

**UTAH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**April 19, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association was called to order by President Scott Maxfield at 8:05 p.m. at the State Office of Utah Youth Soccer Association in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following Board members were present during the meeting:

Scott Maxfield, President  
Cindy Baron, Vice President  
Jodi Wells, Secretary  
Terri Baker, Recreation Director  
Eric Blommer, Proxy Competition Director  
Eric Wells, Proxy District 2 Chairperson  
John Gygi, District 3 Chairperson  
Brett Porter, Proxy District 4 Chairperson  
Brian Smith, District 5 Chairperson  
Scott Hansen, Proxy District 6 Chairperson  
Delon Brower, District 7 Chairperson  
Norm Williamson, SYRA

Also present were Greg Maas (State Technical Director), Linda Kay Messenger (Tournament Chairperson), Bruce Cuppett (State Cup Chairperson), Kim Smith (Protest & Appeals Chairperson), Jodene Smith (Risk Management Chairperson), and Kent Fuller (Firebirds Soccer Club).

Excused Members were Paul Skinner (Top Soccer Chairperson), Trish Roberts (District 2 Chairperson), and Dave Mills (District 4 Chairperson).

**WELCOME**

President Scott Maxfield welcomed those board members in attendance and thanked them for coming.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Motion was made and seconded to accept the meeting minutes with a few grammatical changes from the March 15, 2007 Board meeting. Minutes were accepted.

**REPORTS**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Vice President, Cindy Baron thanked Paul Skinner for hosting and representing UYSA at the Region IV TOP Soccer Symposium held April 14 & 15, 2007 here in Salt Lake. In talking with attendees, they all felt like it was a great event, and most of them seemed to

be having a good time at the RSL game. We had attendees from within and outside of the Region.

Baron also reported on the following problems that we have had this spring with registration:

1. Illegal teams registered—
  - A. Team in X-League allowed under age player(s) on a team to register at the club/district level. This caused the alignment to be re-done, and the schedules to be re-done. This created a lot of extra work, for our staff and volunteers.
2. Fraudulent Birth Certificates
  - A. Need to check the date of registration as well as birth date.
  - B. Requests that violate the Rules and Policies-Volunteers can be sent to disciplinary and or have their access revoked vs. Office staff to lose their job.
3. Registrar had asked permission in previous years for a team and was given permission to register in the wrong district. This complaint was received from a parent, when it was investigated it was found that tow teams were illegally registered. The registrar also listed herself on the roster as an assistant coach to meet the requirement of a “D” licensed assistant for a coach coaching multiple teams. This registrar has had her access to the on-line system revoked.

We will be having a Registrar meeting on Thursday, May 10, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. at the State Office, this needs to be attended by all registrars, League, Club, and District.

1. State Registrar position will no longer be at the State Office
  - A. Discussion of penalties for violating the by-laws
  - B. New tournament check in policy
  - C. Registrar’s being “Written-up” documentation being collected.
  - D. Develop a “quiz” before access is granted to the on-line system
  - E. Doing for the “kids” vs. “hardship” and allowing play that violates rules or policy this essentially allows for a violation as a “hardship”

Baron also reported on the following items form Rules and Revisions:

Bylaws have been submitted to the web-master for posting. Still looking through the minutes to validate policies that “are allowed” (22 man roster) but am having difficulty finding where they were passed by the board and ratified by the state council. Baron reported that there has been nothing going on with Protest and Appeals at this time.

Baron also reported the following on the Publicity & Newsletter:

Newsletter was finished and mailed in late January. It was not printed in the office but was outsourced. The outsourcing and mailing of the newsletter was costly. We do not have enough left in the current year budget to do another one until the new seasonal year which begins September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Baron also reported on the following items for the AGM:

Coaches of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Youth Referee of the year, forms are here, or you can download them off of the website. Start looking at your people know, and send them in. We would like to have a nomination from each league, club and district for next years AGM.

Jodi and I would like to attend Washington State's Soccer Fair in Seattle April 28, 2007. We are looking for ways to improve and add excitement to the AGM/Workshops that are coming up in 2008. Washington has the second largest vendor show in the Region and also to attend their awards dinner to get some ideas for our event to celebrate the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UYSA. We need to look at what we want to do, set a date, secure the venue, and start extending invitations to the UYSA membership, keynote speakers, presenters and vendors.

Baron also reported on following for the Constitutional Convention, they have not yet convened as waiting on appointment of a Rules and Revision Committee Chairperson. We will be scheduling a committee meeting after the Executive Director is hired.

Baron concluded in reporting the following from the hiring committee:

We have received 25 resumes for the position of Executive Director. We have narrowed the choices to 5 individuals. We will be conducting the remaining phone interviews Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and should have the pool of candidates narrowed down to the final three or four. We will be conducting face to face interviews on Wednesday, April 25, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. with the final candidate selection and recommendation to President Maxfield by the end of the month.

### **COMPETITION DIRECTOR**

Eric Blommer, Proxy for Kurt Cottrell Competition Director, stated that the Committee is doing very well, I have been appointed as the secretary so now you have the minutes from the last meeting. If you wish to see these on a regular basis, I will send them out to the board.

Blommer stated that they have set forth some agendas to get some things taken care of. The Developmental Pass is permanently on the agenda, we do not have a tie breaker defined for all placed to do the alignments. We have sorted these items in priority, Alignment items are top priority, and their will always be some odd issues.

Blommer also stated that non-alignment issues, rescheduling, home and away jerseys, referee issues, we can only make recommendations on these items.

If any one has additional issues, they would like to see on the agendas, please send them to Kurt or myself so that we can get them on the agenda. We are trying to capture and take care of these items.

Recreation Director, Teri Baker stated that she has had some issues with the developmental pass.

President Scott Maxfield stated that the developmental pass had not been used for the purpose it was intended for. What is happening, we are using it for teams that are short on players, or we are having Premier players coming down to lower division teams to help them win games to keep them in a particular division.

District 5 Chairperson, Brian Smith stated that some of the D1 and D2 players can go down to a lower division to get more playing time.

Maxfield stated that the hardship rule was put in place, and people took advantage of it. Blommer stated that this season we have made the change, and the hardship rule is gone. Smith stated that we have no teeth in it.

Baker stated that she would like to see district teams be able to play with in the state competition program. By allowing a district player a developmental pass to play on a state competition team.

Maxfield stated that we have a state competition fee, if we allow a district player to come and use a developmental pass; they would need to pay a portion of the State Competition fee.

Technical Director, Greg Maas stated that we have had a couple of premier players playing down, because they are playing up a year. I have talked to Kurt and we will be discussing this issue.

District 2 Proxy, Eric Wells suggested that we freeze the premier players from playing down a division.

State Cup Chairperson, Bruce Cuppett stated is there a way that we could build something like that into the ADG system.

Maxfield suggested that they discuss a proposal to develop the kids that can play at a higher level. We could include the district players for a nominal fee. It is about the kids, the whole idea is to use this the way it should be used. Take back to your committee and teach the principal and concept to everyone that will be using it correctly.

Blommer stated that if the district teams are not put in the systems in teams, it makes it harder to make them available for a developmental pass. We can work with ADG and get something worked out.

## **RECREATION DIRECTOR**

Recreation Director, Terri Baker asked how to take and prepare the Risk Management guidelines, this is a bigger issue, than just the coaches. Do we ant the perimeters on the back of the volunteer disclosures.

President Scott Maxfield stated that we need to cover field playability, goals secured, coaches and parents leaving kids in a 1 on 1 situation.

State Cup Chairperson, Bruce Cuppett stated that US Youth has very good guidelines. It really makes me nervous; we really need to educate the new parents.

Baker stated that you should always be in 2's and make sure there is another adult present.

Maxfield asked the board how they would like to see it presented.

Risk Management Chairperson, Jodene Smith suggested having it posted on the website.

Maxfield stated that we could publish it on the schedules.

Baker stated that you can not publish any child with personal information, and posting schedules are also a bad idea.

Tournament Chairperson, Linda Kay Messenger stated that if we did a pamphlet, the parents maybe would read that.

Maxfield stated that by doing that we are doing due diligence, and have tried to cover these issues.

District 7 Chairperson, Delon Brower stated that we need to identify the audience we are trying to attract.

Maxfield suggested that Terri put something together for parents and coaches and send down to the office.

## **STATE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

State Technical Director, Greg Maas reported that UYSA Coaching Education course dates have been set, just waiting for sites to be finalized.

Maas also reported that Utah will be hosting a US Soccer National C and B License course, to be held June 16-24, 2007 at Weber State University. This is being held during Far West Regionals, but I still have had a lot of response from coaches to attend.

Maas also gave an update on the Far West Regional League; we are still working on receiving travel subsidy from Cal South. Aside from the organizational challenges, the feedback from the Utah teams that were participating have been very favorable, they are wrapping up the final weekend.

Maas also stated that the 5<sup>th</sup> annual ODP Friendlies will be held June 1-3, 2007 in Orem. We have ODP teams participating from Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada and Utah.

Maas also reported on the RSL Coaches Association, that it is accepting membership, and the RSL Youth Development Program was formally announced in Phoenix, Arizona.

RSL Utah will feature a U-16 and U-17 team formed out of our current UYSA Olympic Development Program '91 and '90 state team pools.

Maas also stated that Region IV Director Jolene Woodhove has asked that I be the "Technical Director" for the Region IV State Coaching Directors, and I have accepted.

Maas stated that he had formally resigned all Region IV Staff Coaching positions effective June 1, 2007.

Maas also reported that the following coaches will represent Utah on Region IV ODP Staff this summer: Boys – Eric Landon, Nermin Sasivarevic and Adolfo Ovalle; Girls – Becky Hogan, Tim Crompton, and Simon McFall.

Maas concluded in stating that Maryland Youth Soccer is the latest to adopt 8v8 for U-11 and U-12's (maximum roster size of 14) for fall of 2007. We are quickly becoming a minority. It would be in the best interest for our kids.

Competition Director Proxy, Eric Blommer stated that we need to do this a year in advance and phase it in. Let's start with the next years U-11's and then move forward. State Cup Chairperson, Bruce Cuppett stated that Region IV is really hesitant on moving forward with this, the other regions have all jumped on board of it.

Maas stated that he would assemble something for the next meeting, with considerations in helping out the leagues and districts to get things in line.

District 2 Chairperson Proxy, Eric Wells stated that the investment is small, finding the fields will be the hardest part.

District 4 Chairperson Proxy, Brett Porter stated that if we are going to go this way, we need to make a move on keeping all of the teams affected down to the smaller size of teams.

## **STATE CUP CHAIRPERSON**

State Cup Chairperson, Bruce Cuppett stated that the seeding has been completed, last years champion and runner up are seeded 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and the rest of the seeding comes from the latest alignment from the competition committee.

Cuppett stated that the play in games will occur on Saturday, April 21, 2007.

Cuppett also stated that nobody is reading the rules. We are trying to get the word out on all issues. The biggest one being that anyone can check in the team for state cup, as long as they have all of the paperwork.

June 1<sup>st</sup> all of our paper work needs to be complete and into the Region, Jodene Smith has volunteered to help out with the data entry, so that we can be ready for that deadline.

Cuppett concluded in stating that we need people to volunteer and put in time, go back to your Districts and get me some names to help volunteer to help out.

President Scott Maxfield stated that State Cup is the states premier tournament, it has some very tough rules, that we can not cut any slack with. Step up to the plate, help out, and take some responsibility. We really appreciate all of the work that the State Cup Committee does to make this tournament run.

### **TOP SOCCER CHAIRPERSON**

Deter until next month, Chairperson Paul Skinner had another commitment.

### **DISTRICT CHAIRPERSON**

#### **DISTRICT 1**

No report

#### **DISTRICT 2**

District 2 Chairperson Proxy, Eric Wells stated that they had their elections last week.

We have anew Treasurer Mark Barrett, he is a CPA and has kids playing soccer and was willing to help out.

We re-elected Jodene Smith as our Referee Assigner, and we have appointed Leisa Vineyard as our registrar while we work through a registrar issue.

Eric Wells concluded in stating that District 2 will be putting on the Challenge Cup Tournament in May.

#### **DISTRICT 3**

District 3 Chairperson John Gygi stated that with the ill health and passing of his mother, John Lowery has had to spend a lot of time in Alabama over the last month. The district has had to scramble to get its fields laid out and painted. Some of you may have noticed thin and/or faded lines when you played in District 3 over the last couple of weeks. We are doing our best.

Gygi also stated that the following are issues that District 3 would like to have the state board or the competition committee to evaluate:

1. Restricting the cancellation/rescheduling policy—in District 3, we have had to cancel over 70 games through the first 3 weeks of the season. It has become almost unmanageable for our referee assignors. Teams need to understand that, when they sign up to play in the spring competition league, they should be ready to play. Spring Break is NOT an excuse. This is a big problem in that there are different spring breaks in different school districts. Teams should not be going to out-of-state tournaments. Teams have 8 other months of the year to go to tournaments. We should eliminate the 3 freebies rule and

minimize the list of exceptions for rescheduling. AYSO gives you a 10 week schedule with one game each Saturday, and you don't reschedule games. We should be able to handle it too.

As an example, my U13 team has only played 2 league games so far and will not play its 3<sup>rd</sup> league game until April 26<sup>th</sup>. We have had teams cancel on us because of spring break and an out-of-state tournament. Now I just received word that our opponent this Saturday needs to cancel because they have a State Cup play in game.

2. Making the season longer—competition league play is getting squeezed into 6 week periods. That means we're in league play 12 out of 52 weeks of the year and we are playing 2 games per week. We should have 11 week seasons with one game each Saturday and allowance for one weekend of each season (UEA in the fall and Easter in the spring?) We need to start earlier in the spring and go later in the fall. AYSO games start two weeks before us each spring and go to mid-November in the fall. Everyone needs to work at procuring their fields for longer seasons. There are weather issues, but this is soccer.
3. Making the schedules fair—it appears that the online system does a random job of scheduling which results in inequities. For example, the top 3 teams in the U13 premier division are Sparta, LaRoca, and Rush. For three straight seasons, the schedule has required Sparta to play away at both LaRoca and Rush, and has required Sparta to play LaRoca the first game of the season.
4. Creating a statewide tryout policy—District 3 has had a uniform tryout policy in place for a couple of years; however, District 3 teams are disadvantaged if a statewide policy is not in place. A proposal was submitted at the last AGM, but has not been followed up on.
5. The developmental pass policy doesn't currently prevent a player from playing on two different teams on the same day. This should be changed. We think such a restriction existed before and makes sense.
6. The state online management system doesn't currently allow you to put a U10 X-league player on a U-11 team with a developmental pass, even though the policy allows for it.
7. Referees need to be requiring rosters at the games and adequately checking player passes. There is a lot of abuse going on.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

District 4 Chairperson Proxy, Brett Porter stated that they have gotten their website up and running and their FAQ section has been a huge help to parents and coaches.

Porter also stated that they have been seeing more red cards; we are having a lot of trouble with parents.

Protest and Appeals Chairperson, Kim Smith also stated that last year they had a parent form District 4 that came and designed our website; they have done a great job, if any one would like to check it out, just let us know.

#### **DISTRICT 5**

District 5 Chairperson, Brian Smith stated that they are working with Business partners to help build a soccer complex down in Utah County. We really have a lot of people getting on board; they are also interested in bringing a Women's team to Utah County.

Smith also stated that the district on a whole is doing well; we are still looking for a few volunteers to fill positions.

Smith also stated that the North Utah County, League 26 is bursting at the seams. They are having huge growing pains, locating fields etc., we may be looking to divide up this league to make it more manageable.

Smith concluded in stating that they have a District tournament, a State Sanctioned tournament, and a 3v3 tournament all coming up.

## **DISTRICT 6**

District 6 Chairperson Proxy, Scott Hanson reported that things are going well within District 6.

Hanson concluded in stating that they have been approached by someone to provide kiosk computers at our office for recreation sign ups, to help speed up the process, so we are going to give it a shot.

## **DISTRICT 7**

District 7 Chairperson, Delon Brower stated that their recreation program is up and running, our competition program is running, there are parent's problems and red card problems, we have our volunteers in place, and are working through everything.

Brower concluded in reminding everyone of the May 19<sup>th</sup> recreation tournament up in Cache Valley.

## **ITEMS OF DISCUSSION**

### **Hiring of Office Personal**

President, Scott Maxfield stated that Stephanie has left the office; her last day was April 11, 2007. We have hired Mandy Phelps; she handles the phones in the morning until about 1:30 p.m. I have interviewed another young lady, Morgan she will work from noon to 5pm, starting Wednesday, April 25, 2007. She is a student, she plays on the club team, and she is a soccer person. Amy has really helped to fill in the gap. We are trying to get the Executive Director hired for them to determine what other help is needed in the office. Please have a little bit of patience with the new hires, we need to create a good environment, we have a tremendous turn over within this office, so please respect the people in the office.

### **TOURNAMENT POLICIES**

Tournament Committee Chairperson, Linda Kay Messenger stated that she has written up a proposed tournament policy for the Guest Player form it is written as follows:

#### ***GUEST PLAYER FORM***

*The club/league/district registrar may sign the guest player form under the following conditions:*

- 1. A player is registered by not rostered to a team (see Rule 3:02:01),*

2. *A player has tried out for a team(s) during the tryout period but has not been chosen for a team; therefore, he/she has no coach though the player wishes to participate in tournaments during the summer.*

*By signing the guest player form, the registrar validates the player is registered.*

Messenger stated that this would be the only time the registrar would sign the guest player form. We have no policy for this, which is why I am proposing this change.

Messenger concluded in stating that we need to have a tournament only pass flat fee, across the districts. The following is the proposed change for the Tournament pass fee: *The fee to be charged for a tournament only pass would be \$20.00 for the club/league/district.*

President Scott Maxfield asked that all Chairpersons, please take these proposals back to their districts for feedback.

### **PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS**

The motion was made, seconded and approved to ratify Jodene Smith as the State Registrar by President Scott Maxfield.

President Scott Maxfield also recommended Paul C. Burke as the Rules Chairperson; this is pending upon the approval from the Federation, due to the fact that Paul is the Rules Chairperson for the Federation.

Maxfield also stated that the proposed re-write of rules are under way, and should be in draft form by mid-May.

President Scott Maxfield also proposed that Joe Johnson, step into the Treasurer position. Mr. Johnson is a CPA, has a daughter that plays in our association, he is familiar with quick books, and has met with our auditor.

Motion was made, seconded and approved to have Joe Johnson become the Treasurer.

### **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President, Scott Maxfield stated that the Ogden Outlaws, a Premier Development League team that relies on revenue from activities that it provides to generate the financial needs to operate the team, have asked for our State Association e-mail address access.

They would use this to solicit support to help communicate with players, coaches and staff of teams of the UYSA. They would like to announce home game schedules, youth camps and other activities to members of UYSA so they can be involved.

One of the activities is providing a unique opportunity for High School aged players to attend soccer camps designed to help them be recognized by and work with college coaching staffs. They want to contact the High School age Boys, Girls and their coaches to invite the players to these camps.

State Cup Chairperson, Bruce Cuppett stated that we have negotiated with others, if they want our information, they will have to pay for it.

Technical Director Greg Maas stated that our website should have links to others websites to provide any information for our association members to locate.

President, Scott Maxfield stated that the next AGM is our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary; we want to really make a statement. Cindy Baron and Jodi Wells have asked to attend the Washington State Soccer Fair to gain information and ideas to make our AGM more attractive to our members.

Maxfield asked for the Boards approval to allow Cindy and Jodi to attend the Washington State Soccer Fair.

Approval granted.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no business to attend to.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 10:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association is scheduled for Thursday, May 17, 2007 at 8:00 p.m. at the State Office of Utah Youth Soccer Association.

*These draft minutes were prepared by Secretary Jodi Wells.  
Please direct any corrections or clarifications to [ewells@networld.com](mailto:ewells@networld.com)*