



**Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA)
Approved Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
February 1, 2019
IYSA Office**

Board Members Present: Gus Bender, Robert Berkley, Flo Dyson, Kelly Fairwood, Dave Hicks, Dale Litney, Jake Mooney.

Regrets: Salvador Arroyo, Charlie Dyson, Jane Raede

League Representatives: Johann Arnason, Bob Berkley, Greg Cole, Shawn Danhouser, Flo Dyson, Dave Hicks, Geoff Moore.

Guests: Barb Baumgartner, Mary Jane Bender, Bill Bruno, Tim Deters, Bob Hansen, Brian Hensgen, Adam Howarth, Chris Jamrozy, Ale Jurado, Meaghan Kinser (recording secretary), Katie O'Malley, Josh Opiola, Hugh Orlicz, Marek Radziszewski, Ivan Rico, Vince Tirado.

The Annual General Meeting was called to order by the President, Gus Bender, at 7:10 PM on Friday, February 1, 2019 at the association offices.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken, and the following leagues were present: Central Illinois Youth Soccer League, Chicago TOPSoccer, Crystal Lake Soccer Federation, Illinois Women's Soccer League, Schaumburg Athletic Association, St. Louis Youth Soccer Association – Illinois, Young Sportsmen's Soccer League.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 2, 2018 Illinois Youth Soccer Annual General Meeting were unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gus Bender presented the President's Report. Gus was pleased to report that Illinois had another great year of accomplishments including new programs to meet the needs of our members for the upcoming year. US Soccer has changed the coaching education program; these changes have been well received by our membership. He noted that IYSA has conducted its inner-city program since 1994 and has an annual participation of over 1,000 players. He thanked the US Soccer Foundation for the Department of Justice grants that have helped us to provide this programming. Gus was pleased to report that the IYSA 23U women's won the State Cup Championship. He stressed the importance of continuing to support women's programming. In an effort to retain young referees, Gus emphasized the need to continue to enhance the referee mentoring program that was started with the Illinois State Referee Committee. He concluded that risk management is still at the forefront of youth soccer and it's important that our members are aware of the seriousness of concussion training, background checks, and Safe Sport training for all individuals working with athletes who are minors. Gus thanked all the members for their continued support.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Kelly Fairwood presented the Secretary's Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Flo Dyson presented the Treasurer's Report.

Motion: Dave Hicks moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

REPORTS

Mary Jane Bender presented the Risk Management Report. She introduced Josh Opiola from Sports Engine to discuss the Safe Sport Act and its impact on our members. He warned that a club can face a \$150,000 fine from the Federal Government if one of their coaches is found to not have completed the Safe Sport Training. He was pleased to mention that soccer is being proactive, not reactive, but there will be growing pains. He emphasized that Safe Sport is mandated at all levels including recreational. Additionally, US Youth Soccer has mandated that all coaches do a thorough background check that complies with National Council for Youth Sports criteria. As a result, the United States Olympic Committee will require all persons to conduct a full county background search. IYSA has been compliant for years. The good thing is that Sports Engine is a one-stop shop where coaches can do background checks, Safe Sport training, and Concussion training through one site.

Dave Hicks presented the Central District Commissioner Report. He noted that ODP player numbers in Central have grown last year. While the number of league teams were down last year, the positive sign is that CIYSL numbers increased in Fall 2018.

Flo Dyson presented the Northern District Commissioner Report. She was pleased to report that, overall, growth in the Northern District has continued to grow.

Gus Bender presented the Southern District Commissioner Report. He praised Johann Arnason and Jane Raede for a healthy growth in SLYSA-IL.

Recreational Program Director, Dale Litney, presented the Recreational Program Report. He was pleased to report that we added three new programs in the last year. He praised Adam Howarth and Marek Radziszewski for visiting our recreational members.

Executive Director, Mary Jane Bender, presented the State Office Report. She was pleased to note that communications with US Soccer Federation have improved. She thanked the recreational leagues for their continued support and for their referee mentoring efforts. For the safety of the players, Mary Jane emphasized that it is vital for players who are under concussion protocol to receive clearance from a doctor specializing in concussions.

Illinois Youth Soccer Marketing & Communications Director, Chris Jamrozy, presented the Marketing Report. Illinois Youth Soccer launched a new, interactive website which is more mobile friendly. Along with a growth of membership, Illinois Youth Soccer has had a growth in the distribution of the Network News. The Network News is the 6th largest distribution among newspaper publications in Illinois. Illinois Youth Soccer has also increased presence on social media and have gained more followers on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

Director of Coaching, Adam Howarth, presented the Coaching Education Program Report. He thanked the leagues for requiring coaches to be certified to coach. In 2018, Illinois Youth Soccer ran two C License Courses and plans to host two more in 2019. To date, 11 Illinois Youth Soccer instructors have been certified as Grassroots Instructor License Instructors. Adam hopes that, by the end of 2019, Illinois Youth Soccer will have 30 instructors licensed statewide to make Illinois one of the leading states to have instructors certified to teach Grassroots Courses in the U.S.

State Cup Director, Bill Bruno, presented the Cup Reports. He was pleased to announce that, for 19 straight years, Illinois Youth Soccer has sent teams to the US Youth Soccer National Championships. Illinois Youth Soccer has also increased participation in the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup. Bill also noted the tremendous growth in the Illinois Youth Soccer Futsal State Cup.

Associate Director of Coaching, Marek Radziszewski, and Olympic Development Program (ODP) Administrator, Vince Tirado, presented the ODP Report. Marek emphasized that all current ODP coaches are in compliance with background checks, USOC SafeSport Training, and Concussion Training. Marek also mentioned that, for the first time, Illinois will be taking two ODP teams, one Girls and one Boys, to Barcelona at the end of March.

Soccer for Success Program Director, Ale Jurado, presented the *Soccer for Success* Report. She was pleased to report that the *Soccer for Success* Program has received a Department of Justice grant through 2021. By the conclusion of the grant, she hopes to target nearly 1,300 kids. She thanked the leagues and the Board for their continued support for the program.

State Premiership Division Director, Chris Jamrozy, presented the State Premiership Division Report. He was pleased to announce that we have continued to see growth, not only in the number of teams playing, but also in the number of teams applying each season. He thanked the leagues for their continued support for the State Premiership Division.

National League Midwest Conference (formerly MRL) Director for Illinois, Bill Bruno, presented the National League Midwest Conference Report. The rebrand started in the Fall 2018 soccer season. He noted that the old system of US Youth Soccer Regional Leagues ceased to exist at the conclusion of the 2017/18 soccer season. The National Tier, referred to as the US Youth Soccer National League, will feature a total of 176 teams in 13U through 19U age groups in each gender. The Multi-State Tier is comprised of leagues that are each individually named US Youth Soccer National League (*Geographic Area*) Conference. These conferences are now under the management umbrella of US Youth Soccer National League and League Managers who oversee the day-to-day operations of their respective conference.

TOPSoccer Director, Shawn Danhouser, presented the TOPSoccer Report. Shawn thanked the board and the office staff for their continued support of the TOPSoccer program. He thanked and praised IYSA for the exceptional amount of support he receives. Shawn was pleased to report that, while one TOPSoccer program was dissolved, they were able to integrate that program into another TOPSoccer program, so the kids are continuing to receive TOPSoccer training. He is optimistic that TOPSoccer will gain up to 4 new programs in 2019. Shawn is looking to offer another TOPSoccer Certification Course at the Illinois Youth Soccer Office. He noted that despite the hot weather at the 5th annual TOPSoccer Summerfest, the participants had fun. Trevian TOPSoccer will host the 2019 TOPSoccer Summerfest in June, with a date yet to be determined. Shawn was excited to announce that Lori Carbonneau, Illinois Youth Soccer TOPSoccer Coach of the Year, was awarded the Midwest Region

TOPSoccer Coach of the Year award. There are plans to host the Midwest Region TOPSoccer Symposium at the Illinois Youth Soccer Office on July 19-21, 2019. He concluded that, in conjunction with Illinois Youth Soccer, a Paralympic Program was created to run alongside the Olympic Development Program.

Tournament Director, Hugh Orlicz, and Tournament Administrator, IvanRico, presented the Tournament Report. Hugh emphasized the implementation and use of the build out line at Illinois Youth Soccer sanctioned tournaments. He also noted that, new for 2019, all tournaments are required to submit a background check, complete USOC SafeSport Training, and complete Concussion Training for all tournament directors, management companies and referee assignors.

Illinois State Referee Administrator, Tim Deters, presented the Referee Report. Tim thanked Illinois Youth Soccer for their continued support. He was pleased to report that Illinois sent 2 referees to officiate at the US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup Championships and 3 referees to officiate at the US Youth Soccer National Championships. One of the Illinois referees was granted a center in the 19U Boys final at the National Championships.

ELECTIONS

Dave Hicks conducted the elections.

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

Flo Dyson nominated Charlie Dyson for the Northern District Commissioner position. No nominations were made from the floor. Charlie Dyson was elected by acclamation.

Dave Hicks nominated Kelly Fairwood for the Director-at-Large position. No nominations were made from the floor. Kelly Fairwood was elected by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

Gus Bender declared the Annual General Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM.