

Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA)
Approved Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
February 3, 2012
IYSA Office

Board Members Present: Salvador Arroyo, Gus Bender, Robert Berkley, Charlie Dyson, Flo Dyson, Peter Glon, Dave Hicks, Stuart Kasten, Gary Seyring. Absent: Michael Zovistoski.

League Representatives: Jan Berkley, Greg Cole, Chris Conary, Flo Dyson, Juergen Huettner, Scott Kegarise, Jay Ray, Emily Snyder.

Guests: Bob Balciunas, Mary Jane Bender (recording secretary), Bill Bruno, Rick Flores, Chris Jamrozy, Ale Jurado, Meagan Kinser, Hugh Orlicz, Jonathan Orlicz, Fran Pope, Michelle Ray.

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by the President, Gus Bender, at 7:15 PM on Friday, February 3, 2012 at the association offices.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken and the following leagues were present: Barrington Area Soccer Association, Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Crystal Lake Soccer Federation, Heat United Soccer Club, Illinois Women's Soccer League, Perry County Soccer League, Schaumburg Athletic Association, Southern Illinois Soccer League, Young Sportsmen's Soccer League.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 4, 2011 Illinois Youth Soccer Annual General Meeting were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Bender introduced the new Illinois Youth Soccer Director of Coaching Rick Flores. The new US Soccer 'E' license has been implemented and several Illinois coaches are certified to instruct the course. The Illinois Olympic Development Program continues to emphasize player development using Tosh Farrell's curriculum. In addition to the existing ODP North and ODP Central programs, an ODP South program has been established in Southern Illinois. The US Youth Soccer National Championship Series involves 10,000 competitive teams in all 55 State Associations. Illinois State Cup which is the starting point of this championship is one of the largest State Cups in the US. The U13 Illinois Midwest Regional League (MRL) has been a successful and fair qualifier to determine the Illinois MRL participants. In addition to our programs, risk management and the safety of children take precedence with continued emphasis on goal safety, weather related safety, background checks for coaches, volunteers, referees and assignors and concussion recognition and management. Gus Bender thanked the Illinois Youth Soccer Board, leagues, directors and staff for their support and positive direction.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Stu Kasten outlined the insurance coverage and asked the members to contact the office regarding insurance issues.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gary Seyring presented the Treasurer's Report and budget. He was pleased to report that although the IYSA has not raised its fees in six years, it has stayed within budget. Insurance and member registration fees are the greatest expenses. The final audit showed that the financial statements presented fairly the position of Illinois Youth Soccer and conformed to generally accepted accounting principals.

Motion: Flo Dyson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Mary Jane Bender presented the Risk Management Report. It is critical that risk management information be stored in a secure and locked cabinet and handled discreetly.

Central District Commissioner Dave Hicks reported that there was an increase in the enrollment for Central Illinois Youth Soccer League (CIYSL). Three teams representing CIYSL participated in the President's Cup and one won the National Championship. He welcomed Rick Flores and thanked the IYSA staff.

Southern District Commissioner Stu Kasten was pleased to have ODP South available to showcase the talent in Southern Illinois. Southern Illinois Soccer League has gained more teams from Missouri and rural Illinois. Gus Bender thanked Juergen Huettner, the President of Southern Illinois Soccer League, for helping to organize ODP South.

Northern District Commissioner Charlie Dyson reported that soccer is continuing to grow in Northern Illinois. Since the NISL is no longer affiliated, one boys' team joined the Illinois Women's Soccer League to qualify for State Cup.

Illinois State Referee Administrator Bob Balciunas thanked the Illinois Youth Soccer Board for their continuing support. There are three new women instructors and one new Spanish language instructor. All referee assignors must prove that they are assigning for an affiliated USSF league and perform a background check through the IYSA system.

Recreational Referee Representative Hugh Orlicz stated that the Illinois State Referee Committee is focusing on developing and recognizing referees in rural communities in Central and Southern Illinois.

Hispanic Program Director Salvador Arroyo welcomed the Chicagoland Youth Soccer League as a competitive member league.

Recreational Program Director Gary Seyring asked the recreational leagues to take advantage of the programs offered by Illinois Youth Soccer and US Youth Soccer. He thanked the recreational leagues and IYSA staff for their support.

US Youth Soccer Recreational Program Director Hugh Orlicz reported that US Youth Soccer Region II is driving the creation of online youth module courses. The US Youth Soccer Region II Five Star Recreational League Recognition Program is a great opportunity for any affiliated recreational league to obtain state and regional recognition for its coaching and referee development.

Executive Director Mary Jane Bender reported that there was a slight increase in membership. Nearly 900 players were enrolled in the 2011 Illinois ODP and 815 coaches were certified. 109 Illinois teams participated in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional League. Out of the more than 10,000 competitive teams in all 55 state associations throughout the US who began their US Youth Soccer National Championship Series quest by participating in their respective state association's State Cup, two Illinois teams won the national championship. Congratulations to the Under 15 Boys Chicago Fire and Under 17 Girls NSA for winning the 2011 national championship. As an alternative to the National Championship Series, US Youth Soccer established the national President's Cup. This nationwide tournament in the Under 14 to 17 age groups provides teams an opportunity to advance and compete against teams across the country in a regional and national competition. The U16 Girls Schaumburg team and U17 Girls Ajax FC Chicago advanced to the national championships in Iowa. The Illinois Cup is an opportunity for community-based teams in the Under 8 to 12 age groups to compete in a statewide tournament. Over 90 youth teams participated in the Chicago Beach Soccer Tournament at Montrose Beach in Chicago. The IYSA was able to provide free Soccer for Success programs to nearly 1000 at-risk children living in Chicago's inner city thanks in large part to a grant from the US Soccer Foundation and the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. Illinois Youth Soccer is following the concussion protocol provided by the US Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Concussion awareness information was emailed to the leagues and is posted on the Illinois Youth Soccer website. Special appreciation was extended to the Board and leagues for their support.

Illinois Youth Soccer Director of Coaching Rick Flores emphasized coaching education and promoted the National Youth License course. He offered to visit member leagues and meet with their coaches.

State Cup Director Bill Bruno reported on the Illinois State Cup, Illinois President's Cup, and Illinois Cup. 23 Illinois teams advanced to the US Youth Soccer Midwest regionals. Out of the eight regional champions from Illinois, six advanced to the US Youth Soccer National Championship. The U15 Boys Chicago Fire and Under 17 Girls NSA won the national championship. US Youth Soccer added the U13 age group to the President's Cup.

ODP Administrator Jonathan Orlicz stated that the number of ODP participants increased in 2011. 92 Illinois ODP players were named to the US Youth Soccer regional pool and 19 Illinois ODP players were named to the national pool.

Soccer for Success Program Director Ale Jurado reported that the IYSA's Soccer for Success Program is being conducted at 15 sites in Chicago with hopes to expand to 30 locations contingent on a US Soccer Foundation grant. This program continues to provide hope and opportunities to at-risk children, most of whom are experiencing soccer for the first time.

Mary Jane Bender announced that Shawn Danhouser is the new Illinois Youth Soccer TOPSoccer Director. Illinois Youth Soccer will hold a TOPSoccer course on March 18, 2012. Please contact the IYSA if your league wishes to start an adaptive soccer program.

Tournament Director Hugh Orlicz stated that IYSA sanctioned tournaments receive an important marketing advantage by being listed on the 10-state Tournament Center website. Non-members are looking for ways to promote their tournaments on our website.

ELECTIONS

Gus Bender conducted the elections.

Juergen Huettner nominated Stu Kasten for the Southern District Director position. No nominations were made from the floor. Stu Kasten was elected by acclamation.

Flo Dyson nominated Salvador Arroyo for the Director-at-Large position. No nominations were made from the floor. Salvador Arroyo was elected by acclamation.

Flo Dyson nominated Bob Berkley for the Director-at-Large position. No nominations were made from the floor. Bob Berkley was elected by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

Gus Bender declared the Annual General Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.