



Illinois Youth Soccer Association
Approved Minutes of the Board of Directors
December 5, 2020
Zoom Meeting

Board Members Present: Salvador Arroyo, Gus Bender, Bob Berkley, Flo Dyson, Kelly Fairwood, Dave Hicks, Dale Litney, Jake Mooney, Jane Raede

Regrets: Charlie Dyson

Guests: Mary Jane Bender (recording secretary), Chris Jamrozy, Adam Howarth, Ale Jurado, Meaghan Kinser, Katie O'Malley, Marek Radziszewski, Julio Serrano

The regular Board Meeting of the Illinois Youth Soccer Association was called to order by the president, Gus Bender, at 9:05 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Flo Dyson moved to approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved.

MOTION

Bob Berkley moved to excuse Charlie Dyson's absence. Motion was passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Flo Dyson presented the Financial Report.

OFFICE REPORT

Mary Jane Bender presented the Office Report. Due to Covid and state mandates restricting inter-team competitions in Illinois, the Fall 2020 registration numbers are slightly more than half of last year's fall registrations. The ODP process that commenced on November 14 & 15 was conducted in strict compliance with the state Covid mandates. The remaining sessions were postponed due to the updated state mandates for indoor activities and will resume once the restrictions are lifted. ODP is protected by the Amateur Sports Act, a federal law enacted by Congress in 1978, and takes precedence over other activities including club and high school sports. IYSA has made every effort to avoid conflicts with our member league programming and to conduct Illinois ODP in conjunction with club activities and not in place of them. She concluded by thanking the Board for their continued support and thanked the staff for their hard work during these difficult times.

REGISTRATION REPORT

Meaghan Kinser presented the Registration Report. She noted that registration numbers for both Recreational and Competitive are down significantly for the Fall 2020 season.

MARKETING & EVENTS REPORT

Chris Jamrozy presented the Marketing and Events Report. Although the fall events were suspended due to Covid, IYSA is planning for a regular Spring season. The timelines and registration portal have been posted. Registrations are open for the Spring-season 11v11 competition for 12U teams to determine placement in the Fall 2021 Midwest Conference. The 2021 Futsal State Cup was cancelled due to Covid. We have been conducting e-Sports competitions, social media campaigns and semi-monthly updates to the members. The Network News is being published in an e-version.

COACHING EDUCATION REPORT

Adam Howarth presented the Coaching Education Report. Since July 2020, IYSA conducted 19 grassroots courses and started three D course in the blended format all of which require weekly webinars. US Soccer has given IYSA permission to conduct a C License Course which was sold-out; it started in November using the blended format. IYSA is involved in bi-weekly USSF Coaching Education updates, Midwest Technical Directors meetings, monthly meetings with IYSA Coaching Education instructors, and weekly isolated technical training series. The quarterly Coaching Connection Meetings are posted on You-Tube. The December meeting included presentations by Chelsea FC and VEO.

ODP REPORT

Marek Radziszewski reported that over 900 players registered for the 2021 Illinois ODP. IYSA conducted parent zoom meetings to discuss procedures and adjustments. No one objected to the modifications that were made to accommodate the Covid restrictions. Although in-person sessions were postponed, zoom meetings are planned with the parents and participants.

SOCCER FOR SUCCESS REPORT

Alejandra Jurado presented the Soccer for Success Report. The summer/fall SFS programs concluded in October and three SFS school programs will conclude in December. The SFS indoor program will resume when Covid restrictions are lifted. She continues to provide parents with information about food drives, utility support and other resources.

REFEREE REPORT

Julio Serrano provided the Illinois Soccer Referee Committee Report. 45 new referees were licensed since September 2020. Four virtual referee courses are currently scheduled. The referees have a presence on Facebook and soon on Twitter and Instagram. Gus Bender explained that the referee budget is limited due to the rollover of referee registrations due to Covid. The Referee Mentoring Program is on-going and administered by Abiodun Okulaja, Hugh Orlicz and Becky Pagan. He asked the referees to present referee information via zoom and to have meetings with the leagues regarding referee retention.

With deep sadness, Gus Bender recognized referee assignor Ted Ruzbasan who died from Covid in November. Ted and his wife were well -known in the soccer community and received the IYSA Meritorious Service Award in 2015.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE GAME

Gus Bender thanked the staff for providing viable programs and staying connected with the soccer community during Covid.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered executive session at 10:40 AM and exited at 11:37 AM.

Gus Bender declared the Board Meeting adjourned at 11:41 AM.