

UTAH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
August 21, 2003

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Utah Youth Soccer Association was called to order by Vice President Scott Maxfield at 7:30 p.m. at 5252 North Edgewood Drive, Suite 350, in Provo, Utah. The following Board Members were present:

Scott Maxfield, Vice President  
Jodi Wells, Secretary  
Tom Borrowman, Treasurer  
Bruce Cuppett, Director of Development  
David Malchenson, Boys Competition Director  
Arnold Wilcox, Chairman of District 1 (Salt Lake City/Summit County)  
Bill Patterson, Chairman of District 2 (West Salt Lake County)  
John Lowery, Chairman of District 3 (Sandy/Draper)  
Dave Mills, Chairman of District 4 (Weber County)  
Mike Tate, Chairman of District 5 (Utah County)  
Linda Kay Messenger, Rules Committee Chairperson and Proxy for District 6 (Davis County)  
Richard Messenger, Past President

Also present were Sherry Clements (District 5 registrar), Scott Harward (Executive Director), Teresa Ortiz (State Cup Chair), Tina Patterson (State Registrar), Jodene Smith (Risk Management), Felicity Tate, Brenda Taylor (League 26 President), and Richard Yoder (Disciplinary Committee Chairman)

Board members who were excused or absent included President Paul C. Burke (coaching duties with his U17 Firebirds team in California), Delon Brower (District 7 Chairman), Jim Clark (State Youth Referee Administrator), Debbie Haycock (Girls Competition Director), and Peter Unwin (District 6 Chairman).

**REPORTS**

**REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Executive Director Scott Harward reported on difficulties encountered by the State Office during the preparation of the schedule for the State Competition League. Harward explained that the time for the State Office to develop the schedule had been truncated due to delays in the registration and alignment processes. Harward recommended that the alignment be finalized at least a week earlier to allow the State Office sufficient time to prepare and vet the schedules.

Several Board members expressed concern about various aspects of the scheduling process. District 1 Chairman Arnold Wilcox stated that the alignment process had become too political. District 5 Chairman Mike Tate reported that a shortage of fields had hampered scheduling efforts for registered teams from Utah County. Director of Development Bruce Cuppett recommended that the Board consider reducing the number of games in the season to maximize field usage.

Vice President Scott Maxfield recommended that earlier dates be established for the alignment meetings. Maxfield agreed that the alignment process needs to be revisited and reformed.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Treasurer Tom Borrowman reported that the State Association is projected to complete the current fiscal year with a slight surplus. Because the current fiscal year is slated to end on August 31, 2003, Borrowman stated that invoices and requests for reimbursement for 2002-03 should be submitted before the first

Monday in September. Borrowman reported that auditor Stephen Adamson is scheduled to begin the audit during the second week of September. Borrowman also stated that the Budget Committee had met and would, in a future meeting, present recommendations for the 2003-04 fiscal year.

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF RISK MANAGEMENT**

Risk Management Director Jodene Smith reported that criminal background checks had been completed for 75% of the registered coaches in the State Competition League. The remainder will be completed soon. Smith said that invoices from the screening service will be submitted to the state association on a monthly basis.

Smith also reminded recreation leagues to submit to the State Office complete lists of their coaches so that background checks can be completed on all volunteers in the recreation program.

#### **REPORT OF THE BOYS COMPETITION DIRECTOR**

Boys Competition Director Dave Malchenson reported that the Boys Competition Committee had held a lengthy alignment meeting during the last month. Malchenson reported that the Committee had endeavored to fairly align the teams in the State Competition League, but the process had not been easy, particularly when little was known about certain teams. Some teams felt slighted by the process, and the Committee had made some adjustments in the alignment after the meeting in order to respond to legitimate concerns. Malchenson expressed hope that more coaches would submit comments in advance of the next alignment in order to provide context for the alignment of their teams. Malchenson also commented that an automatic promotion and relegation system, though appealing due to its simplicity, could not respond the complexities faced by the Boys Competition Committee and, he believed, would lead to even more unfair outcomes at the expense of player development.

Director of Development Bruce Cuppett commented that it may become necessary to cap the number of teams in the State Competition League. Surplus teams could play in regional competition leagues with the ability to earn the right to be promoted into the State Competition League.

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

Girls Competition Director Debbie Haycock did not attend the meeting because of a work conflict but conveyed a request that discussion about the girls alignments be deferred to a future meeting.

#### **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT**

Director of Development Bruce Cuppett reported on the National Youth Module course that was hosted in Sandy in late July. Cuppett reported that there were 19 participants in the course, sixteen of whom were from Utah. Cuppett expressed gratitude to Districts 2 and 3, the USA club, and the Avalanche club for contributing players to participate in demonstration sessions during the course. Cuppett agreed with comments by District 5 Chairman Mike Tate that it would have been preferable to have conducted the course during May or September, rather than during a state holiday. Cuppett also reported that the E and D license coaching courses during the summer have been well-attended.

#### **REPORT FROM THE STATE REGISTRAR**

State Registrar Tina Patterson reported that, for the first time, each district submitted its membership database using the Logical Solutions software for the current seasonal year. Patterson also expressed congratulations to the State Office for its swift processing of applications for the fall portion of the 2004 State Cup tournament. Finally, Patterson conveyed a request that district registrars, rather than league registrars, take the responsibility of signing team rosters.

## **REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS**

**DISTRICT 1** – District Chairman Arnold Wilcox reported that League 7 in the Cottonwood area has folded, and that an audit will be needed to account for the league's resources and property. Wilcox then reported on communications with the Lions Club, which had been advertising a new recreation soccer program. Wilcox next reported that he had received complaints about the quality of customer service from the State Office, and Wilcox requested timely distribution of minutes from the Board meetings. Wilcox also reported on difficulty with field scheduling at Sunnyside Park. Although this park belongs to the city, Rowland Hall-St. Mark's High School has been given exclusive access to the prime soccer field during weeknights. Youth soccer programs are allowed access to the park only on Saturdays. Wilcox concluded his report by congratulating Tsunami, Wasatch United, and Firebirds for having successfully run the Pioneer Cup in July.

**DISTRICT 2** – District Chairman Bill Patterson reported that one of the leagues in the district may be on the brink of folding. Patterson also reported that, due to miscommunication, the district's new competition director had missed the alignment meeting of the Girls Competition Committee. Patterson expressed gratitude to Girls Competition Director Debbie Haycock for having accepted comments from league officials in the absence of the district's representative. Patterson also asked the State Office to refer the inquiries it receives directly to league presidents rather than through the district chair.

**DISTRICT 3** – District Chairman John Lowery reported on the continued challenge of scheduling fields. Lowery requested that all inquiries about field scheduling in Sandy be directed to him. Lowery also reported that the west field at Crescent Middle School will be closed until March 2004.

**DISTRICT 4** – District Chairman Dave Mills reported that the district is enjoying considerable growth. Each league has seen its numbers increase, and League 29 has registered 17 new teams. Mills also expressed gratitude to District 6 for its cooperation in developing an inter-district competition program.

**DISTRICT 5** – District Chairman Mike Tate reported that the district program has grown to 250 teams, with much of the growth coming in Provo. Tate reported that the district has been working to facilitate growth in Price, Richfield, and Delta. Tate introduced the district's new registrar, Sherry Clements, whom Tate reported is doing an excellent job. Tate also acknowledged the support that the district had received from the State Office. Tate then invited Treasurer Tom Borrowman to attend a future district board meeting to give a presentation on how member organizations may obtain non-profit tax status.

**DISTRICT 6** – Proxy Linda Kay Messenger reported that the district has entered a new contract with the local school district and has achieved a net increase of one field. Ms. Messenger thanked the State Office for its recent assistance with a number of matters. Ms. Messenger also reported that the South Davis Soccer Association will be hosting the Mayor's Cup Tournament over Labor Day Weekend. More than 104 teams are expected to participate in the tournament.

**DISTRICT 7** – No report due to the absence of District Chairman Delon Brower.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **POLICY REGARDING USE OF MEMBERSHIP LIST**

Vice President Scott Maxfield invited comment to aid the development of guidelines to govern the use of the mailing list by the State Office. Maxfield stated that a policy is needed that would allow the association to communicate with its members and, under proper circumstances, to earn revenue. Maxfield acknowledged that many members of the association had been disappointed and angered earlier this year when the State Office had used the mailing list to send out tryout fliers on behalf of two clubs.

Executive Director Scott Harward reported on the need for guidance from the Board of Directors on this issue. Harward explained that the State Office receives requests for the mailing list on a weekly basis.

Linda Kay Messenger agreed that the state association needs to enact a policy on this subject. Richard Messenger concurred and stated that the association must closely monitor any mailings made with its membership list. Registrar Tina Patterson encouraged that the state association to refrain from releasing the names and addresses of minors. District 2 Chairman urged the use of the association's website whenever possible to avoid the expense of mailings. District 6 Chairman Mike Tate recommended that the policy prohibit the use of membership lists for personal gain or recruiting purposes. Several Board members suggested that the State Office prepare a flier each year that lists tryout information received from every member organization wishing to be included.

Maxfield pledged to present a proposed policy to the Board at the next scheduled meeting. In the interim, Maxfield invited interested members of the association to submit comments or suggestions regarding this subject to Executive Director Scott Harward.

#### **RECESS**

Vice President Scott Maxfield announced a five-minute recess. The meeting was called back to order at 9:25 PM.

#### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR BOARD MEMBERS**

Vice President Scott Maxfield invited discussion on the latest conflict of interest policy submitted this month by Richard Messenger. Although this item had been listed only for discussion on its first reading, Messenger encouraged the Board to take immediate action on his proposal. Motion was made and seconded to consider whether to vote on Messenger's policy proposal, which states as follows:

##### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR BOARD MEMBERS**

No Member of Utah Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors or State Officer as defined in Bylaw 2:02:01 may—

- (1) Be a paid employee or receive compensation (except for reimbursement for expenses) from Utah Youth Soccer Association, its affiliated organizations or its programs; USYSA, any Organization Member of USYSA, or the Federation, as an administrator, coach, trainer and/or officer; or
- (2) Hold a second elected or appointed office with Utah Youth Soccer Association, its affiliated organization or an office in any Organization Member of USYSA or the Federation.

Scott Maxfield encouraged the Board to discuss the merits of the proposal but to wait a month before taking action so that Board members may discuss the proposal with their constituencies. Richard Messenger countered that immediate action is needed to adopt a policy that has been embraced by other state associations within Region IV and across the country. Linda Kay Messenger explained that the policy would preclude Board members from receiving compensation directly from the state association.

Several Board members expressed concern about the scope of the policy and ambiguity in its terms. District 1 Chairman Arnold Wilcox stated that the term "compensation" needed a definition. Tom Borrowman, David Malchenson, and Jodene Smith suggested that this policy could further diminish the volunteer base available to the state association. Several Board members, including Malchenson and Maxfield, suggested that a policy requiring recusal from voting on the Board would be preferable to a conflict of interest policy that completely excluded able volunteers from serving at the Board level.

Motion was made by Dave Mills to table this item. This motion was seconded and passed with a solitary dissenting vote.

### **ALIGNMENT POLICIES**

Motion made, seconded, and approved to direct the Alignment Study Committee composed of chairman Bruce Cuppett and members Debbie Haycock, Greg Maas, and David Malchenson to develop recommendations regarding the alignment process to be considered by the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **STATE CUP RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR 2004**

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to consider, on an individual basis, recommended changes for 2004 to the State Cup rules of competition. Motion was then made and seconded to amend Section 2 of the title section of the State Cup Rules and Regulations ("State Cup Rules") to read as follows:

The State Champions in U12 and U13 boys and girls in the Snickers Utah Youth Soccer Championships represent UYSA in Far West Regional competition only. The State Champions in the boys and girls U14, U15, U16, U17, U18 and U19 represent UYSA in the Far West Regional Competition and if Regional Champions, go on to compete in the USYSA National Championship.

Rules Chairperson Linda Kay Messenger endorsed the adoption of the cosmetic changes to this provision to promote consistency with national rules for the competition. This motion was then approved.

Motion was then made and seconded to reconsider the policy addressing the appointment of the State Cup Committee. Last month the Board voted to approve the following policy as Section 4 in the Administration chapter of the State Cup Rules:

Each District Chairman shall appoint one Cup committee representative for that District. The representative from each District is subject to approval by State Cup Chairman.

David Malchenson urged the repeal of this policy so that the State Cup Chairman would not have veto power over the membership of the State Cup Committee. After further discussion, the Board voted to repeal this policy statement.

Motion was also made, seconded, and approved to amend Section 4 of the Team Eligibility chapter by changing the term "competition" into its plural form. The policy therefore reads as follows:

The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between the league and State Cup competitions by maintaining a minimum of nine players common to the rosters of both.

Motion was also made, seconded, and approved to substitute the word "Points" for "Teams" in Section 3 of the Form of the Competition chapter. Consequently this section now reads as follows:

3. Points will be awarded points for games during the preliminary rounds as follows: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, 0 points for a loss.

Ties in points during the preliminary rounds shall be resolved using the following tie-breaker sequence:

- a) Head-to-Head
- b) Goal Differential (goals scored minus goals allowed to a maximum differential of 4 per game)
- c) Least goals allowed
- d) Most goals scored (to a maximum of 4 per game)
- e) Shut-out victories (forfeits not counting)
- f) FIFA kicks from the penalty mark.

If more than two teams are tied at the end of a preliminary round, the tiebreaker procedure will be used to advance one team. The remaining teams will then be compared, beginning again with step (a) to determine the ultimate placement.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to insert a definite article before the word "bond" in Section 1 of the Forfeits for Failure to Compete chapter of the State Cup Rules. Consequently, this section now reads as follows:

Teams withdrawing from the State Cup competition after the draw for the age group shall forfeit the bond and entry fee. Any team withdrawing from State Cup prior to the start of competition must do so in writing to the State Cup Chairman and the Utah Youth Soccer Association.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved change the requirement of the Medical Release in Section 7(a) of the Player Eligibility chapter to recognize the legal status of eighteen year-old players. The amended section now reads:

- a. Players may not participate in any State Cup game without an original medical release form, signed by a parent or guardian. For players 18 or older, the player may sign the release.

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to supplement the definition of unacceptable language in Section 6 of the Playing Rules chapter to include "offensive, insulting or abusive language." The amended rule states as follows:

It shall be the responsibility of each team to maintain proper spectator conduct. The coach, manager, and team shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of the spectators from their respective teams. At no time shall foul, offensive, insulting, or abusive language be permitted at any field.

Motion was then made and seconded to delete Section 2 of the Protests Chapter, which provides that "The decisions of the State Cup Committee may be appealed to the UYSA Protest and Appeals Committee." Linda Kay Messenger advocated this deletion to guarantee the primacy of the State Cup Committee. After some discussion about the need for a process to appeal the decisions of the State Cup Committee, motion was made, seconded, and passed to table this proposal indefinitely.

Discussion of the State Cup Rules for 2004 was then closed. The State Cup Committee has been directed to present a final, complete version of the rules for approval by the Board at its regular meeting in September.

#### **REPORT ON 2004 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Vice President Scott Maxfield reported on planning for the association's Annual General Meeting, which will be held at the Red Lion Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City on January 30-31, 2004. The awards banquet will be held on Friday evening. The business meeting will follow on Saturday.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made, seconded, and approved to designate 8:00 PM as the starting time for the next meeting of the Board of Directors, which will held on Thursday, September 18, 2003 at the State Office of the Utah Youth Soccer Association. Motion was then made, seconded and approved at 10:30 PM to adjourn the meeting

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