

Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA)
Approved Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
February 5, 2016
IYSA Office

Board Members Present: Gus Bender, Robert Berkley, Yianny Caparos, Charlie Dyson, Flo Dyson, Kelly Fairwood, Dave Hicks, Stuart Kasten, Gary Seyring.

Regrets: Salvador Arroyo.

League Representatives: Robert Berkley, Beth Doran, Flo Dyson, Brian Fairwood, Hugh Orlicz, Jane Raede, Jay Ray.

Guests: Barbara Baumgartner, Mary Jane Bender, Bill Bruno, Tim Deters, Chris Jamrozy, Ale Jurado, Meaghan Kinser (recording secretary), Jonathan Orlicz, Michelle Ray, Ivan Rico, Caulbert Smith, Yang Yu.

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by the President, Gus Bender, at 7:10 PM on Friday, February 5, 2016 at the association offices.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken and the following leagues were present: Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Heat United Soccer Club, Illinois Women's Soccer League, Inter-Community 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 6, 2015 Illinois Youth Soccer Annual General Meeting were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Bender thanked everyone and reported that Illinois Youth Soccer had another great year that was very successful in developing new programs and increasing membership. He noted that Illinois Youth Soccer created the 5-Star Competitive Club Recognition to promote goal safety, kid safety, coaching and referee education, and positive sideline behavior. He also thanked the US Soccer Foundation for continuing their support for our *Soccer for Success* program that has provided free programs to children living in underserved communities in Chicago for over 20 years. Abby Wambach attended an Illinois Youth Soccer fundraiser to benefit our *Soccer for Success* program. Gus thanked the Chicago Red Stars and the Chicago Fire for their continued support. Illinois Youth Soccer has supported the Chicago Red Stars reserves that resulted in 8 reserves players being drafted to the NWSL. Gus stated that Illinois is at the forefront of player safety by enforcing background checks, the CDC Concussion Certification, and goal safety education. Illinois is also going forward with the mandates set forth by the US Soccer Federation regarding field sizes, player numbers, age groups, and the concussion protocol. He thanked everyone for supporting our programs and helping us grow the sport. He also thanked the office staff and volunteers who keep the programs successful. He noted that the annual Illinois Youth Soccer Awards Banquet will be held on March 4 to recognize some of those volunteers, coaches, and players.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Stu Kasten outlined the insurance coverage. He noted that the office takes care of the insurance and to contact the office regarding insurance issues or questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gary Seyring presented the Treasurer's Report and budget. Gary was pleased to report that Illinois Youth Soccer didn't spend as much money as we took in and is in line with prior years. He thanked the staff and the leadership for being wise with the funds. We have strived to ensure that the 2015/16 budget is a balanced budget as in previous years.

Motion: Jay Ray moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Mary Jane Bender presented the Risk Management Report. She noted that there were over 3,700 background searches of which approximately 200 required reviews from the Risk Management Committee Chair, Tom Appleton. To date, there are still 111 persons that are pending or in bad standing.

Central District Commissioner, Dave Hicks, reported that although the number of teams decreased, the number of players in Central Illinois increased in the 2014/15 season. He thanked the office staff for their support and Rick Flores and the entire coaching education staff for conducting more courses in the central part of the state. Dave also noted that they are looking at ways to recruit more referees into the program.

Northern District Commissioner, Charlie Dyson, reported that there has been continued growth in the IWSL and YSSL. Overall, the leagues in the Northern District have continued a healthy growth for the 2014/15 season. He stated that Illinois Youth Soccer is looking forward to another great year of growth.

Southern District Commissioner, Stu Kasten, noted that it's been a bittersweet year for Southern Illinois. Although the recreational numbers have increased, on the competitive side SISL has lost a substantial number of teams to Missouri. He stated that the ODP numbers in the South have been static. Stu thanked the staff for trying to help in Southern Illinois.

Recreational Program Director, Gary Seyring, presented the recreational report. He stated that the recreational program has been a bedrock to Illinois Youth Soccer that gives players the opportunity to advance to competitive programs. A number of programs have been nurtured by Illinois Youth Soccer and the office staff. Gary commended the office staff for their efforts in continuing to make the recreational programs successful.

Executive Director, Mary Jane Bender, presented the State Office Report. Mary Jane emphasized that Illinois Youth Soccer takes risk management and child safety seriously. The latest risk management implementation is the drone policy that is in line with US Youth Soccer. She also noted that the top insurance claims involved goal safety and child sexual abuse. Child sexual abuse is defined as any tricked, forced, manipulated or coerced sexual activity for the pleasure of the abuser. The abuser does not have to touch the child to be an abuser. Some alarming statistics that she shared include:

- 1 in 5 children are sexually abused (1 in 4 girls; 1 in 6 boys)
- 90% of the convicted sexual offenders are men; 10% are women
- Less than 10% of abusers are ever caught
- 95% of the victims know their offenders
- Only 4% of the abusers are psychotic offenders – strangers who abduct children
- Over 94% of the abusers are preferential offenders who prefer a child of a certain sex and age as a sexual partner
- There is no visual profile for a sex offender – they look like us, are believable, difficult to suspect and befriend the parents and groom the children
- 60% of sexual abuse victims don't tell
- The average male offender who liked boys had 150 victims before being caught
- The average male offender that liked girls had 52 victims before being caught
- The average male offender started abusing at age 13
- The average male offender got caught at age 35
- 1 out of 3 child sexual abuse cases is peer to peer (93% involve boys; 7% involve girls)
- The youngest child offender is 12 or 13 year olds
- Peer to Peer abuse is real and quite common
- High % of Peer to Peer sexual abuse starts with bullying
- Most states require mandatory reporting of suspicion of abuse
- When in Doubt, Report to DCFS or Police

Nearly half of the players are women and the United States has a successful women's national team. Mary Jane reported that Illinois is at the forefront for improving opportunities for women in soccer. She asked the members of the US Soccer's Youth Council to appoint women to their 34 men only Technical Committee.

Illinois Youth Soccer Marketing & Communications Director, Chris Jamrozy, presented the Marketing Report. He was pleased to announce that the Network News reaches over 100,000 individuals. It is considered one of the top 8 print publications in Illinois. He noted that a highlight for 2016 is that he will be redeveloping the recreational page on the website. It will include information for recreational programs, players, and coaches. He was also pleased to announce that we launched a new monthly awards program in conjunction with the Chicago Fire to honor coaches, players, and volunteers throughout Illinois Youth Soccer. Chris also announced that Illinois will be launching a new mobile app in an effort to enhance communication with our members. He thanked all of our sponsors and hopes to announce several new ones in the coming weeks.

Illinois Youth Soccer Associate Director of Coaching, Caulbert Smith, and Coaching Education Administrator, Ivan Rico, presented the Coaching Education Program Report. Caulbert was happy to report that it has been a great year for the coaching education program in Illinois. He has been overseeing the program with the Director of Coaching, Rick Flores. Caulbert noted that the program has created excitement throughout the state by helping to mentor coaches. As a result, candidates have spread the word that coaching education is enjoyable. He thanked the member competitive and recreational leagues for their continued support for the coaching education programs and for encouraging coaches to get involved. Caulbert mentioned that a lasting impact on soccer starts with coaching education.

Ivan Rico stated that Illinois offered a National 'C' License in conjunction with US Soccer in 2015. There are plans to host another one in 2016. Rico mentioned that Illinois tried to host a women's only

'E' License Course. He plans to try to host another one in 2016. Rico noted that the US Soccer Federation implemented a Digital Coaching Center where all of the paperwork for candidates is submitted online. In 2016, Illinois will start to offer licenses and information through the Center.

Illinois Youth Soccer conducted 48 free coaching clinics for our recreational members - an option for your program. Lastly, Caulbert reminded those in attendance that the Grassroots Symposium will take place on March 5 at the Sportsplex in St. Charles.

State Cup Director, Bill Bruno, reported on the Illinois State Cup, Illinois Presidents Cup, and Illinois Cup. Bill was pleased to announce that Illinois had 589 total teams participate in these competitions for the 2014/15 season. He attributes the increase to the format change (from single elimination to round robin) and cooperation from the member leagues. Bill reported that Illinois continues to be one of the top soccer states throughout the country. Out of the 22 teams that went to the Regionals, 10 advanced to the semifinals and 3 to the finals. Chicago Magic U17 Boys won Regionals to go to the US Youth Soccer National Championships and Campton United U14 Girls attended as the Regional representative. He noted that the wildcards for the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regionals will now be coming out of MRL and not from the states as they had in the past. This is good news for Illinois as it can potentially give more Illinois teams a shot at a Regional competition. The US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships for 2016 will be held June 24-29 in Westfield, Indiana and the US Youth Soccer National Championships for 2016 will be held July 25-31 in Frisco, Texas.

Bill announced that the Illinois Presidents Cup is doing very well and continues to grow. He noted that the competition is getting stronger. Out of the 13 Illinois teams that attended the US Youth Soccer Midwest Presidents Cup Regionals, 7 teams made it to the semi-finals and 4 teams went on to the US Youth Soccer Presidents Cup Nationals: Chicago Fire Juniors West U13 Boys, Eclipse Elite White U15 Girls, Dynamic FC U15 Boys, and SASA Spirits U17 Boys. Unfortunately, Illinois didn't have any winners come out of the National competition. He stated that Illinois is fortunate enough to have Chris Jamrozy on the Region 2 Presidents Cup Committee. The US Youth Soccer Midwest Presidents Cup Championships for 2016 will be June 16-20 in Westfield, Indiana and the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Championships will be July 14-17 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Associate Director of Coaching, Caulbert Smith, and Olympic Development Director, Jonathan Orlicz, presented the ODP Report. Jonathan was pleased to report that the registrations for ODP are up 10% from the previous year. He noted that the 1999 Girls team that won the Region 2 ODP Tournament participated in the US Youth Soccer ODP National Championships in February 2015, losing to Cal-South on PK's in the final. The 2000 Girls team that won the Region 2 Tournament and they will compete for a National title in the US Youth Soccer ODP National Championships in February. Unfortunately, several players will not be available due to scheduling conflicts with Region 2.

Caulbert highlighted that ODP has made a concerted effort to include and educate the parents in the process. He noted that the parents like what they see. He mentioned that Illinois began a Pre-ODP for the 2005 and 2006 age groups and it has been very successful. The players have been enjoying the training and the technical development. He was pleased to announce that one of our 1999 goalkeepers from the ODP National Championships event was recruited to a college while in Phoenix. Caulbert wanted to thank everyone for supporting this wonderful program.

Soccer for Success Program Director, Ale Jurado, reported that the U16 girls' team won their first competitive league division. She also thanked Caulbert for helping to mentor the coaches in her

program. Ale also thanked the IWSL and the YSSL for their continued support of the teams in their leagues.

State Premiership Division Director, Chris Jamrozy, noted that there continues to be interest in the State Premiership Division. The amount of applications continues to grow. With support from our member leagues, we are able to implement a two tier system for the boys. The State Premiership Division champions earn a seed in the State Cup and a direct tie in to IWSL and YSSL where the winners in the top division have an automatic bid to the league. Chris also thanked the leagues for their continued support for the State Premiership Division.

Midwest Regional League (MRL) Director for Illinois, Jonathan Orlicz, presented the MRL report. He noted that the MRL Committee created a first division qualifier to get teams into MRL who wouldn't have otherwise been able to get in. He highlighted that this was an opportunity for more teams to participate in MRL.

Mary Jane Bender presented the TOPSoccer report. She stated that Illinois held a Summerfest for TOPSoccer programs that allowed programs from all over the state an opportunity to get together. She noted that this program is a labor of love and Illinois Youth Soccer wants to reward those programs that follow our guidelines and risk management procedures. Currently, Greater Libertyville Soccer Association and Illinois FC have received those recognitions. She thanked Shawn Danhouser, Illinois TOPSoccer Director, for making the program viable and successful.

Illinois State Referee Administrator, Tim Deters, was happy to announce that they have added two women delegates to the Board of Directors: Jen Mayfield and Kerilyn O'Donnell. He stated that the SRC sent referees to the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regionals and several referees were selected to the US Youth Soccer National Championships. He also stated that 4 referees were selected to attend the US Youth Soccer ODP National Championships in Phoenix. A special mention was made to Illinois' Male Young Referee of the Year who was selected as the Region 2 Male Referee of the Year. He thanked the Illinois Youth Soccer for their support of the referee program.

Mary Jane wanted to recognize Barb Baumgartner for doing a tremendous job and working with Illinois Youth Soccer regarding Risk Management enforcement. Barb ensures that referees are submitting background checks and concussion training certifications as a requirement to registration.

Tournament Director, Hugh Orlicz, reported that the Tournament Host Agreement and risk management issues regarding tournaments were reviewed at the Illinois Tournament Directors Meeting. He stated that members feel connected to Illinois Youth Soccer through the tournament process and that people are generally happy.

ELECTIONS

Gary Seyring conducted the elections.

Gus Bender was nominated for the Director-at-Large position. No nominations were made from the floor. Gus Bender was elected by acclamation.

Charlie Dyson was nominated for the Northern District Commission position. No nominations were made from the floor. Charlie Dyson was elected by acclamation.

Kelly Fairwood was nominated for the Director-at-Large position. No nominations were made from the floor. Kelly Fairwood was elected by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

Gus Bender declared the Annual General Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.