

**UTAH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

April 22, 2003

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association was called to order by President Paul C. Burke at 8:00 p.m. at the State Office of the Utah Youth Soccer Association in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following Board members were present:

Paul C. Burke, President  
Jodi Wells, Secretary  
Tom Borrowman, Treasurer  
Richard Yoder, Proxy for Boys Competition Director (also Discipline Committee Chairman)  
Bruce Cuppett, Director of Development  
Arnold Wilcox, Chairman of District 1 (Salt Lake)  
Eric Blommer, Proxy for District 2 (West Salt Lake County)  
John Lowery, Chairman of District 3 (Sandy/Draper)  
Mike Tate, Chairman of District 5 (Utah County)  
Peter Unwin, Chairman of District 6 (Davis County)  
Delon Brower, Chairman of District 7 (Cache County)  
Richard Messenger, Past President

Also present were Gail Ellison (ODP Administrator), Scott Harward (Office Manager), Greg Maas (Technical Director), Linda Kay Messenger (Rules Committee Chairwoman), Teresa Ortiz (State Cup Committee Member), Tina Patterson (State Registrar), Jodene Smith (Risk Management Director), and Leisa Vineyard (Programs Director).

Board members who were excused or absent included Debbie Haycock (Girls Competition Director), Ken Snoy (Boys Competition Director), and Bill Patterson (District 2 Chairman). The chairmanship of District 4 was vacant due to the resignation of Nancy Christensen.

**WELCOME**

Special thanks was offered by President Paul C. Burke to District 1 and its Chairman Arnold Wilcox for hosting this meeting.

**ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Secretary Jodi Wells presented the draft minutes for the March 20, 2003 meeting of the Board of Directors. These draft minutes were distributed to the Board in advance of the April Board meeting. A motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and seconded to accept these minutes. This motion was passed.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND MEETING RULES**

A motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and then seconded to adopt the amended meeting agenda, to set time limits for agenda items, to limit discussion of each item of old business to five minutes, to limit discussion of each item of new business to seven minutes, to allow each district four minutes to present its report, to authorize the chairman to call for a dispositive motion upon expiration of the respective discussion periods, and to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 p.m. This motion was passed.

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Technical Director Greg Maas reported that 2003-2004 Coaching Education Calendar of Events has been set but that contacts and site information for the summer schedule are needed. Only the June E License in the Salt Lake area has been confirmed to date.

Maas reported that the ODP Tournament is set for May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>, in Salt Lake City at a site yet to be determined. Maas also reported that the Moscow/Utah Youth Games will be held July 17-27, 2003 and that the Association will be represented by a U18 boys team and a U18 girls team.

Maas also presented his findings on how other state associations handle requests for players to play in older age groups. President Paul C. Burke appointed a committee to review the existing play-up policy and to prepare an alternative for consideration by the Board. The committee consists of Greg Maas (Technical Director), Linda Kay Messenger (Rules Committee Chairwoman), Bruce Cuppett (Director of Development), and Tina Patterson (State Registrar).

Maas concluded by reiterating the new requirements and recommendations from US Youth Soccer concerning the numbers of players and sizes of fields for U6, U8, U10, U11, and U12 play. These requirements take effect on September 1, 2003. Consequently, the Association's leagues should be preparing to comply with these mandates.

#### **REPORT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Audit Committee Chairman Delon Brower reported that the committee met on April 17, 2003. Treasurer Tom Borrowman supplied the committee with financial statements for review. The Audit Committee also examined the purchase order system, which appears to be in good condition. The Audit Committee plans to make random checks to verify compliance with internal procedures. The Audit Committee also reported that it declined to make any recommendations on budget changes or specific requests for payments. The Audit Committee recommended that these subjects be addressed by other bodies.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Tom Borrowman presented a Balance Sheet plus a Profit and Loss Budget Performance Statement as of March 31, 2003. Borrowman reported that the Association is in good financial shape. The special, semi-annual audit came back in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Association's tax return was filed on April 14, 2003.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Jodi Wells reported on her efforts to collect information on registration plans for every recreation league within the Association. Thus far, only 18 leagues have responded to the numerous requests for information. Wells distributed a report showing the times, dates, and places of registration for the leagues that have responded. Wells reported that the Association will use this information to develop marketing materials to support registration efforts for recreation leagues.

#### **REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

Registrar Tina Patterson presented a registration report indicating that registration figures for the current year remain down. Patterson also reported on the annual registrar's meeting, which was held on Saturday, April 12, 2003. Patterson reported that the meeting was well-attended and that discussion focused on the use of tally sheets and possibility of changing the play-up policy. Kerri Dalton also gave a presentation during the registrar's meeting on the software package currently in use.

#### **REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS**

**DISTRICT 7** – Chairman Delon Brower presented a positive report on conditions in Cache Valley. Brower reported that District 7's spring recreation season has begun and that it is serving a record number of players.

**DISTRICT 6** – Chairman Peter Unwin reported that registration for recreation leagues will begin next week, and tryouts for competition teams have been scheduled.

**DISTRICT 5** – Chairman Mike Tate reported that progress continues to be made in Utah County. The District is working to address its lack of a referee assignor for games in the State Competition League.

Coaching licensure courses and modules have been well-attended. The District is also working to expand the Association's membership in Richfield, Price, and Delta.

**DISTRICT 4** – Proxy Richard Yoder reported that Nancy Christensen has stepped down as the District Chair. Elections are being conducted tonight. Dave Mills is expected to be elected as the new District Chair, and Richard Seamon has replaced Mills as League 29 president.

**DISTRICT 3** – Chairman John Lowery reported District 3 is having the worst rain out season ever. Thus far, 168 games remain to be made up this season. Sandy City is treating the fields like gold because of the lack of money in the city budget. Also, coaches have been canceling games for trivial reasons such as the expected absence of a star player. With field availability already presenting difficulties, the situation has gotten out of hand.

**DISTRICT 2** – Proxy Eric Blommer reported that Chairman Bill Patterson was unable to attend the Board meeting because of another commitment.

**DISTRICT 1** – Chairman Arnold Wilcox presented a positive report and noted that registration dates within the district have been set. Wilcox also reported that three clubs within the district have worked together on a bid to operate the Pioneer Cup Tournament. Wilcox reported one problem: a U12 recreation team was registered last fall but has not played any games either last fall or this spring. The district is planning to refund any registration fees paid by these players. Technical Director Greg Maas offered to provide training or clinics for this team.

#### **REPORT OF GIRLS COMPETITION DIRECTOR**

President Paul C. Burke presented a report submitted by e-mail from Girls Competition Director Debbie Haycock, who was unable to attend the Board meeting because of a work emergency. Haycock expressed concern that District 5 has not been using a referee assignor for matches in the State Competition League. Teams and clubs in Utah County have been able to handpick officials for their matches. In at least one case, a team in Utah County in the State Competition League has scheduled a parent of one of its players to referee the team's matches. Haycock expressed concern that District 5 is not complying with national standards for referee assignments, and that games in Utah County could be subject to protest as a result. Haycock urged the Board to take immediate action to correct this situation so that teams in the State Competition League can be assured that competition in Utah County will be fair.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **PROPOSAL TO ADOPT THE CODE OF COACHING ETHICS AND TO REINSTATE RELEVANT POLICIES**

Motion was made by Arnold Wilcox and seconded to accept the recommendation of the Special Committee Chaired by the Director of Development and composed of the Girls Competition Director, Boys Competition Director, Rules & Revisions Committee Chairperson, and State Technical Director to (1) approve and adopt the Code of Coaching Ethics; (2) reinstate all policies referring to the Coaching Code of Conduct that were rescinded by order of the Board on March 20, 2003; and (3) change all references in UYSA's bylaws and policies from "Coaching Code of Conduct" to "Code of Coaching Ethics." This motion was passed with one abstention.

#### **POLICY TO ESTABLISH SPRING TRYOUT DATES FOR COMPETITION TEAMS**

Motion was made by John Lowery and seconded to establish the following policy for spring tryout dates for competition teams:

Teams seeking to register in the State Competition League shall comply with the following guidelines regarding tryout dates:

1. Except as provided below, teams that will compete in the U-12 and above age groups may not hold any tryout before either the completion of the State Cup tournament or the first Tuesday after Memorial Day.

2. Boys teams that will be competing in the U-16 and above age groups may not hold tryouts earlier than the Saturday after the completion of the annual boys championship tournaments that are sanctioned by the Utah High School Athletic Association.
3. Tryouts may not be conducted on Memorial Day.

After discussion that this policy would result in compression between tryout and registration dates, motion was made by Eric Blommer to table this proposal. This motion to table was seconded and then passed with two abstentions.

#### **RATIFICATION OF STATE CUP FORMAT**

Motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and seconded to approve the format and rules propagated by the State Cup Committee for use in the 2003 State Cup Competition. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the State Cup registration policy to allow driver's licenses to be accepted as a valid form of identification. The motion as amended was then passed with one abstention.

#### **REPORT FROM ALIGNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE**

Bruce Cuppett reported on behalf of the Alignment Study Committee that it had reached the conclusion that it is not practical to implement an inflexible policy of promoting and relegating two teams each season. Cuppett explained that such an inflexible policy would result in competitive imbalances because the Competition Boards have weighed a variety of factors before making alignments. The movement of players, the introduction of new teams, the break-up of old teams, and the movement of teams between age-groups all complicate the alignment process, making an inflexible policy the least desirable, according to the committee.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to refer the subject back to the Alignment Study Committee with directions to present further recommendation to the Board not later than July 2003.

President Paul C. Burke then announced a five-minute recess at 9:35 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 9:40 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion was made by Mike Tate and seconded to suspend the agenda in order to immediately consider the Proposal Regarding Referee Assignors for State Competition League as the first item of new business. This motion was passed without dissent.

#### **PROPOSAL REGARDING REFEREE ASSIGNORS FOR STATE COMPETITION LEAGUE**

Motion was made by Richard Messenger and seconded to require District 5 to immediately comply with the requirement that referees for matches in the State Competition League be assigned by a certified referee assignor. President Paul C. Burke conveyed concerns from the Boys and Girls Competition Directors that this measure is necessary to ensure fair competition within the State Competition League. Burke also explained that the State Competition League could be flooded with protests from games occurring in Utah County unless District 5 immediately retains a certified assignor.

District 5 Chairman Mike Tate explained that his district has not budgeted for a referee assignor and thus could not afford to pay a referee assignor this season. Tate promised instead to personally monitor referee assignments in an effort to screen out situations involving obvious bias. Tate then expressed his opposition to this motion because it called for immediate compliance by District 5 to the national rules requiring the use of a certified assignor.

Discipline Committee Chairman Richard Yoder expressed support for the motion. Yoder explained that this problem has existed for several years but has not been corrected. Yoder urged the Board to address the situation now. Richard Messenger confirmed that this problem has been in existence for years and that previous efforts to address it have not yielded a solution. Messenger also noted that no person should be

assigning officials to matches without having been certified to do so. In response, Tate pledged that District 5 would include monies in its budget for next season so that a certified assignor will be in place for the Fall 2003 season.

Motion was made and seconded to amend the motion to provide a loan of \$1,000 to District 5 to cover the assignor fees for the rest of the current season. Peter Unwin called the question on the amendment, which then failed.

Motion was made by Linda Kay Messenger and seconded to table the motion. The motion to table failed. Bruce Cuppett then moved to call the question on the motion. The motion to call the question was seconded and passed with one abstention. The underlying motion then failed.

#### **PROPOSAL TO ADOPT AGE-GROUP SPECIFIC STANDARDS FOR SMALL-SIDED PLAY**

Motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and then seconded to adopt, effective September 1, 2003, the following policy concerning age-group specific standards for the number of players in sanctioned play.

##### **POLICY: NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Except by waiver approved by the Technical Director, affiliated leagues and programs shall comply with the following age-group specific standards for the number of players on the field during competition:

- U12 and above: Not more than 11v11 including goalkeepers
- U11: Not more than 11v11 including goalkeepers
- U10: 6v6 including goalkeepers
- U8: 4v4 with no goalkeepers
- U6: 3v3 with no goalkeepers

Technical Director Greg Maas recommended the passage of this proposal so that players in the state will benefit from a common program. Maas explained that this policy would implement the recommendations of US Youth Soccer and its coaching staff.

District 1 Chairman Arnold Wilcox expressed opposition to this proposal based on concern about the availability of enough space to implement the small-sided program. District 2 Proxy Eric Blommer also expressed opposition because some fields in District 2 have fixed goals that could not be moved to accommodate a small-sided program.

District 6 Chairman Peter Unwin offered general support for the small-sided concept but expressed concern that this proposal would create incentive for U10 teams to jump to U11 early in order to play full-sided games. Unwin suggested that the policy be revised to address this concern.

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to table this proposal and refer it to committee with instructions to present a revised proposal next month. This motion to table the proposal was passed.

President (PAUL C.) Burke then clarified that the only question at issue was whether the Association would implement the *recommendations* of US Youth Soccer. The Association and its leagues remain obligated to implement, effective September 1, 2003, the following mandates from US Youth Soccer concerning the number of players in particular age groups:

- U13: Not more than 11v11 with GKs
- U12: Not more than 11v11 with GKs, but 8v8 with GKs recommended
- U11: Not more than 11v11 with GKs, but 8v8 with GKs recommended
- U10: Not more than 7v7 with GKs, but 6v6 with GKs recommended
- U8: Not more than 5v5 with no GKs, but 4v4 with no GKs recommended
- U6: Not more than 4v4 with no GKs, but 3v3 with no GKs recommended

**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE MARKETING BUDGET AND TO AUTHORIZE ITS EXPENDITURE TO SUPPORT RECREATION LEAGUES**

Motion was made by Mike Tate to (1) increase the Marketing Budget for the 2002-2003 fiscal year by \$4,000; (2) reduce the Employee Benefits Budget by \$4,000; and (3) authorize that the marketing budget may spent, upon approval from the President, to obtain materials promoting the UYSA brand and to advertise for recreation programs affiliated with the Association. This motion was seconded and passed.

**PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE CONTRIBUTION TO US YOUTH SOCCER LEGAL DEFENSE FUND**

Motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and then seconded to (1) authorize the payment of \$2,000 from the Association's budget for legal expenses to the Legal Defense Fund of US Youth Soccer and (2) reduce by \$2,000 the appropriation made by Board of Directors on February 20, 2003 to support the creation of the Utah Soccer Foundation.

President Paul C. Burke explained that US Youth Soccer has called upon its member associations to contribute to its legal defense fund on a \$500/vote basis (Utah currently holds four votes within US Youth Soccer based on UYSA's registration figures). US Youth Soccer has pledged that contributed funds will be returned, with interest, if USSF adopts bylaw proposals from US Youth Soccer during the upcoming USSF AGM in August 2003. Burke then explained that the reduction in the authorization for the development of a foundation is necessary to keep UYSA's legal costs within the budget for FY 2002-03. The motion was then passed.

**PROPOSAL TO SUPPLEMENT RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

Motion was made by Richard Yoder and seconded to add the following policy to the Association's Risk Management policies:

UYSA shall have the authority to deny participation to any person who has been convicted of a felony or its equivalent by any court.

Richard Yoder stated that this policy is necessary to allow the Association to close a loophole in the Association's risk management policies. The motion was passed.

**AUTHORIZATION FOR PASS-THROUGH PURCHASES OF TICKETS FOR US WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM MATCH**

Motion was made by Tom Borrowman and seconded that, subject to the approval of the President and with *nunc pro tunc* and future effect, the Association may make payments not to exceed the cumulative sum of \$250,000 in order to stock tickets for distribution through UYSA's group sales program for the June 14, 2003 match of the U.S. Women's National Team.

Friendly amendment was made and accepted to direct the Association's legal counsel to review the ticket program to ensure that unsold tickets will be fully refundable. The motion, as amended, was then passed.

**APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE PROPERTY INSURANCE FOR UYSA**

Motion was made by Bruce Cuppett and seconded to authorize the President, whose authority may be delegated, to obtain property insurance coverage for UYSA's assets at an annual cost not to exceed \$2,000. President (PAUL C.) Burke reported that Judd Turner, a Vice President at Fred A Moreton & Company, agreed on a pro bono basis to review all of the Association's insurance policies. Turner completed his review and recommended that the Association obtain property insurance. The special, semi-annual audit indicates that the Association possesses property and inventory with a depreciated value exceeding \$50,000; replacement value would presumably be much higher. The motion was passed.

**RATIFICATION OF CLUB APPLICATIONS FOR AFFILIATION.**

Four clubs submitted complete applications for affiliation. Motion was made and seconded that, pursuant to bylaw 2:01:04, the Board of Directors approving the applications of the Firebirds, Advantage, UFC, and

MurrayMax for affiliation as a Club and hereby extending the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of UYSA membership to the Firebirds, Advantage, UFC, and MurrayMax. This motion was passed.

The application for affiliation from Utah Blitz FC did not include an endorsement from a district chair. Motion was made, seconded, and passed to table the incomplete application of the Utah Blitz FC for affiliation.

The application for affiliation from Extreme also did not include the endorsement of the district chair. Because District 7 Chairman Delon Brower had departed by this juncture, President Paul C. Burke reported that the district chair had declined to sign the application for affiliation because of concerns about the club and its role within the district. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to table the application for affiliation from Extreme and to direct District 7 by May 15, 2003 to either resolve its concerns with Extreme or present the Board of Directors with an explanation as to why the district has declined to endorse Extreme's application for affiliation with the state association.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTED OFFICER**

Motion was made and seconded to appoint Teresa Ortiz to serve as the State Cup Chairperson of the Utah Youth Soccer Association. This motion passed.

Motion was made and seconded to extend the meeting 15 minutes. This motion was approved without dissent.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made, seconded and approved to enter into Executive Session. Greg Maas and Scott Harward were invited by the Board to remain in order to brief the Board on certain contract negotiations. Maas and Harward were then excused.

Motion was made and seconded to extend meeting an additional 15 minutes. This motion was approved without dissent.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the Pioneer Cup bid for District One Soccer Clubs (Wasatch United, Firebirds, and Tsunami) to operate the Pioneer Cup for five years, subject to annual review by the Association's Tournament Committee. The motion was passed.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made, seconded, and approved at 11:30 p.m. to adjourn. The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association is scheduled for Thursday, May 15, 2003 at 8:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in Salt Lake County at a location to be announced.

**These draft minutes were prepared by Secretary Jodi Wells  
Please direct any corrections to ewells@networld.com.**