

**Illinois Youth Soccer Association**  
**Unapproved Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**February 1, 2008**  
**IYSA Office**

Board Members Present: Salvador Arroyo, Gus Bender, Robert Berkley, Jeff Bradley, Dave Hicks, Stuart Kasten, Peter Richardson, Gary Seyring, Jeff Steinback.

Guests: Bob Balciunas, Greg Cole, Jim Dash, Charlie Dyson, Flo Dyson, Peter Glon, Bob Hanson, Scott Kegarise, Tom Landi, Elise Leese, Louis Mateus, Hugh Orlicz, Jay Ray, Christine Richardson, Ryan Snyder, Solomon Yehannes, Mike Zovistoski, Mary Jane Bender (recording secretary).

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by the president, Gus Bender, at 7:10 PM on Friday, February 1, 2008 at the association offices.

**ROLL CALL**

Barrington Area Soccer Association, Belle-Clair Soccer League, Bolingbrook Soccer Club, Bruce Samlan Soccer League, Cary Soccer Association, Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Chicago Latin American Soccer Association, Chicago Suburban Soccer League, County West Soccer Association, Ethiopian Community Youth Soccer League, Ford County Youth Soccer, Greater Libertyville Soccer League, Hispano Soccer League, Illinois Valley Youth Soccer League, Illinois Women's Soccer League, Illowa Soccer League, Interamericana Soccer League, Intercommunity Soccer League, Inverness Soccer Club, Jacobson Park Sports Organization, Johnsborg White Lightning Soccer Club, McHenry Area Soccer Federation, Morton Youth Soccer Organization, Northern Illinois Soccer League, Oak Park River Forest Strikers Soccer Club, Perry County Soccer League, Plainfield Soccer Association, Princeton Youth Soccer League, Quinsippi Soccer League, Raptor Youth Soccer League, Richmond Spring Grove Soccer Association, Riverside Soccer Association, SASA Hope Youth Academy, Schaumburg Athletic Association, Shorewood Soccer League, South Suburban Soccer Academy, Southern Illinois Soccer League, Spring Lake Sport League, Thunder Soccer Club, Tri-County Soccer League, Wauconda Area Youth Soccer Club, Windy City Soccer League, Young Sportsmen's Soccer League.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the February 2, 2007 IYSA Annual General Meeting were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Gus Bender presented the President's Report. A substantial effort was made to enhance existing programs. Illinois received a major grant from the US Soccer Foundation for its Inner City programs. With input from the Technical Committee of coaches, the IYSA will continue to evaluate new ideas and make changes to improve the players' experience. With the cooperation of the leagues, the IYSA endorsed small-sided games in Illinois. Our Olympic Development Program ("ODP") partnered with Everton, one of the oldest English Premier clubs, to provide their acclaimed on-line player development curriculum "The Everton Way". This curriculum is available to all the players in Illinois through the IYSA website. The Board and leagues have worked hard to serve the players and to grow the sport. The IYSA is partnering with the Chicago Fire and the new Women's Professional Soccer League to provide opportunities for players. In June, Illinois will host the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championship in Rockford. The IYSA is working to standardize coaching and referee requirements. Gus expressed his appreciation to the leagues, directors and staff for their support and positive direction.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Gary Seyring presented the Treasurer's Report and budget. In the opinion of the auditors, IYSA is in compliance with generally accepted accounting principals. The auditors recommended a \$4 million reserve fund based on IYSA insurance considerations. Fees have not been raised for several years but an increase from US Youth Soccer

may result in a \$1 per player increase in 2008/09. The budget was reviewed by the Board and submitted to the membership for approval.

**Motion:** Scott Kegarise moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Treasurer's Report was approved.

## **REPORTS**

Jeff Steinback presented the Risk Management Report. He stated that we live in a litigious society and hearings allow people to vent their issues and avoid expensive lawsuits. The IYSA takes all hearings seriously and does a good job in processing the tremendous paperwork and conducting the hearings. He commended Tom Appleton for his judgment and hard work in chairing difficult hearings.

Central District Commissioner, Dave Hicks, reported that there was a slight increase over last fall. Central Illinois Youth Soccer League has on-line registration. He thanked Gus Bender for his leadership and Mary Jane Bender and the staff for their support.

Southern District Commissioner, Stu Kasten, stated that the IYSA Board is a dynamic group with diverse ideas. He thanked the Board and staff.

Northern District Commissioner Salvador Arroyo reported that he is constantly reaching out to the Hispanic community and being included in new inner city program developments.

Executive Director, Mary Jane Bender, reported that this past year the IYSA has had an increase in registered players, certified/licensed coaches, ODP participants, State Cup teams, Network News and e-newsletter circulation. The IYSA also has had an increase in hearings and appeals. She described the contribution made by Judge Tom Appleton and the attorneys on the board, Gary Seyring, and Jeff Steinback. Their pro-bono legal expertise helps keep the costs down for all players. She thanked the leagues and directors for their support and invited the league representatives to attend the Awards Banquet on March 7, 2008 at the Wellington of Arlington and the Soccer Expo on March 8, 2008 at the Schaumburg Sport Center.

State Cup Director, Bill Bruno, presented the State Cup report. There was an increase in the number of teams participating in the 2007 Illinois State Cup and an unprecedented 26 Illinois teams at the regionals. Three Illinois teams advanced to the US Youth Soccer National Championship.

ODP Administrator, Janet Adkins, reported that the ODP numbers have increased. The ODP is a great public relations and customer service effort that creates good will with the players and parents.

Director of Coaching, Ian Mulliner, thanked the leagues for helping develop coaches. He reported that US Youth Soccer is developing on-line coaching courses.

Gus Bender stated that the IYSA Inner City Program has been in existence since 1994 and involves children with disabilities. Over the years, this program has provided opportunities and hope to at-risk children. He thanked the leagues for their support.

Tournament Director, Hugh Orlicz, reported that the IYSA sanctioned approximately 60 tournaments in Illinois this past year. The current Network News article lists the reasons for sanctioning tournaments. This past year, the IYSA emphasized lightning concerns and implemented procedures to clear fields quickly.

State Referee Committee Director of Operations Tom Landi presented the Referee Report. The Committee started the Referee Hotline, a help line for officials. He will contact the leagues to discuss: referee education, recruitment and retention.

Illinois State Referee Administrator, Bob Balciunas, thanked Gus Bender and the IYSA for continuing its support for young referees and helping meet the growing challenges.

Recreational Referee Program Director, Hugh Orlicz, encourages each recreational league to get its head referee certified as a Grade 11 instructor to conduct in-house Grade 9 referee certification courses. He asked the recreational leagues to endorse and use Grade 9 referees. He believes that young Grade 9 referees should get more officiating experience before going for their Grade 8. Scott Kegarise, president of the Schaumburg Athletic Association, confirmed that this is a great way to get referees.

## **ELECTIONS**

Gus Bender conducted the elections.

The Nominating Committee nominated Gary Seyring for the Recreational Program Director position. No nominations were made from the floor.

**Motion:** Scott Kegarise made a motion that the nominated slate become the elected ballot. Motion was unanimously approved.

Peter Glon nominated Flo Dyson for a director position from the floor. This position was to replace Jeff Bradley's vacated position.

**Motion:** Scott Kegarise made a motion that the nominated slate become the elected ballot. Motion was unanimously approved.

The Nominating Committee nominated Tom Appleton for a director position. Flo Dyson nominated Peter Glon from the floor. Nomination was seconded by Peter Richardson.

The nominations were closed and ballots distributed to the delegates. The ballots were counted and the results were reported to Gus Bender.

Gus Bender reported that Peter Glon was the newly elected director to the board.

Gus Bender thanked Jeff Bradley and Tom Appleton for their many years of service to Illinois Youth Soccer.

Dave Hicks was elected as the Central District Commissioner by the leagues in Central Illinois.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

The amendment offered opportunity for membership in the following categories: referees, coaches, individuals, associates, clubs.

**Motion:** Jay Ray moved to accept the Board endorsed amendment to Article II of the Illinois Youth Soccer Association Bylaws. Seconded by Bob Berkley. Motion defeated by vote of the IWSL and NISL.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ryan Snyder thanked the Board for endorsing the small-sided games format.

Gus Bender declared the Annual General Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

