



**Florida Youth Soccer Association  
Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 6:30 PM  
Agenda**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Adopt Agenda
- IV. Recognize Guests
- V. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings
  - a. May 20, 2026
- VI. Correspondence
- VII. Reports
  - a. Administrative Officers (*No Written Reports*)
  - b. Additional Officers (*No Written Reports*)
  - c. Program Reports (*See Written Report*)
    - i. Financial Statement (*See Report*)
    - ii. Media Summary (*See Report*)
  - d. Standing Committees (*No Written Reports*)
- VIII. Unfinished Business
  - a. *None.*
- IX. New Business
  - a. Board of Director Meeting Dates (2026-2027)
  - b. Late Filing: Amendment to Bylaw Article VIII
  - c. Not in Good Standing (Affiliates)
- X. Executive Session
- XI. For the Good of the Game
- XII. Adjournment

**Meeting of Florida Youth Soccer Association's Board of Directors**  
**May 20, 2026**  
 via Zoom

**Roll:**

Present	Name	Position	Present	Name	Position
Yes	Daragh Cullen	President	Yes	Justin Lauer	Reg. B VP
Yes	Deborah Ruiz	VP Player/Coach Dev.	Yes	Hugo Arce	Reg. B Comr. N.
Yes	Eric Heidel	Secretary	Yes	Moncef Hadiji	Reg. B Comr. S.
Yes	Justin Goldman	Treasurer	Yes	David DiTillio	Reg. C VP
Yes	Mike Hyatt	VP Admin. & Comm.	Yes	Mike Callaway	Reg. C Comr. N.
Yes	Olaf Henke	VP Comp.	Yes	Ed Kinsey	Reg. C Comr. S.
Yes	Alice Smith	Registrar	Yes	Louis Richard	Reg. D VP
Yes	Marino Torrens	Reg. A VP	Yes	Melissa Alford	Reg. D Comr. E.
Yes	Russell Walker	Reg. A Comr. N.	No	Sean Acosta	Reg. D Comr. W.
Yes	Tom Tianich	Reg. A Comr. S.			

**Minutes Recorded By:** Eric Heidel

**Action Items are in red; Motions are in bolded italics and underlined.**

**Quorum:** Yes

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. EDT.

**Roll Call:** Roll was taken by Eric Heidel.

**Adopt Agenda:**

**It was moved to adopt the agenda as presented.**

Motion from: Tom Tianich

Second by: Justin Lauer

Voting Method: Voice Vote

Motion Carried

**Recognize Guests:**

Ryan Foley, Executive Director, FYSA;

Don Gemmell, Director of Sport Development, FYSA;

Jacqui Cannon, Director of Member Services, FYSA;

Sara Schneider, Director of Operations, FYSA;

Franchesca Pineda, Manager, Finance & Administration, FYSA;

Barry Witlin, Chair, Review & Discipline Committee;  
Mike Sroka, Appointed Regional Commissioner, Region B;  
Stephen Huff, Appointed Regional Commissioner, Region B;  
Kai Velmer, Past President, FYSA; and  
Dan Russell, Senior Director of Soccer Growth, US Soccer.

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

**It was moved to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2026 and March 31, 2026 meetings of the Board of Directors as presented.**

Motion from: Tom Tianich

Second by: Justin Lauer

Voting Method: Voice Vote

Motion Carried

**Correspondence:** An email alleging poaching in Region A was received this week and the individual was directed to the formal process.

**President's Report:** Congratulations to the teams participating in Cups last weekend. Remarks as to upcoming events and travel.

**Secretary's Report:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Pre-submitted financial report.

**Additional Board Reports:** None.

**Executive Director's Report:** Pre-submitted written report.

**Director of Sport Development's Report:** None.

**Standing Committee Reports:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Executive Session**

**It was moved to ratify the motions from Executive Session.**

Motion from: Louis Richard

Second by: Mike Hyatt

Voting Method: Voice Vote

Motion Carried

**For the Good of the Game:**

1. Daragh Cullen: Cup events this year were the best run events in all his time with FYSA.

**Adjournment:**

***It was moved to adjourn at 8:57 p.m. EDT.***

Motion from: Marino Torrens

Second by: Tom Tianich

Voting Method: Voice Vote

Motion Carried



## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & PROGRAM REPORTS**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

- Attended meetings with US Soccer Member Organizations in Atlanta in early June to discuss the future state and pathways strategy.
- Staff continues to coordinate the 2026 Annual General Meeting, Youth Soccer Summit, and Awards Gala.
- Hosting Budget Q&A and Bylaw/Rule Amendment sessions for members in mid-July, in advance of the AGM.
- Furthering discussions with potential multi-year partnerships through coordination with SSEC.
- Collaborated with local leagues and stakeholders to launch the Florida Girls League (FGL), creating a unified statewide platform for girls competition beginning in Fall 2026.

### **COACHING EDUCATION**

- Demand for courses in Fall 2026 remains strong, including the sold-out B License in Palm Beach Gardens, currently the most attended B Course in the country this year.
- FYSA will host the inaugural Club Technical Leadership (CTL) Level 1 course beginning in September.
- Hosted a coaching education event in Miami with the Scottish Football Association, reaching capacity for the 11v11 course and welcoming 73 coaches to the 7v7/9v9 course.

### **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

- Coordinating the FY27 budget Q&A for membership in mid-July.
- Contacting clubs with past due balances.
- The Rules & Revisions Committee has finalized recommendations for the proposed rule/bylaw amendments that were submitted timely.
- The nomination period for positions on the Board of Directors is open through July 1<sup>st</sup> with the Slate of Candidates to be announced by July 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **FYSA COMPETITIONS**

- State Cup and Presidents Cup Finals were successfully conducted, with 24 teams crowned State Champions across both competitions.
- Fourteen (14) Florida teams qualified for the USYS Southeast Presidents Cup National Qualifier, including all twelve (12) State Champions and two (2) wild card recipients.
- Ten (10) Florida teams accepted bids to participate in the USYS National Championships.
- One (1) Florida team will represent the state at the 11U-12U National State Cup Invitational hosted by Maryland Youth Soccer Association.
- Finalizing playdates and formats for the 2026-2027 Cup season.
- Launched the Florida Girls League (FGL) in collaboration with affiliate leagues, creating a unified statewide girls competition structure with regionalized league administration.



## **GRANTS**

- Launched \$20,000 in Youth Soccer Fest grant opportunities to local organizations hosting community fests through the World Cup.

## **MARKETING & PARTNERSHIPS (SEE REPORT)**

- Coordinating marketing collateral for Youth Soccer Summit, AGM, and Awards Gala.
- Designing promotional campaigns for ODP tryouts and coaching education initiatives.
- Built the “World Cup Hub” on our website to drive traffic during peak visibility periods.

## **OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

- Conducted the initial staff meeting for the 2026-2027 seasonal year, with approximately 90 qualified coaches slated to join ODP.
- Completed the ODP Regional Event in Atlanta in early June, with strong individual player performances, exposure to National ODP and Youth National Team scouts.

## **PLAYER REGISTRATION**

- Total of 103,000 player registrations to date, with approximately 53% competitive and 47% recreational, and less than 1% TOPSoccer.
- A total of 164 Not-in-Good-Standing requests were received, with 119 approved. Eighteen (18) appeals were received and submitted to the VP of Administration & Communication.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT/SAFEGUARDING**

- The Governor has signed new background check legislation into law, effective July 1.
- Staff is coordinating with ACHA and screening partners to update the L2 process and will communicate information to clubs as the process is finalized.



## MARKETING & MEDIA SUMMARY (MAY & JUNE 2026)

### Key Media Distributed:

- **FYSA Lauches Florida Girls League:** Florida Youth Soccer Association (FYSA) is proud to announce the launch of the Florida Girls League (FGL), a statewide league that unites operations for seven established girls' soccer leagues under a shared vision for the future of the game in Florida. ([Click here to read more](#))
- **Girls in Soccer Yearly Recap:** For the second year, Florida Youth Soccer Association's (FYSA) Girls in Soccer Program traveled the state, providing young female athletes with an opportunity to develop not only as soccer players, but as confident, empowered young women. ([Click here to read more](#))
- **FL ODP Player Called Up to Mexico's U15 Women's National Team:** Florida Youth Soccer is proud to recognize Florida ODP State Team player Victoria Valencia-Vonversen on her call-up to the Mexico U15 Women's National Team for the UEFA Development Tournament in Portugal. ([Click here to read more](#))

### Newsletter Insights:

*The newsletter is aimed to keep the membership informed of upcoming events, while also highlighting the success of the previous month.*

#### **May Newsletter:**

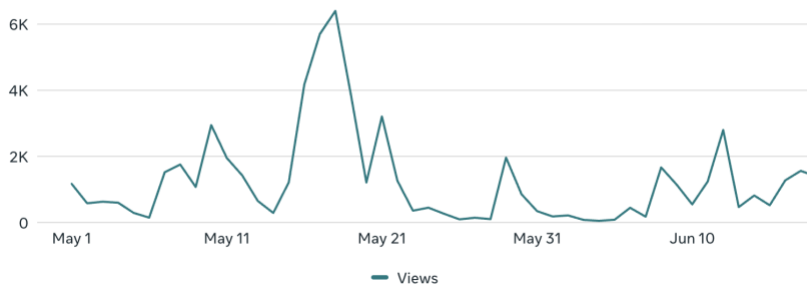
- Distribution: 378,158 Recipients
- Open Rate: 16% (69,694) [**400% Increase from this time last year**]

### Social Media Insights:

#### **FYSA Facebook**

- Page Visits: **3k**
- Posts received **60.3k** impressions
- Posts were interacted with **803** times
- Our follower count is **8,678** as of June 18, 2026.

#### **Daily Engagement Activity (Facebook)**

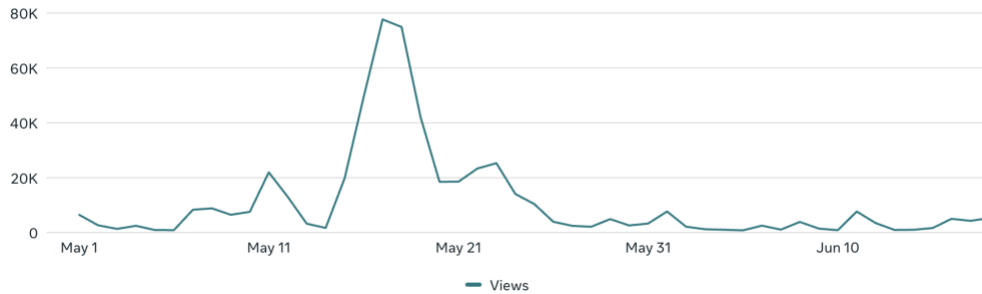




### FYSA Instagram:

- Page Visits: **7.1k**
- Posts received **561.7k** impressions
- Posts were interacted with **11.3k** times
- Followers increased by 3%. Our follower count is **11,512** as of June 18, 2026.

### Daily Engagement Activity (Instagram)



### FYSA TikTok: *(Launched in March 2026)*

- **Video Views:** 11.2k
- **Total Viewers:** 8.4k

### FYSA Website Insights:

- **Number of Website Visits:** 27.9K monthly average
- **Page Views (Number of Pages Visited):** 50.3k monthly average
- **Highest Traffic Webpages (Non-Registration & Homepage)**
  - State Cup
  - Sanctioned Tournaments



**EXHIBIT A: BOARD MEETING DATES (2026-2027)**

**OVERVIEW:** The chart below provides proposed dates for the 2026-2027 Board of Directors Meetings. Most meetings have been intentionally placed after key US Soccer and/or US Youth Soccer events.

**REQUEST:** Motion to approve the meeting dates as presented below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Sunday, August 2, 2026	12:00 PM	Orlando, FL
Wednesday, September 2, 2026	7:00 PM	Virtual
Saturday, October 10, 2026	9:00 AM	In-Person (TBD)
Wednesday, January 20, 2027	7:00 PM	Virtual
Saturday, March 20, 2027	9:00 AM	Auburndale, FL
Wednesday, June 2, 2027	7:00 PM	Virtual
Friday, July 30, 2027	5:00 PM	Orlando, FL
Sunday, August 1, 2027	8:00 AM	Orlando, FL



## **EXHIBIT B: LATE FILING – AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VIII**

**OVERVIEW:** The following amendment was submitted for consideration by the membership at the AGM on May 22, 2026, after the May 4, 2026, deadline had passed. A late filing is permitted by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote of the Board of Directors.

<b>PROPOSER(S)</b>	Mike Hyatt, FYSA VP of Administration & Communication
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Prohibits FYSA Board Members from serving as or having served within the preceding twelve (12) months as, an officer, director, or employee of US Youth Soccer, an Organization Member, or any organization whose interests may conflict with or compete against those of FYSA.
<b>RATIONALE</b>	To strengthen Board independence and protect the interests and assets of FYSA.
<b>RULES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION</b>	

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### **ARTICLE VIII | BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### **Section 2      COMPOSITION**

A. *[Unchanged]*

#### **B. Restrictions.**

1. No Administrative Officer or Additional Officer may:
  - i. Receive compensation (except for reimbursement for expenses) for services as an Administrative Officer or Additional Officer;
  - ii. Be a current officer or member of the Board of Directors of US Youth Soccer, any Organization Member, or any organization whose interests may conflict with or compete against those of FYSA, or have served in any such capacity within the preceding twelve (12) months; or
  - iii. Be a current employee of FYSA, US Youth Soccer, any Organization Member, or any organization whose interests may conflict with or compete against those of FYSA or have held such a position at any time during the preceding twelve (12) months.
2. For the purpose of this Section, an “Organization Member” shall be defined as a State Association Member of US Youth Soccer (except for FYSA), an Associate Member of the US Soccer Federation, a National Affiliate of the US Soccer Federation, a National Association of the US Soccer Federation, an Other Affiliate of the US Soccer Federation, a State Association of the US Soccer Federation (except for FYSA), and/or a Professional League of the US Soccer Federation.



### **EXHIBIT C: NOT-IN-GOOD-STANDING (AFFILIATES)**

**OVERVIEW:** The clubs listed below have outstanding balances that exceed \$1,000 and have aged 30+ days. FYSA Staff has made numerous attempts to resolve the balances with the affiliates. To date, there has been no attempt to resolve the balances.

**REQUEST:** Motion to place the listed clubs in “Not in Good Standing” status until the balances are paid in full.

- **Tropical Soccer Club**
- **Lake Worth Sharks**