

# UTAH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

TOSH Auditorium

August 16, 2012

8:00 p.m.

**Call to Order**—The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association was called to order by Cindy Baron, President at 8:10 pm in the TOSH Auditorium in Murray, UT. The following Board Members were present during the meeting:

**Roll Call:** Cindy Baron—President

John Gygi—1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Allan Haycock—Region 1 Director

Dave Mills—Region 2 Director

Loren Mott—Region 3 Director

Vaughn Mordecai—Region 5 Director

Andrew Hiatt—Executive Director

Also Present: Bryan Attridge—Risk Management Chair

Bruce Cuppett—State Cup Chair

Norm Williamson—SYRA

Tracy Proulx—Competition Committee Chair

Tim Wheelwright—Protest and Appeals Committee Chair

Heather Siddoway

Excused: Brian Smith—2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Absent: Jodi Wells—Region 4 Director

Kyle Pasley—Region 6 Director

**Acceptance of Minutes** – July 19, 2012. Allan motions to accept minutes as is. Motion passes. July 19, 2012 minutes are accepted.

**Reports of Members of the Board of Directors: See Attached**

## Unfinished Business

- **RFP Policy for Referee Pool (State Cup Committee)**—Waiting on information from audit with referees. UYSA wants to be careful with Referees for tournaments. Bruce asks if he can still request pool for referees for Fall and Spring. Discussion was that we should be fine to proceed. Discussed having a mandatory Referee Meeting to make sure everyone knows what they are doing and what is expected. Tabled.
- **Alignment / Roster Continuity / Parity**—Cindy asks Bruce to speak to roster continuity. Bruce would like the competition committee to look at club continuity that many other states are implementing. If you are within a club and after the season is over and they have try-outs, if these kids are still in the same club, they are allowing kids to be pushed up or down within the age group depending on skill level and still maintain continuity because it is still within the same club. Bruce had spoken with some of the DOCs, as well as Greg Maas about this idea. Vaughn expresses concern about allowing clubs to do whatever they want. Bruce states that he would like to have the Competition Committee look at it, they do not need to make a change right now but he would like to see the committee look at something in that direction. Cindy asks Bruce to have some of the states that are implementing this to send him their current policies for the Competition to look at. Cindy states

the implementation of this idea is varied between states. Vaughn questions implications of Club Pass for this season and the amount of times they will be able to club pass. Cindy clarifies that it will be unlimited. Bryan explains that, systematically, it will be basically the same process as the Developmental Pass. Players can be passed to different teams within the club. Once a player is passed to another team, they are locked on that team until midnight that night, so a player cannot play more than one game on the same day. Bryan asks Norm how UYSA can help to make sure that the referees know the new policy about coaches bringing game day rosters. It will be posted to both the UYSA and SRC websites. Bryan will also email the referees about new policy. Instructions on how to do the Club Pass will be sent out to all coaches in the gaming league by tomorrow. Cindy states that they would like Competition Committee to look at parity as one of the considerations for alignment to make sure that the levels of competition stay fair. Tracy states that it is already a part of what the Competition Committee is doing.

- **Voting Structure**—Dave motions to consider Voting Structure. Vaughn seconds motion. Drew expresses concern about making sure it is made clear that in region caucuses, recreational votes vote for recreation issues and competitive votes vote for competition issues. Allan received feedback from Member Organizations and some expressed concern about worrying about the “little guy”, but this new policy would help, rather than hinder the “little guy.” Vaughn expresses that the majority of Region 5 would support this change. Purpose of the change is so that there is not one entity that controls all elections and voting in any one region. Part of Rationale for this policy is; similar structure to what US Youth uses at both the Region and National Level. This type of structure gives every member a voice in what is happening in the Organization. Dave states that all of the Member Organizations he received feedback from were all positive. One Member Organization did question how the numbers were derived for the voting structure. Cindy states that it was by percentages of the total to keep each level somewhat equal in the percentage of votes. Cindy reminded the Board that because this is a bylaw change, it will need a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority, which is five votes. Motion voted on and passed unanimously. This bylaw change will be implemented for next AGM and will be ratified at the AGM. UYSA Office will have new policy sent to all Board Members, Committee Chairs, and Member Organizations.
- **State Cup Policies for 2012-2013**—Allan motions to open floor for discussion. Loren seconds motion. Floor opened for discussion. Bruce expresses gratitude to John for cleaning it up and reformatting everything. Bruce requested that it have a date a date stamp if approved. There were a few minor housekeeping issues that we will be cleaned up before it is printed and distributed. State Cup Policies are passed.
- **Bad Standing vs. Suspension\***—Cindy would like to clarify that the clarification on how we are using bad standing and suspending of players in UYSA is coming from our National Governing Bodies; US Youth and USSF. We have been informed that players are released at the end of the seasonal year. This rule comes from the Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act where an organization cannot deny kids the opportunity to play unless they have done some type of (criminal) punishable offense. Kids cannot be refused the right to play with another member of the Federation because of unpaid fees. UYSA has not released players currently in bad standing. As the requests come in they will be evaluated on a case by case basis, but generally we will have to release the player. National level will not support the clubs holding players in bad standing nor will they uphold a suspension based on non-payment of fees.

UYSA cannot have a bylaw saying that a player can be held for more than the seasonal year. According to UYSA policy a player is released on June 1. Heather Siddoway would like to see the release be the same as the federation seasonal year, August 1. Cindy states that it is something that the Board can look at and possibly get written into policy. Cindy states that clubs need to be pro-active with players who are on payment plans do not pay. Do not wait for the end of the season or seasonal year. Cindy suggests clubs utilizing collection agencies to help collect fees. UYSA cannot prohibit players from being able to play from seasonal year to seasonal year.

#### New Business

- **ODP Format 2012-13/ Program & Financial Integrity**—See packet for proposed new structure for ODP – Utah Region Select and ODP handout. Changes are coming from National and Regional Organizations, as well as State Changes. Greg Maas has spent time looking at how we can change and structure ODP within the state. Changes at the State Level would allow for more opportunities for the players to be identified while minimizing costs. Vaughn expresses concern about the politics involved with ODP and how UYSA plans to balance those politics. Drew responds that the program would like to see ODP Coaches that have no club affiliation. Cindy states that they would like to use as many college coaches as possible. Cindy asks Board Members to bring back any feedback that they receive from their members. Bruce expresses concern about the two youngest age groups and if they would follow the same new format. Drew states that, yes they would like to keep it consistent with the older age groups. Vaughn asks about birthday cut-offs for our state and for ODP cut-offs. Cindy states that ODP has to stay the same because it is an international /national program. Vaughn points out that the coaches would have to make sure that the players line-up with the correct age groups. Tracy asks when players will be notified if they make these pools. Drew replies that they will know a couple months in advance before any big events/travelling. Heather expresses concern that ODP is the same as High School Try-outs, the first week of March. Drew will take note of that and discuss with Greg. Drew asks Heather to confirm High School try-out dates and send them to Drew. Bruce asks about coaching pay structure. Drew explains that staff coaches will be volunteers but will be given a per diem for their travels.
- **State Cup Refund for Utah FC**—Utah FC filed a protest last year at State Cup but it was not upheld. The Protest Committee did not make a suggestion one way or the other on the team being refunded. The head coach would like the Board to consider refunding the fees they paid for State Cup and the protest fee. Bruce explains that this team knew what they were doing before they filed the protest. They were advised that if they lost the protest that the protest fee would not be refunded. The protest was not upheld and now they are asking for a refund. Tim states that the reason the coach requested it was because the year before there was a similar situation because the rule was unclear. Cindy asks for any motion to refund this team. No motion. Cindy will communicate to team that the Board has declined to consider the motion and that there will not be a refund of any of the fees.
- **X-League**—Bruce would like to discuss the maximum number of teams that they would put towards division flights. Tracy states that they took into consideration parity and some flights ended with more. Drew would like to see it kept to smaller groups of 5 or 6 rather than larger ones for these younger age groups. Vaughn expresses gratitude for doing such a good job for the regions. Cindy expresses gratitude to Tracy and Competition Committee for all of the work that they have put into the alignment process. Drew expresses gratitude to Sherri and all the work that she put into the schedule and for how quickly the schedules were published. Heather asks about program through affinity that tracks roster continuity. Drew asks Bryan to talk to affinity about looking into this program. Tracy states that most

- time is spent on roster continuity and if a quicker process is put in place, it could free up a lot of time for the Competition Committee.
- **Member Organization Renewals\***—If the Organizations are working on being compliant, UYSA will work with them. The Organizations that are not responding will be at risk of losing Member Organization status and will lose all benefits of being a Member Organization with UYSA. Drew asks if Board should send letter to Member Organizations that have not responded. Vaughn states that it would probably be best to have the letters come from Cindy or John. Cindy asks when cutoff date for these renewals should be before they start cutting off privileges for noncompliant clubs. Vaughn suggests sending these letters through certified mail. Send letters to president and registered agent with incorporation. Cindy and John will work on getting the letters out and the clubs will be given 30 days to send in information. The Board will look at suspending Member Organization Status at next month's Board meeting for those who are not compliant or have not responded to the multiple requests to contact the UYSA offices.
  - **US Soccer Foundation 2013 Grant Information\***—See handout for more information. Drew states that there were over 80 teams that got free uniforms from the Degree Jersey giveaway.

**Good of the Game**—Cindy would like everyone to be aware of the clip that was done with KSL about the UYSA program. Cindy announced the results of the elections within Region and Nation. Cindy would like UYSA to be looking at land and complexes that are willing to work with the Soccer community, West Jordan is not being accommodating and the mayor is pushing to close down the portion of the complex that is leased from the Salt City Airport Authority. Cindy asks everyone to be aware of the US Youth's concussion policy. It is not the same as our policy. UYSA policy is stricter and players and coaches need to be aware of the differences. Coaches and players will need to err on the side of caution and follow UYSA policies since they are registered Utah players. Cindy would like to see that when coaches get ejected, that they will be suspended for a minimum of two games and would also like this to apply to players who receive a violent conduct red card. Cindy would like Tracy to take back to the Competition Committee and consider getting it in policy. Bruce reports on "Best 11", two UYSA girls came out in the "Best 11": Stacy Bair and Chansi Crompton, it was quite an honor to have those girls selected to the "Best 11" at the US Youth National Championships held in Rock Hill, South Carolina in July. David asks about Youth Soccer Month and trying to get an event with Weber for future years for Region 2. Drew suggests adding an event in Region 2 if we could get one of the clubs to host it. Vaughn asks about Referee Fees. Cindy states that the current fees are on the website on the Referee page. Tracy asks about Developmental Pass for X-League. Drew states that if the Developmental Pass was implemented for this year, the entire X-League would have to be moved to a new tournament in Affinity. Drew recommends not changing it for this Fall, there will be no developmental pass for X-League this year.

**Adjournment**—Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.

**Executive Session**

Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors - TBD