



# Washington State Youth Soccer Association • WSYSA

500 S. 336<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite #100 · Federal Way, Washington 98003-6389  
PHONE (253) 4-SOCCER · FAX (253) 925-1830 · [www.wsyasa.com](http://www.wsyasa.com)

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Todd McGann  
*Executive Director*

Dave Schumacher  
*Coaching Director*

Brenda N. Heintz  
*Office Manager*

## WSYSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING October 29, 2007

### CALL TO ORDER

Doug Andreassen called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at WSYSA Headquarters at 9:15 am.

### ROLL CALL

#### Present:

President Doug Andreassen  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Brian Lawler  
VP Competition Gail Zimbelman  
VP Development Mike Margolies  
VP Recreation Bryan Vasbinder  
Secretary Cynthia Spencer  
Treasurer George Maitland  
District 1 Comm Jan Phillips  
District 2 Comm. Shari Tumey  
District 3 Comm. Stu Snow  
District 4 Comm. Laurie Myers  
District 5 Comm. Todd Benner  
District 6 Comm. Mike Terris  
District 7 Comm. Ken Phillipson  
WSYSA Exec Dir Todd McGann

#### Absent:

2<sup>nd</sup> VP Ryan Shannon

### Credentialed Staff and Guests

Dave Schumacher, WSYSA Coaching Director  
Brenda Heintz, Office Manager  
District 1 Alternate Comm. Ron Lambalot

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sept. 29 BoD Mtg

- Accepted with following corrections:
  - Full Board approved Player Club Pass pilot program
  - Mike Terris lauded the Gonzaga men's team

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### AGENDA / COMMUNICATIONS

Cynthia Spencer reminded the Board that the open comment period for rule change proposals is closes on Oct. 30. Rules Committee review comments will be available and distributed on next week. Discussion ensued about rule changes proposed by Gail Zimbelman which were referred to the Rules Overhaul ad hoc committee and therefore not reviewed by the Rules Committee or posted to the web. Since the ad hoc committee has not moved forward, it was agreed that the proposals can be considered by the Board. Copy of the proposal will be distributed to the Board and posted to the website for comments.

### REPORTS

#### Coaching Director

Dave Schumacher announced that ODP participation tournament will be held the weekend of Martin Luther King Day in Phoenix. Players will be invited to participate within the next couple weeks.

#### VP Recreation's Report

Bryan distributed a President's Cup report. Semi-finals need a new host as the original sponsor dropped out. A TOPSoccer report also was distributed.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### AGM Update

A letter was sent to Dale Warren, a signed receipt was received. No appeal was filed within the 30 day window, therefore the suspension is final. State Referee Committee has been notified.

### SUMMIT Follow-Up

#### PREMIER LEAGUE CALENDAR PROPOSAL

Dave Schumacher was tasked last meeting to investigate and develop a proposal for changing the soccer calendar for the states premier leagues. He reported that the recommendations and proposal was derived with participation of coaching directors, parents and premier clubs. The consensus he heard was broad spread support for a more dynamic calendar that meets the needs of the state, despite the difficulty in implementing changes. The proposal reflects evolution of soccer in Washington state from a team focus to a club focus. Thus the recommended calendar reinvents soccer play for premier clubs with no intent to change less competitive levels of play.

#### Biggest challenges:

- **Tournaments:** Tryouts moved to first weekend after Regionals (end of June), impacts existing tournaments statewide currently run in May and June. Concern of impacted associations is how quickly would it be implemented (need time to adjust,

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longer notice period the better due to sponsorship considerations and need to reinvent tournaments).

- **Select clubs:** This calendar is not meant to impact the other programs in the state. Timing of tryouts for these clubs is at the discretion of local associations, adjustment of the premier club calendar should not dictate when select tryouts take place. In talking with associations, there is some support for moving club select tryouts to July and shorten the select season.
- **Field availability:** Competing with spring sports for fields, primarily baseball
- **Conflict with other sports:** Younger age players, in particular, may experience conflicts with spring sports.

### Recommendations (from Dave's report):

- The BOD should move forward with approval of the calendar and make the determination when it should be implemented. The factoring of when tryouts will take place is the primary consideration. If tryouts take place at the end of June 2008, the tournaments currently being planned will be impacted. We need to keep in mind that the Girls' High School age teams' tryouts will be moved this year to after Far West Regional's anyway because of the change in their schedule. If we wish to implement the calendar in 2008 the decision should be made by November, 2007 and communicated immediately to all members. Waiting past this month would force delay in moving tryouts in 2008 to 2009.
- It is important that such a change should not be seen as designed to dramatically impact the Club Select Programs. The only real impact on the Club Select Programs would be due to the moving of the Challenge Cup and Championship Cup to April/May.
- This information should go out to the BOD for them to obtain feedback from their membership. Following the Soccer Summit in Spokane it is recommended the BOD make a final decision regarding implementing the schedule, if it is to include the tryouts taking place the end of June. Clubs also need an answer soon to be able to acquire fields and re-do contracts.
- We should consider re-inventing our end of season tournaments. One idea; Commissioners' Cup (District Level Teams), Championship Cup would be re-designed to have various Division levels of play. It is currently getting very confusing with the Challenge Cup and who is participating. This could be placed into the WSYSA Calendar during the most appropriate time. Presidents' Cup would still remain in the Fall for the Recreational Teams.
- New U-11PDL Teams would tryout in March 2008. This would be for the 1997 Age players. Current U—11 teams are mostly 1996 age players. The new U-11 Teams would play a spring league season to have them adjust to playing 9 v 9. We could contact local tournaments to conduct special age groups for New U-11 PDL Teams to participate which could be used for determination of placement of fall league. This could lessen the impact on tournaments with tryouts being

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changed to end of June. It could also help overcome the challenges we faced with the U-11 PDL league this past season.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for local control over decisions impacting timing of select tryouts since different pressures and demands in different areas of the state.

### Concerns/ideas expressed:

- Should the rest of the state's teams wait for the 18 teams going to Regionals to hold tryouts? Response that delay needed to accommodate players wanting to tryout for new teams and decisions on whether coaching contracts should be renewed.
- definition of what is a premier club
- whether the state should /should not dictate the calendar for local tryouts
- the role of PDL in the picture
- how LPTs should evolve
- whether field availability is a real issue
- Financial impact to clubs / associations since this would delay collection of registration and team fees
- Spring season could be shifted to academy style training rather than team based
- Desire to see more specifics from Dave of recommendations for implementation (mandatory coach training for all teams, etc.)

Agreed that discussion needs to be taken outside the Board to districts and associations. Plan to discuss at the Spokane Summit in two weeks. Discussion will continue at the November BoD meeting with the expectation of bringing the proposal to a vote.

### CLUB PLAYER PASS PILOT PROGRAM REPORT

Dave reported that club player pass (for PDL teams) is evolving. Discovering very quickly that the spirit of the club player pass is subject to interpretation and application. Players playing up isn't an issue, but concern about players playing down. Desire to build a level of accountability into the process (may require DOCs to sign-off when players play down).

Mike Margolis reported difficulty in drafting the rules, initially drafted broadly to allow time to evaluate where biggest problems will occur. Not practical (due to double header weekends) to limit play to 1.5 games / week. Reached agreement on goals but not on implementation. Moving in the right direction, but will take time to evolve.

### Disciplinary

Since last meeting, Brian Lawler reported following up with his committee chairs about how new disciplinary and appeals rules are working. However, Brian indicated that he hasn't connected with Lou Blair regarding disciplinary process. Board members reported concerns about:

- delay in achieving coach representation on the disciplinary committee(s)
- mandatory sit-outs without hearings

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- clarified that hearings are held when:
  - there is question of misapplication of the law
  - penalties beyond minimums are imposed)
- Need for acknowledgement of receipt by the office / committee for ethics and appeals requests.
- District Commissioners requested a status spreadsheet for Disciplinary, Appeals & Ethics that would be available for review by the Commissioners and Associations. Todd agreed to meet with Mary Warren to develop a docket spreadsheet for weekly distribution.
- Dave Schumacher requested consideration of logistics and legality of fining (paid) coaches rather than requiring sit-outs for disciplinary infractions, and /or option of fine vs. sit-out. Brian Lawler was tasked to investigate legality of fines and imposing choice of fine vs. sit-out.
- Mike Margolies concerns about consequences of referees issuing cautions but not filing misconduct reports when determining whether required to sit out a match.
  - Automatic sit should occur regardless of whether report is filed if cards were shown. Intent of the rule is “wake up” the player who gets multiple cautions even if not sent off.
  - Recommendation of board members was for coach /player to file complaint against the referee for not filing misconduct report.
  - Mike Margolies asked whether players / coaches have the right to notification of specifics regarding what referee cautioned them for (e.g., what was abusive language referee heard). Brian Lawler indicated that no formal requirement but expect courtesy of response.

### PLAYER/PARENT CONTRACTS

Dave indicated he will bring a proposal to the Board at the November meeting.

### Spokane SUMMIT – Saturday, Nov. 10

Hoping for 75 or more attendees. Start time reset to 11 am to allow members from Tri-Cities and central Washington to drive in. Stu Snow, Bryan Vasbinder and Laurie Myers are planning to attend, other District Commissioners were invited to attend and listen to concerns from Eastern Washington.

### Director of Coaching Review

Mike Margolies reported that his review is set for next Friday and a report will be presented next meeting.

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### Scholarships

Todd reported that the process will be up and running in time to present scholarships at the annual banquet. Applications will open late in November and advertised in Play-On. Laurie suggested that emails should be sent to appropriately aged players registered in Bonzi.

### REPORTS

#### Financials

George reported that we're on target and have invested additional funds with Key Bank.

#### Diversity Committee

Doug reported that the committee is actively meeting with local communities and associations around the state.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Budget

First draft was distributed showing comparisons of budget-to-actual from prior years, as well as budget proposal for this year. Budgeting based on over 126,000 registered players this year (10,000 players ahead of where were last year at same time).

#### WSYSA's Own

Brian Lawler proposed the Board post the following statement on our website:

"In recognizing and honoring the success and development within the Washington state soccer family, WSYSA today salutes the outstanding achievements of Hope Solo and Tina (Frimpong) Ellerton following their recent participation with the United States Women's National Team and at the highest level of the sport itself – the just-concluded 2007 Women's World Cup in Beijing, China. Each of these fine young women have made countless and valuable contributions to youth, collegiate and professional soccer in this country and we wish them many more years of success. They are always welcome in our programs as advisors, mentors and as coaches."

The motion was seconded. A press release will be developed that also includes history on the players connection to WSYSA. Resolution passed unanimously.

It was also suggested that these individuals receive a document from WSYSA showing our support.

#### "Of the Year" Awards

New awards were initiated by US Youth Soccer, therefore we will have new categories for WSYSA nominees. It was moved and seconded to adopt the package. Motion passed unanimously.

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The categories for 2007 will be:

- Coaches of the Year:      Girls Recreation  
                                     Boys Recreation  
                                     Girls Competitive  
                                     Boys Competitive
- Administrator of the Year
- Goal of the Year
- Save of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Hall of Fame
- Young Referee of the Year

### Region IV Workshops

Doug, Todd, Gail and Marty Torres attended the meetings. All committee chairs were reelected. States bidding for Region IV 2010 championships are Idaho, New Mexico and Nevada. A proposal was made about the use of field-turf fields when temperatures exceed certain levels (concerns about field temperatures encountered in Nevada last summer), motion was tabled.

Gail reported that Far West Regional Committee is running two seasons for the new Far West Regional League. Their desire is to consolidate into a single season and include all states in the league. The National Championship Cup Committee discussed the field turf issue but deferred the decision since no intent to use turf fields for championships in the near term. Gail also reported administrative changes for streamlining handling team paperwork and confidential information.

New national league is planned by US Youth Soccer. Entry into the league will be from regional championships and regional leagues.

Doug indicated that the most valuable time spent at the workshop was in side-bar discussions. Will continue to evaluate how many individuals should attend from WSYSA.

### State Tournament / Teams placements

Gail indicated consideration of two divisions in the Championship Cup for Division 2 teams and PDL "B" teams not seeking regional berths. Based on input from Dave Schumacher, Gail asked the Board whether we should establish two divisions within the Challenge Cup to accommodate teams playing at the U14 age level.

Discussion ensued about expectation of teams entering PDL and state leagues (that would be required to play in Championship Cup). Concern also was expressed about the timing of making changing for this year since application period closes soon.

Shari proposed changing Rule 303 A.1.b.3 be changed for the current season to state that Division 2 teams at U14 age level may elect to play in the Challenge Cup. Seconded by Laurie Myers to allow discussion. Shari withdrew her motion.

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Gail moved to run two divisions in U14 Championship Cup with Division 1 champions entering into National Championship Cup Series and Division 2 (open to any team) terminating with state play. Motion was seconded.

Motion failed.

Brian Lawler moved to acknowledge and empower VP Competition Gail Zimbelman to place the U14 PDL “B” teams in appropriate brackets and level of competition for post season play in consultation with VP Development Mike Margolies and Coaching Director Dave Schumacher. Motion seconded. Motion passed with two nays.

### Commissioners Issues

- Risk Management: Pam Copple expressed risk management concerns about maintaining copies birth certificates. Doug said he would request a written report from Pam that includes source of concerns and recommended procedures.
- HS age girls playing fall & spring seasons: Shari reported inconsistent application of policy and requested clarity.

Example: U16 “A” team with 12 players will play CYL league in spring wants to pick up “B” team players who are playing at district level in the fall. Question is when / how can the “B” team players transfer to the “A” team? Once fall season ends, are the players in open season or still tied to the fall team? Can they be added or must they transfer?

Rule 204.11.2 would require a transfer since the player was rostered to another team in the same seasonal year.

Rule 204.11.1(c) The “A” team is limited to receiving three players by transfer.

- Confidentiality of discussions at BoD meetings: Need as a group the ability to have vibrant, open discussions and then leave the meetings with a united front. Commissioners expressed concern about need to share comments and concerns expressed at the Board meetings with their district associations. Expectation of the Commissioners is that confidentiality needs to be agreed during the discussion. Brian Lawler clarified that the Board meetings are only open to guests by invitation, our bylaws are not required to be open to the membership. Agreed to use Executive Session
- Club application to move Associations: Jan Philips provided more background on Mukilteo YSA moving from North County and join South Snohomish since more urban focused which matches the team. Will require a boundary change of the associations.

### GOOD OF THE GAME

TriCities Three Rivers Soccer Club U14 girls team did fund raising and donated \$1000 proceeds to TOPSoccer (no program exists in TriCities). The team will be highlighted in the next PlayOn.

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Ron Lambalot notified the Board that the Rules Overhaul ad hoc committee has taken its first pass at revamping the standing rules.

Laurie Myers announced that we need to hold the high school boys teams to the same standard as the high school girls for play during their high school season.

Laurie Myers also noted that District 4 is struggling to recruit and retain referees. Doug promised to bring up to the SRC.

### ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Cynthia J. Spencer**  
WSYSA Secretary

**ADDENDUM: Premier Calendar proposal from Dave Schumacher.**



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