motion. I move that we accept the change for 104.3 as presented on the screen.

**Tommy Thompson:** Becky's going to come down so she can talk to this since it's her rule change.

**Becky McLaren:** If you notice what it is, it is to change the date for affiliation from September 1<sup>st</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> which was what we did this year. This way we have all of the re-affiliation information in prior to when you start to register players. Last year we were chasing people to insure that everything was done. So this proposal will take care of that. So that everything is done, so that when August 1<sup>st</sup> hits, you guys are ready to hit the ground running.

**Tommy Thompson:** Any other discussion? All those in favor of the change?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed? Ok, as long as we are on 104.3, last year at the AGM there was an amendment to 104.3 Section 4, it said, "Have not used fields more than 15 miles from their home field in which the affiliation was granted or FYSA sanctioned player training etcetera, etcetera". We took this rule change to our legal, and our counsel has told us that basically this rule change is unenforceable, basically because it is a violation of Restraint of Trade. A Restraint of Trade violation under Florida statutes. We have no defense to defend it. The other point was made is, we have no control over the allocation of the fields, that is a city and county responsibility. For the most part, very few, if any, of our affiliates own their own fields. So, therefore, since we cannot defend this portion of the rule in court, it needs to be stricken from the rules at this time. Ok?

**Marino Torrens:** Somebody has a question.

**Tommy Thompson:** Yes

**Lou Confessore:** Lou Confessore - I'm from Soccer Academy of the Americas in Miami. Um, this rule only has to do with the fields, and not having to do with new affiliates?

**Tommy Thompson:** Correct.

**Lou Confessore:** So I have, I can't put another affiliate within 15 miles, but I can have another affiliate practice across the canal from me?

**Tommy Thompson:** Correct.

**Lou Confessore:** That doesn't make any sense.

**Tommy Thompson:** It does when you look, when you talk to the attorneys.

**Lou Confessore:** Well, when, when I talk to the attorneys, the 15 mile rule doesn't make any sense for the same reason, because that also is Restraint of Trade.

**Tommy Thompson:** I did not approach that with our attorneys, we only

**Lou Confessore:** I think that maybe we need to do that.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok, we

**Lou Confessore:** Because the attorney I talked to was out of the USSF office and he said, that if one of us brings it up, it will get overturned. So I would like to bring it up. And I think that you guys up there in the front know that that statement was made and that all we need to do is to bring it up. So the question is, do you want to deal with it now or do you want to wait until we put in a new affiliation next year?

**Tommy Thompson:** Lou, Um, with all due respect, the opinions that I get out of the USSF General Counsel, I really don't put a lot of faith in them, until we get a legal case law, or something from the State of Florida on it, if somebody wants to put forth the rule change to do it, we can't do it now, because it's too late to change it now, but we will address it with our counsel and come back with an opinion for you.

**Lou Confessore:** Ok.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok.

**Member:** (question)

**Marino Torrens:** It's not a vote.

**Becky McLaren:** It's not a vote.

**Marino Torrens:** It just comes out automatically.

**Becky McLaren:** It comes out automatically.

**Becky McLaren:** Pass that Cody, we already did that. 202.

**Marino Torrens:** Wait, wait, wait

**Becky McLaren:** What?

**Member:** (unheard)

**Marino Torrens:** Come up to the microphone

**Becky McLaren:** Come up to the microphone. I can't hear you, Tim.

**Tim:** Can we have discussion on that last one, with the 15 mile rule?

**Marino Torrens:** No, because we

**Tim:** On the fields, the 15 mile rule

**Becky McLaren:** Well,

**Tim:** My opinion is that you have a legal opinion, ok, legal opinions are just that, the opinions of just one attorney. You have a rule, ok, and if somebody, your job is to enforce that rule that we have. If somebody wants to challenge that rule once you go to enforce it, then that that rule can be challenged in court and you'll get an actual verdict, but right now all you have is opinion. I've hired enough attorneys in my life to know that they have varying opinions on one side or the other. In fact, there is usually one sitting on one side of a table and one on the other with totally different opinions. So, I think you need to enforce the rule that you have and if somebody challenges you on that, then you let the court decide.

**Tommy Thompson:** I have no issue with your position on this other than the fact that if you want to commit the resources of this organization to defend a position that our legal counsel says we will lose on, then we will commit the resources of this organization to the fight and a court fight on this matter would run well into the six figures. Now if you want to commit your resources of this organization into that for a full blown court trial, on a position that our counsel tells us that we are not going to win, that's up to you guys.

**Marino Torrens:** Gentleman in the back

**Angelo Nieri:** Angelo Nieri, Vice President Houston Dynamo Tampa Bay. Um, I think the burden would be on the club that is challenging the affiliation, and I think that if there is a rule that's passed by members of FYSA, I think it is FYSA's obligation to stand by the commitment that they made to the, to the membership. I think that, what was the rule was violated in the attorney's opinion?

**Becky McLaren:** It was it was 104.3

**Angelo Nieri:** What was the case? What was the case law that they were citing? And and how is that any different than a McDonalds franchise saying that you can't open up across the street from from another McDonalds if you want to be an affiliate of a organization, then you have to abide by their rules, and I feel like the burden would be on the club that is in violation of the rule to prove the other way and I think that FYSA should commit legally.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok. Yes, the burden would be on the other affiliate to, you know, put forth the court case and fight it, but we would still have to defend it. And to defend it is just as expensive as putting it forth. Yes, sir.

**Alan Mayr:** Alan Mayr, President Deltona Soccer Club. In my non-volunteer life as a, as a franchise owner and operator, I operate Marble-life and we have 50 franchises. We give exclusive territories. They're upheld in court, they just upheld it Philadelphia just recently, with a franchise that sought to leave the system and made this very argument. So we'll give you counter, we'll give you law that says that an exclusive territory is indeed defendable. Um we have it in the law, it is an important element with regards to how we operate our clubs. And I would agree that if we vote and say, hey, we support that then we have to defend it. You're 100% right that defending it costs money but the reality is that someone's got to challenge that and someone's got to put up that same amount of money. It's not an easy hurdle to overcome. I know, we just did it. That's my comment.

**Tommy Thompson:** Go ahead.

**Becky McLaren:** Go ahead.

**Steve:** Tommy, with all due respect, you can't just stand up and just wave your hands and wipe out a rule. If the opinion is that strong from the attorney, then you should put forth a proposal to vote it out by this group with the explanation that it is not legally prudent to keep it in place. But just because the attorney issues an opinion, doesn't mean you can stand up and say that rule shouldn't be here anymore.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Should we do it by ballot?

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok Steve, I have no problem with what you said. Then all I need to know right now is, can we have a motion from the floor to, to, basically to set aside the rule of 30 days submission prior to the AGM to vote on this and we'll vote on this right now, yes or no? Fair enough?

**Member:** The rule is in place.

**Member:** It already passed.

**Tommy Thompson:** Wait a minute. Wait. I still think we need a vote of the membership right now. We've given you our side.

**Members:** No. It passed.

**Tommy Thompson:** Don't want it? No, ok. Leave it alone then. We'll fight it.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. I know. I'm sorry? The rule will stand and if it gets anything then we will dedicate the funds to fight the rule. Rule 2. Craig.

**Craig Woll:** Craig Woll, Hobe Sound Soccer. Just to clarify, in agreeing that the rule will stand does that mean that it is the position of FYSA that anyone who is in violation of this rule as it is written will be denied affiliation? Or do they get to keep it until such time as is determined? What, what does it mean? What, what, is the rule going to be enforced by FYSA for this year's play? This is something that I am sure my

**Becky McLaren:** We

**Craig Woll:** Friends will want to know.

**Becky McLaren:** The rule is there. The rule will be enforced. We did have two challenges that were filed against affiliations regarding this rule. We postponed, the Board postponed ruling on those two challenges until after this meeting today. Ok? So this afternoon we will hear them. So those that filed the challenges, you will need to stay for the meeting after this.

**Becky McLaren:** Off we go, um. I have the vote count for Bylaw 5 regarding the league, the proposal.

No – 4,419, Yes – 1,704, we had 21 abstentions. So the motion fails.

**Becky McLaren:** Now we'll go back to 202.2.A. I move that we accept the proposal as presented on the screen. Mr. Burke, would you like to speak to your proposal? No? Ok, this is. All those in favor, signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstention? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 202.2.B. I move that we accept the change as noted on the screen. Dale, would you like to speak to your motion? No? All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Motion **carries**.

**Becky McLaren:** 203.1. I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen. Jennifer, would you like to speak to your motion?

**Jennifer Smith:** Basically what this is going to do is clarify when a player is considered registered based on a date.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Seeing no other discussion, all those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**

**Becky McLaren:** Keep going Cody. I think you have the other document. That's it. 208, 208.B. I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen. Mr. Strickler, would you like to speak?

**Mike Strickler:** All this does (intelligible)

**Tommy Thompson:** You need to get on the microphone.

**Becky McLaren:** You need to get on the mike, Mike.

**Mike Strickler:** I don't want to be at the mike.

**Marino Torrens:** I know you don't like the mike.

**Mike Strickler:** Ok. How's this? All right, Um. Really this is in line with the guidelines we've been using so it will kind of save you time from having to put it all together. It will save me time, from having to look at it and send it all back. The only areas that you will still need to send for approval is for players playing more than 2 years up. So for example, those like U16's playing U19's and so forth. Ok. Now, while I have you here, all right, in terms of playing up, the biggest issues we see is those that typically don't roster players to specific teams and then at the end of the year, after they played incorrectly, it gets sent to me. All right. Make sure that if you have players that are, that you need to get approval for do those early in the year so it doesn't put you in a bad light, doesn't put me in a bad light but they take it out on me. So please if we could take care of those accordingly. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? All those in favor, say Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** Mike, you should have stayed there. 211.3. I move that we accept the changes proposed on the screen. Mike, do you have anything else you'd like to say for this? Any other discussion? All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 301.4 I move that we accept the changes proposed on the screen. Any discussion on the motion? Seeing no discussion, all those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 302 I move that we accept the changes as presented on the screen. Jennifer, would you like to speak to your proposed change? Did she step out too? All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** This one, 401.6, we do have a change after yesterday's proposed rule change meeting. Um, I will read the change and the suggested changes. It is adding in after where we struck BOD "date first scheduled for completion of the U13 to U18 FYSA State Championships or Memorial Day whichever shall occur later."

**Member:** Could you read that again?

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. One second. Is Barry still in the room? Can you step to the mike please? We're believing that the last line should be whichever shall occur "earlier" instead of "later." So that that way

**Barry Witlin:** No. The reason why is because we, the reason why we tried to word it this way was because if you schedule the last round of State Cup to end the first, to end the week before Memorial Day, but you don't want playoffs to start until after Memorial Day,

**Becky McLaren:** You mean the tryouts.

**Barry Witlin:** I'm sorry. I'll start again. If you scheduled State Cup to end before Memorial Day but you don't want tryouts to start until after Memorial Day, this lets everybody know that Memorial Day is the first day you can have tryouts, no matter what happens with State Cup so long as they have scheduled

the end of State Cup before Memorial Day. The problem the way it was written before was that you could schedule U13 to U18 State Cup Championships to end before Memorial Day. Let's say they get rained out. They have to go to the next week which becomes Memorial Day Weekend. If for some reason they can't get through all of them because of another weather delay, then nobody could do tryouts until State Cup ended which could be the first or second week of June, depending on the weather. So what this does is let everybody know that so long as the Scheduled end of State Cup is before Memorial Day, that after Memorial Day, you can start tryouts.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Speaking for or against, Sir?

**John O'Grady:** What did he do?

**Becky McLaren:** He spoke for.

**John O'Grady:** Ok. I'm against. John O'Grady, Maitland Soccer. My whole issue with this is it either purposely it is vague on Super Y. Because Super Y they have tryouts right in the middle of the league

**Becky McLaren:** Super Y. Super Y is not part of FYSA.

**John O'Grady:** Ok, but can FYSA address it?

**Becky McLaren:** Not part of our organization.

**John O'Grady:** Ok.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? **Passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** 402.4. I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen. Mr. Strickler, would you like to speak to your proposal? You have to go to the mike.

**Mike Strickler:** What we wanted to do here is, when the Waterbreak Policy came into place, it basically came into place because we had two different fields doing two different things, and one felt the weather was excessive, the other did not. And it's, it's evolved to the State of Florida soccer plays four quarters of soccer ok, in our older age groups. So what we wanted to do was clearly define who gets to, who make those determinations. It will either be referees, the referee in charge of the game, or it will be the site director, whether it is State Cup, the tournament, or whatever. I, I, I think what we've done is we've this has evolved this isn't something that I have noticed just over a weekend or something, I've noticed it over several years which we've had this rule in place is we've almost used it as a crutch in terms of giving the right information to our players in terms of how to properly hydrate. We've given

crutches to our coaches because they don't use it as a waterbreak, they use it as a timeout. Ok. So we want to clearly define who does that. Now there'll be procedures that will be given to the referees and the affiliates in terms of what they're doing and how they're doing it. That's separate from the rule. The other piece that you do need to consider and that will also go out and kind of like the procedures and such, is what do you do with your younger age players? Ok, because younger age players, really the sixes, eights, tens, you can play quarters, ok. So that that builds in the waterbreak. Now you don't have to, say the halftime lasts a minute. Ok, we'll kind of put those recommendations, those guidelines out there, but the rule here is to clearly define who make those decisions. Thank you.

**Marino Torrens:** Stay there, Mike.

**Becky McLaren:** Stay. Freeze.

**Member:** Mike, the only problem I've got with your rule change here is the words, "if deemed necessary". Our number one concern as administrators, referees everything is the safety of the players. When you says "if deemed necessary" in Florida with heat and humidity indexes reaching over 100 degrees somewhere, now it becomes arbitrary if it is deemed necessary or not. With the old rule, with the 85 degrees, that was hard and fast, if it's over 85 degrees, you give a waterbreak. If we're going to err, let's err on the side of the safety of the players and put something in here, I don't know what you what it is, rather than "if deemed necessary" because there are old-school people out there that say, we're going to play 90 minutes 110 degrees, 100% humidity under 7's. And we know that. But our responsibility as administrators is the safety and welfare of the players, and I think this removes a huge safety factor from our players.

**Mike Strickler:** Stand here. We're still buddies. The reason, and we discussed this yesterday in the coaches meeting is do we have a clearly set temperature because really really it's the heat index that effects it more than the pure temperature and that was something that we were going to have in the guidelines as opposed to putting it in a hard and fast piece of the rule. So you know, do you, see I'm bad with the Robert's Rules of Order stuff so you'll have to bear with me, ok. So, then why don't you make an amendment, a friendly amendment?

**Becky McLaren:** There's no such thing as a friendly amendment.

**Mike Strickler:** Ok, whatever.

**Becky McLaren:** You can make an amendment.

**Member:** Maybe he has one, the gentleman right behind you guys

**Mike Strickler:** (Unintelligible)

**Tommy Thompson:** Microphone

**Becky McLaren:** Microphone Mr. Strickler

**Mike Hyatt:** I'm Mike Hyatt, from um, the President of Greater Central Florida Youth Soccer League and I'm also a referee and Um, I think the waterbreak, I agree 1000% that, you know, we need to err on the side of protecting our kids. Um, being as I am a referee, and I don't have a thermometer on the field with me when I am starting at 8:00 in the morning and refing until 3:00 in the afternoon, you don't know. We just, we just made it simple at GCF we just, we give a waterbreak and that way it takes, it makes it easy on our referees, especially our younger referees, you know that's just one less thing they have to worry about. So, you know we, we took a little step further and just made it, I'd like to see it with FYSA because summertime in Florida you're not going to be far off 85 I don't think any given weekend. So I personally would like to see it go just a straight waterbreak and be done with it. Thank you.

**Tommy Thompson:** Mike just said that he will agree to reinsert the 85 degrees in there, rather than try to reword it right now and here. If we pass this we will put the 85 degree hard stop back into the rule and Becky can write it in the proper language to get it done, ok? There was some other verbiage added at the bottom that wasn't in the original rule. So if we will pass, if we vote on it and pass the change we will insert the 85 degree point in here and use the rest of the as language proposed.

**Mike Strickler:** What that means is that if it is 85 degrees, you have a waterbreak. If it's not 85 degrees, you don't have a waterbreak.

**Beck McLaren:** You don't have to.

**Mike Strickler:** See, see here's the thing, folks. Let me, I mean really. This is, I'm coming at this from a perspective of, I want our players to be safe. Don't get me wrong, ok, but but we are doing a disservice to our players at these ages that, that they're playing in, that we're playing four quarter soccer. Soccer isn't meant to be played in four quarters. It's meant to be played in half's. Now, if there's times where the temperature gets 85 degrees and there's times when the temperature gets 85 degrees and we can play without waterbreaks. Ok, but if it's over 85 degrees, and we deem it's necessary for waterbreaks, that's fine, I don't have an issue with that, if that's what you choose to do, but I don't wanna, I don't want us to get to the point where we're playing four quarter soccer in Florida because it's just not appropriate. The one, the one, the one piece though and that's what we'll set out in the guidelines and that I am a proponent of four quarter soccer for U10's and below. So that you can factor in that waterbreak because if you understand the dynamics of a player's physiology, they're not adults yet, so they do have heat issues much faster than adults. So, that will go out in the guidelines, but um, I think that's it.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok.

**Marino Torrens:** Yeah, he, that's what I was trying to get at.

**Becky McLaren:** Don, if you want to go ahead.

**Don Bohnet:** I'm Don Behnet, Risk Manager for Region 3. Just want to share with you from a Regionals and Nationals perspective. When we go to President's Cup, National Cup, the Tournament Director and Risk Management are typically the ones who are coordinating. At some point we say it's going to be hot, we know it's going to be hot, and we make the call. Eighty degrees, 90 degrees, 100 degrees, we were in Phoenix last summer, you know, where we had greater than 100 degrees. Waterbreaks are, in our way, we define it at tournament level as the Competition Administrator, so I don't think there's a subjectivity of temperature, ever. They make the call, that's what we're going to do. And that's how it works from a USYS perspective. And obviously we're looking at it for the safety of the kids, and it's not uncommon, I live in South Texas, we'll have 102, 107 degrees, 114 degrees, we may do two waterbreaks. I just want you to be aware that, that those dynamics do happen, so just for your information, that's how things work from going up above. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Are we talking for or against?

**Member:** I'm not even sure where we're at right now in terms of what we're voting on. So.

**Marino Torrens:** Typical Attorney.

**Member:** How about comments?

**Becky McLaren:** OK

**Allen Degan:** Allen Degan, South Florida United. The problem with 85 degrees is, if it is 84 degrees and 100% humidity, no one knows what that means they're supposed to do. You have youth referees who certainly don't bring thermometers with them, just as the other gentleman said. It might be simpler to make a bright line rule. We all know that, especially in Central South Florida, when we're playing, it's almost always hot and humid and it's almost always beneficial for the kids, and this is what we're here for, the safety of the kids, to have the waterbreak. Why don't you just have a bright line rule? Without a temperature gauge, so that you're making people make decisions on the field that they're not capable of making. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Here. Um, uh huh.

**Gerald Morin:** I'm Gerald Morin, DOC of Pinellas Park United. I actually agree with Mike, of what he is saying. Soccer actually has gone down to be a four quarter game. I ah, miss the fact that players can actually know the time when the game comes to a stop, that they can actually hydrate themselves. They also need to understand the fact that, and coaches, we all have to do that, I sent an email to my coaches, that hydration as we know, it doesn't start during the day of the game, it starts prior to the game. We have to teach the players these things, but whatever you guys decide today, one thing I want you to look at is the younger age group. That's going to have to be Mike to talk about an exception,

because their body, uh they work a lot faster than the older age groups so that would have to be excluded, I would say from the U8's, U9, U10's, but that's all I have to say. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Yes.

**Tommy Thompson:** Yes, I'd like to propose an amendment to the motion.

**Becky McLaren:** Do you have it written down for me please, after you propose it?

**Tommy Thompson:** I will be glad to right after I write it down for you. I think we're getting off track of what we're trying to do with it. We're not trying to debate about the waterbreak and we're not trying to debate about um when it should happen or not happen. What we're trying to dictate is the waterbreak becoming a true waterbreak. So I would like to make a motion that we get rid of the entire suggested change, go back to the original rule and at the end of "85 degrees" on the original rule, add the line that says, "This break will be given at a normal stoppage of play and limited to 1 to 2 minutes maximum." And then that will get what Mike wants into our system so we can get back to playing half's of soccer, but at the same time, it will not change where the waterbreaks are currently being given, just how they are administered.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Do I have a second to the amendment? Ok, it has been seconded. If you can give it to Cody over here so he can put it on the screen that would help us tremendously. Ok. Are you leaving the bottom line that reads, "Violation may result in charges under Code Of Ethics."? Yeah. Are you leaving, are you just changing, going completely back to the old rule leaving that "a Violation may result in charges under the Code Of Ethics."? Ok. Give us one second while he adds that there. Mario, are you discussing for or against the?

**Mario Martinez:** Ah, I just have a comment first; basically on the last rule amendment. Mario Martinez, Referee Liaison. But at this time I'm trying to talk more as a coach than a referee. One of the things that you see throughout the whole season is that referees using the waterbreak, which is no problem, but they do not add time at the end of the half and the end of the game. What happens as a result is that sometimes in the Under 9, Under 10 games, they're cutting 4 to 6 minutes each game. Ok, and when you have 10 kids or 15 kids sitting on the bench, they all want to play. We cheating those guys that they don't have enough time to play, so I might suggest to be put on the rule that the waterbreak must be added to the time. Thank you.

**Marino Torrens:** I'm sorry, Mario, but we cannot dictate to the referees on the rules. That part of the rules, the referees and if I'm not mistaken, it is in the rules for referees to add extra time at the discretion of the referees, so we cannot dictate that to them.

**Chris Wolf:** Chris Wolf, Florida Keys Soccer Club. I guess I just have a Point of Order question. On my packet it says the reason for this amendment is to better determine who will administer the waterbreak policy at FYSA sanctioned events.

**Becky McLaren:** Uh, uh.

**Chris Wolf:** And we're talking about, right now we're arguing about the FYSA waterbreak policy which this amendment, or this part of the bylaws calls to, so to me, I'm we're talking about two different things. I'm not not quite sure what's going on as far as right now how this was proposed. We're supposed to be talking about who is administering it, not the details of the waterbreak policy itself. So, I'm not clear where we're going

**Becky McLaren:** The original, the original proposal was to say to add to to put in at the bottom you notice the Supervising Authority would be the Event Coordinator, Field Coordinator or referee if available. That was the original proposal but with the amendment on the floor, it has been changed. With the friendly amendment that was with the amendment on the floor that was made to it, now it has gone back to the original rule.

**Chris Wolf:** I mean if this is something, if this a friendly amendment that's, are, the DOC's call there, but to me we're doing something that's not in the original intent of what this was submitted for. So, I

**Becky McLaren:** But an amendment was made. I know

**Chris Wolf:** I would be against this because this is a discussion for our waterbreak policy, and not our bylaw amendment.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Barry.

**Barry Witlin:** Barry Witlin, South Florida United. It says "Violation may result in charges under FYSA's Code of Ethics."

**Becky McLaren:** Uh huh.

**Barry Witlin:** Against who? We have a league that has a rule if a referee doesn't give the waterbreak when we as a league says they do, who are you going up against on a Code of Ethics violation? Because the only person who can give you a waterbreak is the referee. I don't think you're going that route are you?

**Becky McLaren:** The violation is still in the old rule. You can

**Barry Witlin:** Ok, but again, I'm just trying to get a question as to why is it there because I don't know who you are going up against as a Code of Ethics violation. As long as a league or a governing body or

**Becky McLaren:** Whoever makes the determination not to give the waterbreak.

**Barry Witlin:** Well, the only person who can do that is the referee, so are you saying that if a referee doesn't give a waterbreak in accordance with

**Becky McLaren:** The rule

**Barry Witlin:** the League directive or in accordance with some temperature directive, then the referee is facing a Code of Ethics violation and do we have a Code of Ethics in FYSA about referees that

**Becky McLaren:** Yes, we do have a Code of Ethics for referees.

**Barry Witlin:** That stretches to that extent?

**Becky McLaren:** Yes. We have a referee Code of Ethics.

**Barry Witlin:** Ok. So, as long it is the referee. You're saying it's the referee who would have a Code of Ethics issue?

**Becky McLaren:** Whoever makes the decision, if it's the referee that made the decision not to give the waterbreak based on the rule, then yes. If it was the coaches that said that they didn't want the rule, didn't want the waterbreak, and told that, it would go to the coach. It is whoever decides not to give the waterbreak.

**Barry Witlin:** But. They. How can it be anybody but the referee, the referee is the only person who can say, the coach can say we don't want it, and the referee has to say we have this. The referee decides, not the coaches.

**Becky McLaren:** According to the rule it says that it has to be, right now, the temperature is or is expected to reach eighty-five degrees. If the temperature is 70 degrees and the referee says, "I'm not giving a waterbreak " he would not have to give a waterbreak according to the rule the way it is. Coaches try to override that, and we've all see it.

**Barry Witlin:** Ok.

**Larry Reisman:** Larry Reisman, Indian River Soccer Association. I thought Mike had a really good rule up here that we had. A very simple thing we've just drawn this out into about a 20 minute discussion. I'm not sure what I think the amendment – is there an amendment on the floor, is that it?

**Becky McLaren:** Yes, the amendment

**Larry Reisman:** I would, Can I just call the question?

**Becky McLaren:** Yes, you can.

**Marino Torrens:** Thank you.

**Larry Reisman:** Ok

**Becky McLaren:** The question has been called on the amendment to the motion. We will vote on the amendment to the original motion first. Which would be "In any FYSA sanctioned match a break will be given at the midpoint of each half of regulation time and at the end of each overtime period (if played) for player hydration. This break will be given at a normal stoppage of play and it is mandatory for any FYSA sanctioned match during which the air temperature is or is expected to reach eighty-five (85) degrees. This break will be given with a maximum of 1 to 2 minutes of time." Will be limited to, Cody can we change that to "limited to" please. This break will be given with, will be limited to a maximum of 1 to 2 minutes. This break will be a, will be a maximum of 1 to 2 minutes of time. Ok. Ok?

**Becky McLaren:** All those in favor of the amendment to the original motion, signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed?

**Members:** Nay

**Becky McLaren:** Abstentions?

**Becky McLaren:** Gentlemen? Paper ballots? Because we cannot tell by the voice vote, I need you to take out paper ballot letter B, as in Boy. Paper ballot letter B, as in Boy. If you vote Yes you're for the proposed amendment. If you vote No, you are against.

**Marino Torrens:** Again, please, when you are finished, pass them to the end. Um, in the middle. So they can collect them.

**Becky McLaren:** If the amendment passes, then we have to vote

**Marino Torrens:** We have to vote

**Becky McLaren:** We technically have to vote again,

**Marino Torrens:** We technically have to vote on the other. Technically if they like the amendment

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, all the ballots have been picked up? Raise your hand if you still got the ballot please, so we can continue. Ok.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok, while they are tallying the votes we are going to go on to the next proposal so we can keep things moving. Mia, behind you. While they are collecting those, we are going to go on to the next proposal. As soon as Cody gets back up there.

**Becky McLaren:** The next proposal is on 502.3

**Becky McLaren:** This has been adjusted since yesterday. Ah, Mike or Jeff, would you like to please speak to this please? Well, they can. Huh? You didn't do the adjustment? Ok. I stand corrected. I move to accept it as presented. They didn't get their adjustment in.

**Mike Strickler:** Ok, Jeff and I, Jeff, come up. I'm tired of talking by myself. What we've done is I do the tournament reports within the office in terms of getting the referee reports and verifying that the proper number of games are given out. I think Jeff does the same thing for South Florida United and then he also does, was it Review and Discipline?

**Becky McLaren:** Yeah

**Jeff Kurzner:** Yeah.

**Mike Strickler:** Yes, so we kind of jointly, jointly tried to rework the rule that if you remember several years ago, we sat here and we were making changes left and right from the floor. I mean, there was so much overlap it was very difficult to do. The only adjustment that we made after sitting in our meeting yesterday that that we haven't, we haven't moved on the screen yet was part

**Jeff Kurzner:** part 3d - on gestures with any part of the body that imply a threat

**Mike Strickler:** Yeah, that would be under two instead of 3. Instead of 4. Take out d, add that to two and then we're done. Yeah, we'll have a 2a and 2b. And then b would be the when not challenging for the ball. Poor Cody.

**Female Member:** Could you read it? We can't see it that far.

**Mike Strickler:** Really, if you've got it in your book, Claudia, if you got it in the book. If you take 3d, yeah 3d and move it up to 2, so 2 has two parts to it, an a and a b. Ok, so, so, so this will allow us where when we're reviewing the red card reports and all the like, there will be clear distinctions instead of a lot of overlap that we had in the original rule.

**Female Member:** Thank you

**Tommy Thompson:** Here I go again. I like the old rule, it's very clear. If you make contact with another player, it's four games. If you don't make contact, it's one game. The way they put in here right now under a one game suspension "use excessive force to push". Now that's an interpretation later on by whoever is reading the red card report. What is excessive force and did I put my hands to his face to push him out of my way? I like the old rule that said if you make contact you're going to get this, if you don't make contact, you're gonna get this.

**Mike Strickler:** What the definition, the definition in number 1, that's serious foul play. Ok, serious foul play

**Tommy Thompson:** No, it's not. Serious foul play is making a play for the ball.

**Becky McLaren:** Do you want to amend it? Is there any other discussion?

**Tommy Thompson:** Mike, this is less of a discussion and more of a question. I see 4a says when not challenging for the ball, a player strikes, spits on blah, blah, blah another player. What if I am challenging for the ball and I punch you in the face to get the ball? I don't see that anywhere up there. Where would that fall?

**Becky McLaren:** That would fall under 4b, violent conduct, that would fall under violent conduct.

**Tommy Thompson:** I'm, I'm sorry where?

**Becky McLaren:** It should fall under violent, it would fall under violent conduct.

**Tommy Thompson:** But that's entering the field of play and committing an additional offense.

**Mike Strickler:** I come in, I'm going for the ball, and I'm punching you at the same time?

**Tommy Thompson:** Right.

**Mike Strickler:** You punch me in order to get the ball. If I punch you that is serious foul play, right? Now it's up to the referee discretion, is that a strike or a foul?

**Male Member1:** From my old refereeing days, serious foul play is the use of excessive force while playing for the ball. Mike, Tommy, can I clarify, for serious foul play you must be challenging for the ball, that is simple as that. Anything beyond that is violent conduct.

**Tommy Thompson:** And currently with the old rule number 3, four game suspension, it is strike with the intent to injure regardless if you're challenging for the ball. It's pure and simple. Now under the new rule four game suspension, it's only striking when not challenging for the ball. That's really the point of clarification that I'm looking for.

**Male Member1:** In the example that you provided, you're going to get serious foul play for your first part of that tackle and then you're going to get violent conduct part 3a because you're not challenging for the ball anymore when you're just trying to strike them even when the ball is nearby.

**Lou Confessore:** Lou Confessore from The Soccer Academy of the Americas. I move to table this.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok. Do I have a second? It's been moved and seconded to table this. Is there any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed?

**Members:** No.

**Becky McLaren:** Abstentions? It will be tabled and we'll let the two of them take it back.

**Becky McLaren:** Cody, you can go to the next one. It doesn't matter.

**Becky McLaren:** 502.5 – Mr. Thompson. I move that we accept this change as presented. Actually,

**Tommy Thompson:** I think it's pretty clear

**Becky McLaren:** No, keep going. 502.5.1. Cody move down. I think he had the wrong document. That's Jeff's. There we go. No? No. Go back Cody; I think you had the right one. I don't have this document. It doesn't look right. That's Jeff's. That's too much wording. This is 502.5.1. No, you're missing it. I'll read it from the book. Suggested change "Any player who removes his or her jersey in an attempt to conceal their identity either before, during or post game, shall be suspended for a minimum of sixty days or eight games whichever is longer."

**Tommy Thompson:** I think my reason is very clear. The first thing players do when an altercation starts is they rip their jersey off.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Yes? Can you go to the microphone for me please?

**Male:** Unintelligible

**Becky McLaren:** But it won't pick up on the recording.

**Doug Sayre:** No, the question was that I have is, Why would it say if they just remove their jersey? Why wouldn't it just say if they attempted to conceal their identity? Because there are a lot of ways to conceal your identity, that way it would cover any contingency, if I put a jacket on or picked up another player's jersey and threw it on or something.

**Becky McLaren:** Would you like to make an amendment to the motion?

**Doug Sayre:** I would like to make an amendment to the motion.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok.

**Doug Sayre:** I think that it should say "Any player who attempts to conceal their identity" and then let the rest of the statement stand.

**Becky McLaren:** Ok, so you want to remove "who removes his or her jersey."

**Doug Sayre:** Yes

**Becky McLaren:** Just want “any player”

**Doug Sayre:** Yes. Any Player

**Becky McLaren:** Who attempts to conceal. I have it. Your name, please?

**Doug Sayre:** Doug Sayre, Amelia Island Youth Soccer.

**Becky McLaren:** Is there a second to the amendment on the floor? We’re voting on the amended motion now, which is “Any player who attempts to conceal their identity either before, during or post game, shall be suspended for a minimum of sixty days or eight games whichever is longer.” Any other discussion? All those in favor signify by saying Aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? It **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** Now we have to vote on it. The amendment passes, now we have to vote on the amended motion. “Any player who attempts to conceal their identity either before, during or post game, shall be suspended for a minimum of sixty days or eight games whichever is longer.” All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye.

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? **Passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 503.1 This is yours.

**Marino Torrens:** Yeah.

**Becky McLaren:** I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen, this is a housekeeping issue. Any discussion? Seeing no discussion, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 502.5 That’s where. Yeah, it’s out of order. I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen. Jeff, would you like to speak to your motion?

**Jeff Kurzner:** Jeff Kurzner, Committee for Review and Discipline. The, um, the 502.5 or kind of the Death Penalty rule doesn’t have an administrative component to it, as to who is responsible. So this change would leave the administration of it to the FYSA office with the affiliates, the affiliates reporting to them. It’s really just a clarification on housekeeping.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? Seeing no other discussion, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye.

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 3012.1 I move that we accept the change as presented on the screen. Tommy, would you like to speak to this?

**Tommy Thompson:** I think it's self-explanatory.

**Becky McLaren:** Any other discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Motion **passes**.

**Becky McLaren:** 903.6 I move that we accept the proposed change as presented on the screen which would remove the word notarized from medical releases. Dale, would you like to speak to your motion? Yes. Make sure to identify yourself and your club, please.

**Engrid Spence:** Engrid Spence, Weston FC. It says here "while travelling outside the State of Florida and nationally or internationally", what about inside the State of Florida? Can we add that, that also inside the State Of Florida it is not needed to notarize?

**Becky McLaren:** I'm sorry? You gotta go to the mike, Dale.

**Dale Burke:** Dale Burke, Executive Director, Florida Youth Soccer. The notarization was taken out about ten years ago by United States Youth Soccer and the Federation and we just, this is more for housecleaning or housekeeping. We can add in the State of Florida, but it is for any travel, any tournament that is sanctioned by United States Youth Soccer, actually by the Federation, and therefore by Florida Youth Soccer. Any competition. Do not have to be notarized. We're behind the time, this happened about 10 years ago. It was passed by the Federation and United States Youth Soccer. It is just housekeeping that I noticed when looking at the rules.

**Marino Torrens:** So, so, so we can take out "outside the State of Florida." Take out and put within

**Becky McLaren:** I can do, Well, I need to leave, while travelling, I need to leave inside or outside the State of Florida either nationally or internationally. I can say inside or outside. Ok, then we will add. Dale, are you agreeing to add inside or outside? Ok, it has been agreed to by the maker of the motion to

**Marino Torrens:** I'm sorry. You might, Go ahead before we do that.

**Becky McLaren:** Go ahead.

**Carrie Chase:** Hi there, I guess I was confused about the 10 years. I've been expecting all these years that all of our medical releases be notarized. My name is Carrie, I'm the President of Southwest Florida Soccer Association. As a mom, I've been taking kids with me for 15 years and have had the incident, even having them notarized, going to the emergency room and not having them honored because it wasn't a soccer related injury while we're away at a tournament. We cannot take away the notarizing of these forms when we don't know if hospitals are going to honor them if they're not notarized.

**Member:** Unintelligible

**Carrie Chase:** It does. I mean

**Member:** Our position is it has no bearing if they are notarized or not.

**Carrie Chase:** Ok, well

**Becky McLaren:** Can you please come to the microphone so we can get it on the minutes?

**Carrie Chase:** You, it may not make a bearing to you yourself, but I have taken a child that needed stitches and the parents had to drive 3 ½ hours to have them done because the hospital did not allow it, and that was notarized, not even being unnotarized. So, I'm asking that we, you know, reconsider.

**Dale Burke:** That is obviously an issue with that particular circumstance, whether they accept a notarized or non-notarized. This has been tested. The United States Soccer Federation, which is our ruling body, legally has been tested. It's been tested in United States Youth Soccer. None of these organizations require it; we are a part of them. We are their affiliate.

**Carrie Chase:** So are we going to find out when we get to the hospital room that it's not being accepted?

**Dale Burke:** Yours was not accepted notarized. You just stated it wasn't, so

**Carrie Burke:** Because it was a non-soccer related injury.

**Dale Burke:** We're talking about a soccer related injury.

**Carrie Chase:** Ok, well nobody else has

**Becky McLaren:** Ok.

**David Griffiths:** David Griffiths, Miami Premier Soccer. Just one question with that, I do have an issue. I think it pertains to specific tournaments also. I did have an issue in Castle last year where out of my team or club, I should say, we had one medical release that was not notarized. That kid was travelling with us to Castle and the Tournament Committee would not let her play unless the parents showed up

and signed it in front of them since it was not signed. So my only concern is, believe me, I prefer not to have them notarized, because it is more of a burden on the clubs to get it done. But my concern is that if we're travelling and say that parent was not with us at Castle, that kid would not have been able to play. She would have travelled to North Carolina and not had an opportunity to play. So that's my only concern with individual tournaments not accepting medical releases if they are not notarized.

**Dale Burke:** Ok, to answer your question. That is the rules of the competition. You need to check with Castle, or Capitol, or WAGS, for whatever their requirements are going to be. They have the right to be more strict. All we're saying here is based on US Youth and USYS or USF or something, notarization is no longer required. That doesn't say that if you're going somewhere else, and they say, "We want them notarized", you have to have them notarized.

**David Griffiths:** Gotcha, thank you.

**Tim Froeling:** Time Froeling, A5 PBG. To address the issue about getting medical treatment for children or for anybody else that's in your care without the parents. The notarized medical releases or releases whether notarized or not, yes, the hospital can refuse service. You need to have a Medical Power of Attorney from parents if they release a child into your custody, that's the best thing for you to do for your own security and safety and to make sure it's done, but that's between you and the parents and the medical association. This has nothing whatsoever to do with our medical release forms. That's for internal use of FYSA, US Youth Soccer and so forth. As far as the hospitals go, we can't control them.

**Don Bohnet:** Don Bohnet with US Team Soccer. The point of order relative to UST Soccer organizational events, i.e. Regionals, your State's Cup, President's Cup, etcetera all fall under that jurisdiction. We do not require medical release be notarized. We do require that you have medical releases when you attend but notarization is not a requirement and I've cleared multiple teams at each of the regionals, so and Nationals, just to bring clarity to that. Thank you.

**Becky McLaren:** Yes.

**Male Member:** For point of clarification, we've heard the words competition and travelling. Would this apply to affiliates who are requiring notarized forms for tryouts and for academies that do not involve competition?

**Becky McLaren:** That's based on your club, that's not here. That's going to be what your club requires. Dale, Ok? So we have "While travelling inside or outside of the State of Florida either nationally or internationally all teams of players/coaches/volunteers must carry with them the following:" we have stricken "notarized" from number four. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye.

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed?

**Members:** No

**Becky McLaren:** Abstentions? **Passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** This is for the entire document. It's a housekeeping issue. I already did that one. This is to search the entire document to, because we changed the name from Director of Operations to Executive Director. We changed the title of the job. It's a housekeeping issue. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? Now we're going to go back to 402.4. I need Tommy. No, it's a rule. Ok, the amendment to the motion which was to go back to the original rule and put in "this break will be a maximum of 1 to 2 minutes of time." **Passes** with a Yes vote, 3,713, No, 1,530. So the amendment passes to go back to the original with the additions and now we will vote on the new amended proposal which would be as presented on the screen under the old bylaw rule with the addition in yellow. Any other discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Becky McLaren:** Opposed? Abstentions? **Passes.**

**Becky McLaren:** We have completed the rule changes for the AGM.

**Members:** Yeah!

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, we're going to take a 25 minute break so you can checkout or whatever you need, because it is getting close to, I think checkout is eleven, Carmen? Oh, twelve, but let's go ahead and if you need to. I think they have a special checkout for us at twelve o'clock. Double-check it with her. So, it is, according to my watch, we gonna, we start at 11:20. That's about 25 minutes from now.

**Member:** What time are we coming back?

**Marino Torrens:** 25 minutes from now.

**Marino Torrens:** You can please have your seat. Thank you. Hello. Mr. Weber. Ok, we back on? Is that back on? Ok, ready to go? Ok, here we go.

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, as my opening remarks I just want to thank everybody for taking your time to come out and express your opinions. That's what we're here for. Um, I also want to acknowledge, even though they had to leave already, John Sutter, Jim Cosgrove and Don Bohnet for showing up this year and joining us here. In the last four or five years we hadn't been able to do it because our AGM was the same time as the National AGM also the US Youth Nationals and the AGM so by us changing back to the

first weekend in October they were able to join us and hopefully they will be able to join us in the next few years. Ok, now the next thing on the agenda is the approval of the 2011 AGM minutes that are in your books. Anybody needs to make a correction? An adjust, anything in those minutes? Seen none. Anyone move to approve the minutes from the 2011 AGM. Minutes **passed**. All those in favor of the minutes as reported in your books say aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Marino Torrens:** Opposed? Abstain?

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, do we have any letters? Correspondence? No. The reports of the Officers and Committees are also in the books. Any of your officers or Committee Members want to address any of them? Um, good. Diana, welcome the proposed budget. It should be in the book.

**Diana Robertson:** A very cold, Diana. Ok, it's on the pink page in your book, which is just before the amendments. For 2013, as you can see, we're at 3.7 million of Revenue, 3.6 million for Expense, with a Net Proposed Income of 55,615 for next year. Ah, if you all had a chance to review it, it anyone does have any questions? If not, I move that

**Marino Torrens:** Is she coming to the mike?

**Diana Robertson:** I don't know. Ok.

**Heather McDonough:** Heather McDonough, Space Coast United. Last year there was discussion in the minutes about providing the actual results from the prior year, and I know it doesn't end until August 31<sup>st</sup>. But the most recent report that you have out on the website is from February, and I'm just concerned because They're, we're showing 55 to 80 thousand of income and on the last 3 years 990 forms there's been 435,000, 693,000, and 585,000 of income. And I would just like to know, as a non-profit organization, what is the intention of the use of the funds that are accumulating within FYSA?

**Diana Robertson:** As I stated in my Treasurer seminar yesterday, we are putting over \$1,000,000 into a foundation which will be, um used in perpetuity based on earnings of those funds and maybe some other reserves we might find. Ah, we're going to allow applications in three categories. The applications will be available October 1<sup>st</sup> through the website and we will all the details there. There's like I said, three categories, you can read all about it, you can apply for them, whichever one or all of them. Um, so we're just trying to find ways to give back because, yes, there was that accumulation. The budget is a best-guess estimate based on input from all the departments and sometimes it works out that way and sometimes it doesn't. Any other questions? Can I hear a motion to approve the budget for next year?

**Male Member:** Move

**Female Member:** Second

**Diana Robertson:** All in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Diana Robertson:** Opposed? Abstain? Thank you. Oh, and a comment. There is no fee increases for next year, as I heard that rumor.

**Marino Torrens:** Ok. Do we have any unfinished business from last year? I don't remember any but does anybody? I don't. Ok, on the new business, ah Sandy, Miss Parker. Sandy. New Business, you wanted to address something about the Club Pass.

**Sandy Parker:** Those of you who had teams that participated in State Cup, which is part of the National Championship competition, know that from this year Nationals made a change from last year about the same time we were having our AGM to allow the use of Club Pass play and it was instituted in the National Championship play. Most states in the Southern Region did not adopt anything within their own State competitions for last year, while they allowed that to play out. We talked about it a bit yesterday in the Rules of Competition versus Registration, and the EC did have a conference call and talked about what our recommendations were going to be, but I was indicated with a Point of Order from our Secretary and Rules Chair that because the rule was not formulated with the input that we had formulated from the other Southern Regions States 30 days prior to this AGM, we cannot bring it to the floor of this AGM, that it has to go to the Board of Directors first, and there is a Board of Directors meeting immediately following the adjournment of this General Session and it will be brought up at that time. And we will notify the affiliates after that as to what the recommendations are so that we can include that opportunity for competitions that wish to do so to allow Club Pass play for your regular events, as well.

**Marino Torrens:** Ok, the next item on the agenda is Approval of the Actions of the Board of Directors for the 2011-2012 seasonal year. Do I have a motion?

**Member:** Motion to approve.

**Marino Torrens:** Second?

**Member:** Second

**Marino Torrens:** Any comments? Any questions? Seeing none, I'll ask for the vote. All those in favor say aye.

**Members:** Aye

**Marino Torrens:** Opposed? Abstain?

**Marino Torrens:** Now I'm going to turn it over to Tommy Thompson for the elections.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok, the ground rules for elections are going to be, the person making the nomination can have up to 2 minutes to speak. The person seconding the nomination can have 2 minutes to speak. The candidate can have up to 5 minutes to speak on his behalf.

**Marino Torrens:** Sorry. I'm Sorry.

**Tommy Thompson:** Other than that, we'll vote. The order in the book is wrong. We normally start our elections from the top down, so at this time I will obtain nominations for the office of President.

**Marcos Ortega:** I would like to nominate Mr. Marino Torrens.

**Becky McLaren:** I second the nomination.

**Tommy Thompson:** The nomination was by Marcos, seconded by Becky. Are there any other nominations for the office of President? Seeing none I move that nominations be closed.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Opposed? Then I move that we elect Mr. Torrens again by acclamation. All in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Opposed? I heard one vote right here.

**Marino Torrens:** Thank you. Thank you very much.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok. Nominations are now open for the office of Treasurer. Are there any nominations for Treasurer?

**Rhonda Link-Cummings:** I would like to nominate Diana Robertson.

**Tommy Thompson:** Diana Robertson has been nominated by Rhonda Link-Cummings. Is there a second?

**Members:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** Second from the floor. Any other nominations for the office of Treasurer? Seeing none, I move that nominations be closed.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed? Just open it up and shut it off. I have a nomination for President! Ok, nominations have been moved and closed. Then I move we elect Miss Diana Robertson Treasurer by acclamation.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed? Ok.

**Diana Robertson:** Thank you.

**Tommy Thompson:** I will now entertain nominations for the office of Vice President of Administration and Communications.

**Usha Vargas:** I nominate Becky McLaren for Vice President of Administration and Communications.

**Tommy Thompson:** Your name is? For the record, Usha.

**Usha Vargas:** You know me, Usha Vargas DC for Region A5.

**Member:** I second

**Tommy Thompson:** Any other nominations for the office of Vice President of Administration and Communications? Hearing none, I move nominations be closed.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed? Again I move that we elect Miss Becky McLaren Vice President of Administration and Communications by acclamation.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed?

**Tommy Thompson:** Now we'll move on to, now we'll move to the two Regional Vice Presidents up for election this year. Only those people within the region can vote and nominate. So at this time I will open nominations for the position of Vice President of Region B. Only region B.

**Chris Neeley:** Chris Neeley, CAA Soccer. I'd like to nominate Rhonda Link-Cummings.

**Tommy Thompson:** Is there a second for Rhonda Link? Second

**Kevin Neighbor:** Kevin Neighbor, Brevard Youth Soccer League. I would like to nominate Steve Sassman.

**Tommy Thompson:** Did we get a second on that nomination?

**Member:** Second

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok, Are there any other nominations for the position of Vice President of Region B? As we have in the past, each candidate will be allowed 5 minutes to address us, we do them in Alphabetical order. So I believe Rhonda, you're up first.

**Rhonda Link-Cummings:** At least I'm not as short as Usha is, though. I am Rhonda Link-Cummings and I have served as your Regional Vice President for four years. I would like to continue in that position. As your Regional Vice President I have served on the EC Committee, the Competition Committee and the Awards Committee. I have actually run Regional Cup for 11 years both as the RVP and as DC. When Bruce Dotten was VP back in 1998, he asked me to run the Regional Cup and I did it beginning in 1999. I enjoy what I do. I am a volunteer. I give volunteer hours every evening during Regional Cup competition and doing schedules, I'm on the computer answering emails, talking with people on the telephone. That's who I am. I have also served 10 years as a District Commissioner. Two years coordinating summer Club 6b6 program. I coordinated the first TOPS, a raffle here at this AGM. I was the one that made all of the afghans that some of you won. Because that's what I do, I sit at meetings, I sit at League meetings, I'll crochet. That is part of my mission outreach to FYSA.

I am also a professional. I teach for St. Leo University. I am also a USSF referee, and a high school referee, and I do assigning. I'm very proud. There's one other thing that I am very proud of and that is my son who came through FYSA as a player. He played for the old IUS that merged with Florida Rush. He is now a Graduate Assistant at Rawlins College with their Soccer Men's program because he came through this organization, and that's what I'm proud of because we teach young men and women to play soccer, to be a part of who we are and to volunteer their time. Thank you

**Tommy Thompson:** Steve, You're up.

**Steve Sassman:** Good morning, my name is Steve Sassman. I'm the current District Commissioner for B5. I'd like to thank Kevin and Larry and everyone else in my district for nominating me and putting me forward today. I'm humbled. I've been an active volunteer for over 25 years, including the last ten in soccer. It's the way I was brought up. I started as a team manager and quickly got involved in the club as the Treasurer, Assistant Registrar, whatever they needed, website, whatever. I've coached and I am also a referee. Folks describe me as fair minded, organized and a good communicator. I ask other folks for their opinions and I listen to what you tell me. It's about you. I work for the people I serve. I disseminate information frequently and appropriately, I don't overload your email box. I am proactive and I try to address issues before they become really deep problems. I'm tech-savvy – I'm up here with my IPAD, right? I understand computers and social media.

**Marino Torrens:** Closer to the microphone.

**Steve Sassman:** And I can, I'm sorry, I can implement simple technical solutions to most computer problems. I've been involved with tournaments at the Club, State Cup, Regional Cup levels, DC Cup. I ran my first DC Cup this year, but I've helped for the last 4 or 5 years at Palm Bay Regional with Region Cup and State Cup events. And I was Site Director for two Region Cup events out there this year. There are 4 key areas I would address as your Region VP. Communication first and foremost. I want to hear from folks. Every one of my B5 affiliates have my email and my cell and they were apprehensive at first to contact me. They found out that I respond very quickly. I will work to improve the flow of information down from FYSA and up from the affiliates. I think you guys are important. Ask my B5 folks. I'll work with the clubs to facilitate inter-club communication. We have some stuff that goes on at the club to club level and if I can help I will. I'll attend elections and other meetings in each district as needed, but I'll rely on the District Commissioners to run their districts. That's what you elect them for. I'll be as transparent as possible and provide visibility into things like budget and spending.

The second key component - Region Cup play. I'd like to open up the Region Cup draw the way we did State Cup this year. I thought it was a great idea. Publicize it, invite you guys in, get your input. I would also like to look at involving more teams in Region Cup into a two tier of Region Cup similar to what they do in Regions A and C. TOPS has a special place for me. I haven't gotten as involved as I could but I had a special thing happen this weekend and while I was on vacation in Orlando that's going to change that. We did a special section in the DC Cup last year for TOPS kids. I'd like to spread that around to all the DC Cups.

And lastly, registration and related topics, I'll continue to work with the office to hold registration events. In B5, we've already started a group to get the registrars together, we call it a RUG – Registrars Users Group – so they can share information. Got Soccer is not an easy tool to use.

In closing, I've got no hidden agenda, volunteering is simply my way of giving back, what you see is what you get. It's something my parents kind of instilled in me at an early age, and I am blessed with two kids

who are following my lead. In fact some might have seen my son around, he's helping, he came here because he wanted to, he asked me to come. Shocked me. So the message is getting out. Hope you'll consider what I have brought to the table. Thank you for your time and consideration. The only request I have at this point is that Colin not be involved in collecting votes please. Thank you.

**Tommy Thompson:** Ok, for those from Region B if you look at the last page of your ballot. It should be, I think ballot X and it should have a B stamped on it. Region B only. Is that correct, Ballot X has a B stamped on it? Ok, then you're voting for Rhonda or Steve. R or S. Just make sure we have no doubt which one you're voting for. Pass them to the middle, and Dale and Cody will collect them. And Carmen and Mia.

**Marino Torrens:** Pass them to the center like we did before.

**Tommy Thompson:** Cody, Cody, Steve's gonna have his. He has a handful of them. Any more ballots? Ok, well they are counting those, we will go to the Region D VP election.

**Tommy Thompson:** Are there any nominations for the Region D VP position? Again this is only for Region D now.

**Marino Torrens:** Who's going to get there first?

**Theresa Goicoechea:** Tessie Goicoechea I would like to nominate William (Bill) Modrow for VP of Region D.

**Tommy Thompson:** There's a second

**Tommy Thompson:** Any other nominations for the position of Region D VP? Hearing none, I move nominations be closed. No Dave you cannot run for Region D.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor from Region D?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** You don't have a vote, you're not in Region D. Any opposed? Again I move that we elect Bill Modrow as Region D VP by acclamation.

**Member:** Second.

**Tommy Thompson:** All those in favor from Region D only?

**Members:** Aye

**Tommy Thompson:** Any opposed? Congratulations, Bill.

**Tommy Thompson:** I'm done. We have to wait

**Marino Torrens:** First of all thank you, thank you for your support. And thanks to my wife for letting me do what I like to do for another two years. For the good of the game. First thing I want to say and I guess I've said it a few time over the weekend, congratulations to the Clay County United Girls and to the Ross U19 Boys for being the champions. Congratulations again. Anybody else? For the good of the game.

**Carrie Chase:** Hi, Carrie Chase Again for Southwest Florida Soccer Association, Competitive Scheduling League. What we just voted on earlier today, I have a few concerns which I didn't have the opportunity earlier to clarify. For 20 – 25 years as a league we have paid our dues into FYSA and I believe that now it seems to be a little bit of a conflict of interest because I am still paying my dues into FYSA and now I'm competing against FYSA, and I believe that there needs to be some clarification for the leagues out there. We have a small league down in Cape Coral, Fort Meyers, Lehigh area, mostly for the younger players, but I still feel that I'm paying into FYSA and if you felt like, or the area feels like we needed to do more, that I'm looking to you for support, rather than to compete against you for that.

**Marino Torrens:** Thank you. Anybody else? For the good of the game. We need something, we can't close until we get those votes, so. Oh, excuse me.

**Becky McLaren:** I just want to say thank you once again for your support. I truly enjoy what I do and I look forward to serving you for another two years. And I also want to remind everybody that these rules that we passed today and the changes those are your rules, they're not our rules, they're your rules. Please go back, I challenge you to go back as I do each year and to look at them and propose changes. Send them in and send them in early.

**Tommy Thompson:** I want to dispel a rumor that I heard last night. There was a rumor flying around on Friday. There was a rumor that the Board of Directors has allocated \$150,000 to the new state-wide league it is not true. The Board of Directors allocated \$150,000 to Mike Strickler's ODP revamp program. Has nothing to do with the State-wide league. So we are not putting money into the state-wide league.

**Marino Torrens:** Just a reminder that there is Board of Directors meeting after our brief break. Right in here. So don't go nowhere. Here comes Carmen with a bodyguard.

Ok, for the Region B VP Rhonda – 1374, Steve – 557, Congratulations Rhonda.

I need a motion to destroy all ballots.

**Member:** I so move

**Marino Torrens:** Second?

b Second

**Marino Torrens:** All those in favor of destroying the ballots at this time say aye

**Members:** Aye

**Marino Torrens:** Opposed? Thank you. Need a motion to adjourn.

**Many members:** Motion

**Marino Torrens:** Thank you and have a safe trip home.