

Minutes
Executive Board Meeting
January 23, 2023
Virtual via Webex

Present: Chris Grine, Michael Hill, TJ Suchevidh, Mark Hopkins, Eric Kowalski,

Absent: Dave Reitz

Guests: Tim McCoy, Terry Eguaoje, Scot Jennings

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Grine called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Declared there was a quorum.

2. **Minutes of November Meeting**

- Upon duly made motion by Mr. Hill and Second by Mr. Suchevidh the Board approved the following resolution, *RESOLVED that the minutes of the November 2022 Executive Board meeting be approved as corrected (TJ recorded twice, typo).*

3. **Items For Action**

- **Grievance** – arbitrator has been appointed and has reached out. Only Peggy Neason is listed for the referees and she had claimed to have limited access to email while out of town. Board instructed Mr. McCoy to forward email to Darth Newman and alert Ms. Neason to the email by phone.
- **Work From Home Policy** –Mr. McCoy noted the addition of language regarding safe work areas at home. He added that we could be subject to a work comp claim for a work-related injury at home. Board will take electronic vote after reviewing final document.

4. **Director of Coaching**

- Mr. Eguaoje reviewed the upcoming coaching course schedule.
- He provided information about the eTRainU programming and potential long-term benefits. Upon duly made motion by Mr. Kowalski and second by Mr. Hill the Board approved the following resolution, *RESOLVED that PA West Soccer will provide the free educational programming from US Youth Soccer via eTRainU.*
- Mr. Eguaoje discussed the new D License curriculum. It's more streamlined and concise and takes 4 weeks vs. the old version which takes 8 weeks. Discussion about whether the changes necessitate revisiting the fees paid to the instructors.

5. **Referees**

- Mr. Jennings discussed course scheduling and projected about half the referees are registered to date.
- Discussed tracking down referees who have yet to start re-certifying process.
- Discussed standardizing referee pay rate to alleviate referees jumping to different clubs for more money.
- Mr. Hopkins shared that Mr. Heilman is stepping down as SYRA at the end of January. He will still provide support to the SRC in reviewing the Young Referee of Year nominations.

6. **VP-Adult**

- Written report submitted.
- For Information Item: GPSL and Over-30 are having some issues managing their finances.
 - GPSL has not paid reimbursement to individuals as agreed.

- Over-30 league is not paying their bills in a timely fashion.
- Hearing held for a GPSL player spitting on a referee. He admitted guilt and was suspended per US Soccer policy.
- Adult Division AGM will be on February 16, 2023. It will be virtual.
 - Michael will be up for re-election this year.

7. VP-Youth

- Mr. Grine discussed registration for the division is on-going for spring.
- He provided a review of ODP to date.
 - They will be heading to the Maryland ODP Friendlies in 3 weeks.

8. Treasurer

- Mr. Kowalski reviewed the changes to the financial reports.
- He discussed integrating the budget info into the reports for better tracking against proposed numbers.
- We are being to pay invoices online.
- Discussed beginning budgeting for 2023-24. Doesn't want to plug in mandatory 5% increases. He wants the cost center heads to be more involved.
- Discussed the proposed financial policies and asked everyone to review them in preparation for a vote at the next meeting.

9. Executive Director

- Discussed relevant info earlier in the meeting during Items For Action.

10. Unfinished Business

- None

11. New Business

- Discuss tightening up agendas and reducing the number of meetings.
- AGM Date – July 8 or July 29 are two Saturdays in July in that probably work best.
- Secretary position – need to attract someone to fill the slot.
- SRC – Mr. Grine will work with Mr. Jennings to have names for the next meeting for appointments.
- Mr. McCoy mentioned gathering info from the US Center for Mental Health & Sport about possible partnerships.
- Mr. Jennings shared info about working with referees to solve issues...trouble with folks following instructions.
- Discussion about World Cup 2026

12. Adjournment – 8:05 PM