

**Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA)**  
**Approved Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**February 7, 2014**  
**IYSA Office**

Board Members Present: Salvador Arroyo, Gus Bender, Robert Berkley, Charlie Dyson, Flo Dyson, Kelly Fairwood, Dave Hicks, Stuart Kasten, Gary Seyring. Absent: Pete Glon.

League Representatives: Jan Berkley, Greg Cole, Flo Dyson, Jose Fleita, Stu Kasten, Hugh Orlicz, Jay Ray, Michelle Ray.

Guests: Bill Bruno, Tim Deters, Rick Flores, Chris Jamrozy, Ale Jurado, Meaghan Kinser (recording secretary), Hugh Orlicz, Jonathan Orlicz, Jen Pfeiffer, Ivan Rico.

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by the President, Gus Bender, at 7:20 PM on Friday, February 7, 2014 at the association offices.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call was taken and the following leagues were present: Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Crystal Lake Soccer Federation, Ela Soccer Association, 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 1, 2013 Illinois Youth Soccer Annual General Meeting were unanimously approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Gus Bender stated that Illinois Youth Soccer has had an exceptionally positive year. We've been at the forefront of concussion awareness. With the support of the IWSL and YSSL, the State Premiership Division has expanded to include Central and Southern Illinois teams. There were more applicants than available openings. The US Soccer Foundation grant from the Department of Justice has enabled us to continue to enhance our *Soccer for Success* (SFS) program in Chicago. We hired an Associate Director of Coaching to increase our coaching and player development resources. It has been promising to see more of our member organizations taking advantage of our free programs. The US Soccer Federation celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013 and the sport is continuing to grow. He announced that the audit indicates that Illinois Youth Soccer continues to be run in a fiscally responsible manner.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Stu Kasten outlined the insurance coverage in the book. He noted that the insurance coverage is good and Illinois Youth Soccer is doing well.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Gary Seyring presented the Treasurer's Report and budget. Illinois Youth Soccer was fortunate to receive income for international games held in Illinois. He was pleased to announce that there was a surplus of revenue. Through the years, we were able to maintain a quality level of service to our members.

**Motion:** Hugh Orlicz moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

## REPORTS

Gus Bender presented the Risk Management Report. He noted that any questionable background checks are sent to our Risk Management Committee Chair, Tom Appleton, for review.

Central District Commissioner Dave Hicks reported that they have had a very successful year. The Central Illinois Youth Soccer League (CIYSL) has grown by 14% for the 2012-2013 year. Dave was pleased to point out that CIYSL was able to put 4 teams into USYSA National Championships and one team in the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Championships. The U14 Girls SASA Spirits won the National Title for the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup. Dave Hicks thank Mary Jane Bender and the rest of the Illinois Youth Soccer staff for their continued support.

Northern District Commissioner Charlie Dyson reported that there was an increase in the number of players and teams in Northern Illinois and there is continued growth in the Northern District. He noted that Young Sportsmen's Soccer League and Illinois Women's Soccer League have grown by approximately 100 teams and 50 teams respectively.

Southern District Commissioner Stu Kasten has seen moderate growth in the Southern Illinois District. Southern Illinois Soccer League has lost some teams to nearby Missouri Youth Soccer. He noted that this is the second year that ODP has been running in the South but the numbers are down from the previous year. The coaching staff from the IYSA office and the Southern ODP staff have done a phenomenal job and are working together to increase the numbers.

Recreational Program Director Gary Seyring thanked the membership for coming out on such a cold evening. Gary noted that the Recreational Program is strong and continues to get stronger each year. He emphasized the FREE programs that are currently offered to our member recreational leagues. His Recreational Program Report should be dated February 7, 2014.

US Youth Soccer Recreational Program Director Hugh Orlicz was pleased to announce that Ela Soccer Association has been awarded the US Youth Soccer Region II 5-Star Recreational Program Recognition for its outstanding efforts in promoting coaching education, referee development, goal safety, kid safety and parent sideline behavior. He emphasized that having a referee component is an essential part of the Five Star Recognition. Ela Soccer Association will be honored at the Illinois Youth Soccer Awards Banquet on March 7, 2014.

Assistant Director Meaghan Kinser presented the State Office Report on behalf of Executive Director Mary Jane Bender. She emphasized the importance of concussion awareness and advised the members to use the IYSA Concussion Notification Form. The form is posted on the IYSA website. Any athlete that sustains a bump, blow, jolt to the head, or a blow to another part of the body with the force transmitted to the head and/or is exhibiting signs and symptoms of a brain injury MUST be removed from play immediately. The Player may not return to play and must obtain and submit a signed clearance from a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy who specializes in concussion treatment and management. With the increase in the number of parents who are convicted sex offenders, it is recommended that any club that has parents traveling with a team conduct a background check on the

parents and/or check the Illinois State Police Sex Offender website (which is free) to ensure that a parent is not a convicted sex offender.

Illinois Youth Soccer Marketing & Communications Director Chris Jamrozy presented the marketing report. He was pleased to announce that Illinois added four new sponsors and retained its existing sponsors. Illinois Youth Soccer Expo will take place on August 9 at the Chicago Fire Stadium in Bridgeview. The location, the relationship with the Chicago Fire and the game against the New York Red Bulls on the following day should boost the experience and attendance at the Expo. He encouraged everyone to come to the Illinois Youth Soccer Awards Banquet on March 7. World Cup and Olympic champion and former U S Women's National Team Goalkeeper Briana Scurry will be the keynote speaker.

Illinois Youth Soccer Director of Coaching Rick Flores has raised the bar with the coaching staff. He is always ready and available to do coaching courses and modules for our members. He was pleased to announce that we have added Jen Pfeiffer as the Associate Director of Coaching. US Soccer has implemented a new D license course which takes approximately 10 weeks to complete. Illinois Youth Soccer will be hosting a National Youth License in Geneva on March 12-16 and co-hosting a C license course with Wisconsin Youth Soccer in Milwaukee on August 2-10.

State Cup Director Bill Bruno reported on the Illinois State Cup, Illinois Presidents Cup, and Illinois Cup. Illinois continues to be one of the top soccer states in the U.S. Illinois had 20 teams that advanced to the US Youth Soccer Region II Tournament; 14 teams qualified as Illinois State Cup Champions and 6 advanced as either a wildcard draw or through the Midwest Regional League. Five Illinois teams advanced to the US Youth Soccer National Championships in Overland Park, Kansas. Illinois was also able to send 4 additional teams to the National Championships through the National League. Eclipse Elite U15 Girls and Team Chicago Academy-Botafogo U18 Girls teams were crowned National Champions, Raiders FC U18 Boys and Chicago Fire Academy U19 Boys were finalists. The 2014 US Youth Soccer Region II Tournament will be held in Dayton, Ohio on June 21-25 and the National Championship will be held in Germantown, Maryland on July 22-27.

Illinois sent 12 teams to the US Youth Soccer Region II Presidents Cup Tournament in Overland Park, Kansas with two teams advancing to the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Tournament in Auburndale, Florida. The SASA Spirits U14 Girls and the Crystal Lake Force U14 Boys were crowned national champions. The 2014 US Youth Soccer Region II Presidents Cup Tournament will be held in Overland Park, Kansas on June 12-15 and the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Tournament will be held in Greenville, South Carolina on July 10-13.

ODP Director Jonathan Orlicz announced that three Illinois ODP teams won the US Youth Soccer Region II ODP Tournament last July: 1997 Girls, 1998 Girls, and 1998 Boys. They will be competing for the national title at the ODP National Championships in Phoenix on February 27 – March 2, 2014. Rick Flores and Jen Pfeiffer have developed an ODP curriculum. There are more ODP locations and events including Futsal activities and interstate ODP friendlies.

*Soccer for Success* Program Director Ale Jurado reported that Illinois Youth Soccer was one of five cities to receive the Department of Justice grant from the US Soccer Foundation. Our SFS program currently has 800 children and will increase to 23 sites. The program takes place before and after school and includes obesity and nutrition awareness components that include Body Mass Index and Pacer

testing. One of our *SFS* girls teams participated in the IWSL this past year and two *SFS* boys teams will start competing in the YSSL this spring season.

Gus Bender pointed out that the *SFS* girls team did not win a game in their first season, but placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in their IWSL division their second season. He thanked Flo Dyson and the IWSL for their support.

The TOPSoccer report was presented by Rick Flores who praised Illinois Youth Soccer TOPSoccer Director Shawn Danhouser for his dedication to the program. He noted that Shawn is very hands on and that more clubs are implementing the program for children with special needs.

Tournament Director Hugh Orlicz stressed that those who are hosting tournaments must ensure that guest players are from the same US Soccer organizational member for insurance liability reasons. That means that all players and coaches on a team must have passes from the same organization, either US Youth Soccer or US Club and must not be comingled. If a guest player or coach does not have a US Youth Soccer pass to participate with a US Youth Soccer team, please contact the Illinois Youth Soccer office to obtain a US Youth Soccer pass.

Illinois State Referee Administrator Tim Deters thanked Illinois Youth Soccer for its continued support of the referee program. He stated that not all State Referee Committees (SRC) have the same support from or relationship with their state association. He was pleased to announce Landon Albert and Julia Bennett were chosen to receive the Young Referee of the Year Award. Illinois had three referees selected from Regionals to represent us at the US Youth Soccer National Championships. The SRC is continuing with their mentoring program and is beginning to register Futsal referees as the demand is growing. Tim is happy to come out to and speak to any Illinois Youth Soccer member leagues or clubs regarding referee rules or concerns.

## **ELECTIONS**

Gus Bender conducted the elections.

Dave Hicks was nominated for the Central District Director position. No nominations were made from the floor. Dave Hicks was elected by acclamation. Gus noted that Dave Hicks is the longest serving member on the Illinois Youth Soccer Board of Directors, serving 32 years.

Gus Bender nominated Gary Seyring for the Recreational Program Director position. No nominations were made from the floor. Gary Seyring was elected by acclamation.

Jan Berkley nominated Yianny Caparos for the Director-at-Large position. No other nominations were made from the floor. Charlie Dyson moved to accept the nominated slate as the elected slate. Yianny Caparos was elected by acclamation.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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