



Washington State Youth Soccer Association • WSYSA

500 S. 336th Street, Suite #100 · Federal Way, Washington 98003-6389
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Brenda N. Heintz
Office Manager

WSYSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING July 14, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Doug Andreassen called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at WSYSA Offices at 9:10 am.

ROLL CALL

Present:

President Doug Andreassen
1st VP Brian Lawler
2nd VP Ryan Shannon
VP Development Mike Margolies
VP Competition Gail Zimbelman (by phone).
VP Recreation Bryan Vasbinder
Secretary Cynthia Spencer
Treasurer George Maitland
District 1 Comm. - Alternate Ron Lambalot
District 2 Comm. Shari Tumey
District 3 Comm. Stu Snow
District 4 Comm. Laurie Myers
District 5 Comm. Todd Benner
District 6 Comm. - Alternate John Wright
District 7 Comm. Ken Phillipson
WSYSA Exec Dir Todd McGann

Credential (Guests)

Steve Scranton, Rules Committee Chairman
Ernie Bodoh, Appeals Committee Chairman
Joe Carroll, Appeals Committee
Brenda Heintz, Office Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 8, 2007 minutes approved as drafted, passed unanimously.

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AGENDA / COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you letter received from Boys Scouts for supporting them at soccer camp.

OFFICER REPORTS

1st VP Brian Lawler reported to the Board that two chairs have been appointed: Pat McNulty for Ethics, Ernie Bodoh for Appeals.

Secretary Cynthia Spencer reported that the Communications Plan to update the contact database has been put into place. All associations were contacted for updated information. By end of July, extract of current contacts by district will be distributed to the Commissioners to validate the information and assist in keeping it current.

VP Development Mike Margolies announced seminars for parents with Dr. Small on how to be good parents are scheduled for Districts 1, 4 and 2. Coaching clinics are scheduled, including a speed agility clinic for fall.

VP Competition Gail Zimbelman reported that WSYSA teams did well at Regionals, however, none advanced to Nationals.

President Doug Andreassen reviewed Executive Board meeting from last night:

- the commitment to One Voice, One Direction as a Board,
- dismissal of the HR firm since it isn't meeting our needs, doesn't know not-for-profit businesses.
- Moving forward with new name (trade name or "DBA," not legal change) as Washington Youth Soccer with new logo. Desire to launch by September 2007.
- Reorganization of internal WSYSA office staffing / job assignments to increase efficiency and responsiveness. Hope to complete within 30 days.

NEW BUSINESS

Rules Proposals

Doug introduced Steve Scranton, Rules Committee Chairman, and reminded the Board that Stu Snow will be leading an ad hoc committee to review WSYSA rules to recommend what should be overhauled / which rules should be relegated to policies.

Brian Lawler reviewed the process of overhauling the rules relating to Disciplinary & Appeals, as well as ethics. Effort to redraft the rules was lead by Joe Carroll with help from Ernie and several others. Brian asked for support of

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the Board to pass the proposed changes, recognizing that rules will never be perfect so may need to tweak it next year following implementation. Further, Brian withdrew the Ethics proposals for further review and analysis.

Steve Scranton was invited to lead the discussion, which began at 9:30 am. Steve informed the Board that the proposed changes recommended by the Rules Committee were implemented into revised drafts by the sponsors, which were distributed to the Board. The Board agreed to work from the revised proposals.

Joe Carroll, primary drafter of the disciplinary overhaul, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Comprehensive Rules Revisions to present an overview of the need for changes that stepped the Board through the proposals. (A copy of the presentation will be posted to the website and, thus, incorporated by reference into the minutes.) Joe thanked the following people for participating in the rewrite efforts: Brian Lawler, Kathie Crozier, Pat McNulty, Lou Bair and Ernie Bodoh. Also assisting were Roberto Alvarez, Mary Warren, Steve Scranton and his Rules Committee and Cynthia Spencer.

Goal of the revisions: simplify and clarify the rules surrounding disciplinary and appeals process.

A list comparing the old rules to new rules by number was posted to the website and distributed at the meeting (and thus is attached to the minutes by reference).

Rule 602 – Administrative Hearing Procedures

Brian Lawler moved and Ron Lambalot seconded that the proposed Existing rule includes hearings, protests and appeals. Proposed changes revise the rule to only delineate the hearings process (including hearings for disciplinary and ethics). Joe and Steve indicated that there are no substantive changes to the hearings processes, just administratively consolidating the description of the process into a single place.

Amendments were proposed to:

602.5 (b) Committee Chair shall be the arbiter.

602.5 (d) (5) That written testimony must be signed and if notarization is required.

602.7 (f) At the discretion of the committee chair, further evidence may be provided at the time of the hearing.

Passed with amendments.

Rule 603 – Appeals

Rational is to separate appeals from hearings. Clarifies that there are no appeals to Districts. Raises the filing fee from \$50 to \$300, but allows for a refund if the appeal is upheld on all issues.

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Discussion surrounded who is a member in good standing for purposes of disciplinary and appeals.

Brian moved and Ryan seconded that Rule 603 be approved as redrafted (dated 7/14/07). Passed with one abstention.

Rule 214.1 – Protests

Consolidates the 19 references to protests in the rules into a single rule. All protests are heard by the Disciplinary Committee with an appeal to the Appeals Committee. Fee is increased to \$100 with refund if upheld. Eliminates conflict of interest by committees administering to the league.

Discussion surrounded whether the LPT Tournament should have a Protest Committee on site at the LPT venues (eliminated by the proposal). Gail objected to putting LPT protests under Disciplinary.

Brian moved that the protest rule be approved as presented with Rule Committee recommendations. Seconded by Laurie.

Changes proposed include:

- (a) PROTESTS are complaints arising out of the misapplication of the Laws of the Game or misapplication of a league/district/state administrative rule. The protest must be based upon violations of the published rules of the competition or WSYSA rules or FIFA Laws of the Game. Only those directly involved are permitted to file a protest. **Only the coach of record of record for the game may file a protest.**
- (b) Each WSYSA Member Association and District shall **deal with adjudicate** all protests arising out of competitions conducted by that Member Association and District.
- (c) The WSYSA Disciplinary Committee shall **deal with adjudicate** all protests arising out of competitions conducted by WSYSA.
- (d) If a match will be protested, the referee and opposing coach must be notified ~~prior to the referee leaving the boundaries of the field of the match just concluded~~ **within 10 minutes of the final whistle.**
- (e) Any protest must be submitted in writing, accompanied by a \$100.00 fee (money order or cashier's check; cash may be used with LPT only), to the proper authority as outlined in the procedures described herein within forty-eight (48) hours of the event being protested with the exception of LPT. The fee is refundable if the protest is upheld. No hearing or other administrative action shall result from circumstances or charges which are only communicated verbally.
 - (1) For LPT only: Protests must be submitted in writing and turned into the LPT field headquarters within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the match.

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- (2) All protests must include the **particular-specific** circumstances and rule / **Laws of the Game** violation(s) which led to the protest.

Rule as amended passed with one nay vote.

Rule 605 – Disciplinary

Rational is to consolidate rules under one section. Send offs / ejections (red cards) will have mandatory sit times bringing it in line with other states, Region IV and National Cup rules. If Disciplinary proposes a more stringent sanction, a formal hearing would be required.

Moved and seconded to accept the rule as redrafted.

Ron Lambalot proposed the following changes:

605.2 Line of Jurisdiction

- (a) Each WSYSA Member Association shall ~~deal with~~ **adjudicate** all reports of misconduct arising out of competitions conducted by that Member Association.
- (b) Each WSYSA District shall ~~deal with~~ **adjudicate** all reports of misconduct arising out of competitions conducted by that District.
- (c) **Each WSYSA sanctioned tournament shall adjudicate all reports of misconduct arising out of the competition conducted by that tournament.**

Subsequent paragraphs would be renumbered.

Ken Philipson proposed the following to limit misconduct reporting to the referees assigned to the match.

605.1 Notes and definitions:

- (a) Reports of Misconduct include cautions and sendoff (yellows, reds) and any supplemental reports submitted by ~~a~~**the** game official(s).

Discussion centered around the intent and meaning of sitting out the next “scheduled match.” Brian recommended it be defined in a policy.

Rule 605 passed as amended by the Rules Committee and above.

214.4 Assault or Abuse of Participants – Suspension

Brian moved and Shari seconded that we accept the proposal as presented. Passed unanimously.

214.2 Grievances

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This is a new proposed rule. Grievances are complaints of a general nature not based upon specific rule violations or specific administrative decisions. Controlled by WSYSA Executive Board. Sets a filing fee of \$300, which is refunded if upheld.

Brian moved and Stu seconded that we accept the proposal as presented. Passed unanimously.

214.3 Touchline Misconduct

Touchline misconduct may be handled separately by the Disciplinary Committee or in conjunction with the assault / abuse allegations by the WSYSA Appeals Committee. Applies to anyone on the sidelines (including parents).

Brian moved and Ken seconded that we accept the proposal as presented. Passed unanimously.

U11 State Tournament

Steve Scranton requested input from the Board regarding viability of a separate U11 tournament and desired timing for reviewing proposed rules to establish a separate state cup tournament. Discussion was tabled until next meeting.

Meeting recessed at 12:05, reconvened at 12:10.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Girls HS Season

Doug distributed a proposal from Dave Schumaker outlining the Girls HS Season (U15 & Above). Dave's proposal is to round robin the division, then the top four teams replay and the bottom four teams replay. Difficulty (per Gail) is uncertainty for field scheduling is they won't know whether home or away match until mid-season.

Gail recommended Ken Philipson's proposal on how to implement a 10-game season: Looking at prior year standings, the first three matches would match the top four teams and the bottom four teams for the first three matches, then round robin the entire division.

Todd Benner recommended that using Dave Schumaker's schedule, but lock the standings (top four slots vs bottom four slots) prior to playing teams a second time.

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Moved by Mike Margolies and seconded by Bryan to accept Dave Schumaker's recommendation for a 10 game season. Motion passed. A press release will be issued by WSYSA on Monday.

Brian Lawler, Ryan Shannon and Gail Zimbelman left
(with apologies to Gail from Bryan Vasbinder for cutting her off
the phone without notice).

AGM Discussion

Doug updated the Board about efforts to reacquire all packets distributed by Dale Warren at the Presidents Meeting held in conjunction with the AGM. List of 13 individuals who have not responded (possibly due to bad addresses / emails / phone numbers) was distributed to the Board. Commissioners were asked to help make contact with these individuals.

A review of Todd's compensation package is ongoing, as well as a performance evaluation, which will be completed by September.

Dale Warren will be asked to appear before the Executive Committee for a hearing on ethics violation.

Soccer Summit

Goal of the summit is to provide a forum for discussion of the future of youth soccer in Washington State and specific issues relating to different levels of competition, including defining what is a recreational team. Invitations will be emailed next week. Printed invitations will follow.

Dates are set for Aug. 25-26. Dave Schumaker, Mike Margolies and Stu Snow will moderate. Saturday will be for recreational leagues, Sunday will be for competitive leagues (select and premier). Saturday evening will be an informal discussion between the Association Presidents and the Board of Directors. Attendance is open to club presidents, directors of coaching, association officers, etc. **(Doug to verify)**.

Using AGM guidelines, rooms will be provided for Association Presidents on Saturday night who are more than 50 miles away from the meeting locale.

Reminder: the summit is preceded by a WSYSA board meeting Friday night.

Scholarship Committee

George reported that Todd is assembling a committee, looking for members from academic community and a Board representative. Current member is Alan

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Coelho, dean of College of Human Development at Eastern Washington University.

Membership Passes

Todd recapped the need for membership passes: US Youth pushing the concept (only a question of when it will be mandatory), need for insurance / liability to identify who is a registered member, connect youth players to WSYSA, supports disciplinary process (cards retained by referee and turned with misconduct report if sent off), resolves questions from opposing teams of whether players are rostered to the team (especially when physically look older).

Shari shared concerns with the mechanics of issuing cards to all players, and recommended that we implement in two phases: Year 1 for all inter-district play, Year 2 for all players. Opportunity to link membership cards with sponsors and offer marketing discounts.

Doug responded that cost and logistics are a concern, so comfortable with issuing them to all players this year but will not require laminated cards with pictures for every WSYSA player. Doug agreed to issue a press release describing how it will be implemented that the District Commissioners can distribute to their clubs and associations.

Commissioners reiterated that the correspondence from WSYSA mandating player cards for recreational play creates a tremendous burden. Requested a response be issued directly to the Presidents from WSYSA, following routing of original communications.

Adhoc Committee Rules Consolidation

Stu has formed a committee. Will provide a report at by the end of September.

REPORTS

George Maitland shared the June financial reports. We are ahead of budget, but not quite as good as looks. Positive picture in cash-basis reports is due to staff progress in collecting old accounts receivable.

Laurie requested functionality be provided through Bonzi to allow refunds back to credit cards if paid with a credit card and back to individuals that actually paid. As of right now they are going back to the Association and many times the clubs or the teams themselves pay the fees and the Association has a hard time figuring out who it goes to. Todd agreed to investigate how to set this up.

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Todd reported to the Board that there will be a refund on player insurance which will be allocated back to the associations. Shari recommended we offer options to allocate the refund to our scholarship fund or other program.

NEW BUSINESS

- **PDL play in State Cups:** Ron Lambalot expressed concern about eligibility for PDL to play in state cups. Todd clarified that any team can enter which plays in a sanctioned state league. For 2007, the Board voted to sanction the PDL specifically to allow this.
- **Players on two teams:** Concern was expressed if a high school age girl could play in fall on a boys team or on a district or recreational girls team, then on a girls state team in the spring. Discussion ensued on how to mechanically prevent this. Agreed that a policy will be developed for the next board meeting (August) to address this issue and establish a procedure to limit play.
- **State leagues:** Ken requested the state league participants be posted to the website so everyone can see which teams are playing at which levels. Todd reported that state schedules are already drafted and being reviewed.

GENERAL – FOR THE GOOD OF THE GAME

- **Toll free number established:** Doug reported that WSYSA has obtained a toll free number, which is posted to our website. The number is: **(877) 424-4318**
- **Holiday event:** plans are underway to host a holiday event for the Board and Association and District presidents.
- Ken reported that **Foothills Youth Soccer** (his smallest association) brought in the Shelton church league so is now the largest association in District 7.
- **MLS expansion:** Doug reported that we are supporting efforts to bring an MLS team to Seattle.
- **Live Receptionist:** Laurie commended changes at the office, including a live receptionist.
- **Commissioner's Youth League:** Laurie reported that Boys and Girls U15-17 leagues are forming. Girls will play in the spring, boys in the fall (with 2 brackets for the U15s).

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ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia J. Spencer
WSYSA Secretary

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