South Dakota Youth Soccer Association (SDYSA)

Regular Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. CST

Video/Phone Conference Call

SDYSA State Office

2127 S. Minnesota Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**The meeting was called to order by Rex Rolfing at 7:00 p.m. CST.**

**Attendees: Roll call was taken with the following members present:**

Rex Rolfing, President

Timothy Umfleet, Treasurer

Tony Harrirson, Representative from the Operating Directors

Kaye Squires, Secretary

Dale Weiler, Technical and Executive Director (Ex-officio)

Polly Dean, Director of Operations (Ex-officio)

Frank Gurnick, Competitive Chair

Mike Fairchild, Recreational Chair

Tom Hilsendinger, North East District Commissioner

James Oppenheimer, East District Commissioner

Michele Seaton-Bertsch, North East District Commissioner Alternate

Jake Schad, West Central District Alternate Commissioner

Jason Wear, Dakota ODP Administrator

**\*\*A quorum was met for this meeting.**

# Agenda and Notes:

1. **Opening Remarks and Call to Order:** No opening remarks.
2. **Roll Call and Proxy’s**: Jake Schad is a proxy tonight for Chad Willliams, West Central District Commissioner.
3. **Approval of the Minutes**: Tim moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Tony seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **Reports: Directors & Commissioners**: Email was sent out and reports are available for review.
5. **Old Business**
   1. *2019 AGM Bylaw and Policy Amendments*: In January, 2020, the second meeting was held and all bylaws and policies were approved. The website has been updated along with the policies and bylaws.
   2. *Sports Engine & JDP*: Polly has been in contact with SportsEngine about the deficit. Sports Engine returned with an offer that they would cover all of SDYSA’s spring invoices. Polly is still waiting for Sports Engine to pull the reports to see the exact numbers. Polly has had consistent contact with Sports Engine and will inform the Board of the numbers as soon as she gets them.. See Polly’s director’s report for more information.
6. **New Business**
   1. *Coronavirus*: Polly and Dale have been in touch with USYSA about this issue. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, all programming will halt until April 15th, 2020. Polly and Dale are having an all club conference tomorrow (Thursday, March 19th, 2020). Polly and Dale continue to pass along information as they receive it. Tim wanted the Board to be cognizant about finances. The Board needs to consider financial losses from last year due to weather/flooding, and the potential financial losses this year due to the pandemic.
   2. *Ramkota Partnership*: Polly has been in communications with Ramkota (Josh). Polly and Dale have finalized the Ramkota Partnerships. $7,000 sponsorship and hotel costs for referees for 1 year. Polly will announce the partnership via social media at a later date when pandemic news has decreased (Ramkota-Josh agrees with that decision).
   3. *ODP Update:*: Jason updated the Board on the progress of this program. ODP is doing well, especially up until last week before the pandemic. Numbers had increased from last year and members were satisfied with programming. ODP is financially on track to have a good season. Programming has improved.
   4. *Dakota Premier League-West & USYS Affiliation*: Dale updated the Board about communications between North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Fall, 2020, they will be launching an ODP league on the west side of the state. Eastside for the fall is solidified. Dale connected with Cody and discussed how the program is growing and expanding to the west. Need to align registration for the league with USYSA members soccer affiliated only. Consider that in order to register, clubs will need to be a USYSA member. Primarily, last year, North Dakota had two clubs. Trying to create value being a USYSA member; however, we do not want to risk losing clubs.
   5. *Investment Committee/Policy*: Tim updated the Board. Board can explore investing some of our reserve funds; stay moderate to conservative. Allow Rex, Tim, Dale, and Polly to reach out to local banks and see what they charge/what they can offer. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this will be tabled for now, but will consider this further once the pandemic has slowed in about 6 to 8 months. Members would bring back any information gathered to the Board. Motion to allow Rex, Tim, Dale and Polly to look for AFP’s and present to the Board. Tony motioned. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
   6. *Regional Referee Requirement*: Dale has been in contact with Sean and Nicole about securing referees for events. Sean could speak more to this. No one is committing at this time due to the pandemic. They are working on it and do have people locked in. Referees are wanting more details about the arrangements for travel aspects. New referee registration/background checks are becoming cumbersome.
   7. *Fee Increase Fall 2020*: Members were reminded in February, 2020 about the 50 cent increase continuing this fall. This was voted on and approved at the 2018 AGM.
   8. *2021 Registration Fee Alignment*: There is a difference of about $4 dollars between Club (Competitive) and Recreational fees. Dale proposed and would like the Board to consider making them the same fee. Explain why fees would be changed and membership benefits. This needs to be the starting point to this conversation. Could we meet in the middle of the two vs. raising the one fee? We have two fees; raise one and lower the other? Or could we raise one fee instead? Rex recommended Dale, Polly, Frank, and Mike to network and work through this situation for the 2021 season.
   9. *SDYSA Member Registration - Stack Platform*: Polly had some clubs reach out asking about registration platforms and asking if it will be mandated to use BlueSombero/SportsConnect. At this time, nothing is being mandated. Maybe something to discuss in the future-going to one platform? Stack is trying to get more clients. US Youth Soccer will not mandate; but Stack is trying to get as much business as they can.
7. **For the good of the game**:
   1. Tim: Frank is doing a great job with Foot Skills Factory. They are issuing videos for skills. Should SDYSA be doing something similar during this pandemic shutdown but for coaches? Would it be useful to put out individual workouts? For both coaches and players? Would help us reach out to people during this time; our way of helping. Polly has been sharing similar posts on Facebook. SDYSA has a YouTube channel that could be utilized. Polly and Dale will work on tailoring some videos geared towards coaching staff.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. Frank motioned to adjourn. .Tim seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Meeting minutes documented and submitted by Kaye Squires, SDYSA Secretary**