

**MISSISSIPPI YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL MEETING
Saturday, December 2, 2006**

The Mississippi Youth Soccer Association held a Council Meeting at its offices in Flowood, Mississippi on Saturday, December 2, 2006.

President David Dodd called the meeting to order at 9:26 a.m. Dawn Wright called the roll and the following Council Members were in attendance and a quorum was established:

David Dodd, President
Brent Clements, Immediate Past President and Executive Director
Gene Phillips, Treasurer
Tony Bombich, 2nd Vice President (Division II)
Kay Breland, 3rd Vice President (Division I)
Dawn Wright, Secretary-Registrar
Alex Farned, Northern District Director
Jimmy Lott, Western District Director
Kim Quarles, Central District Director
Tommy Gore, Southern District Director

Doug Kitchen, 1st Vice President (Division III) was unable to attend the meeting. The 4th Vice President (Adult) position remained vacant.

Committee Members, Tim Clements, State Referee Administrator, and Shirley Griffin, Risk Management Chairman also attended the meeting. Kevin Adams, ODP Administrator and Cecil Wright, SoccerStart Administrator, were unable to attend the meeting due to previous obligations.

President Dodd welcomed Greg Lewis from Columbus Youth Soccer Organization. Mr. Lewis was in attendance to gain a better understanding of the actions of the Council.

The Council was asked review the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to allow correction of any typographical errors of the Minutes. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting as amended. Tony Bombich seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Reports of Officers

President David Dodd waived formal report and advised the Council that he will update various items throughout the meeting.

Doug Kitchens, First Vice President was absent from the meeting and no formal report was given.

Tony Bombich, Second Vice President, advised the Council that currently there are 19 pool teams registered and approved in Division II with three (3) pool teams awaiting approval. Tony Bombich stated that except for approximately 3 teams, all teams are in the U12 or younger age group. In preparation for the President's Cup to be held in May, Rob Leach with Starkville (host of the President's Cup) has blocked approximately 700 rooms in Starkville. Upon review, Tony Bombich updated the Council on preparations for the President's Cup. The facilities at Starkville are looking good except for number of U10 goals. Starkville has advised that they are attempting to borrow some goals from another organization; however, they have advised that arrangements will be made to have the appropriate number of goals available. There appears to be no other issues which would warrant immediate attention. Tony Bombich believes based on the current number of teams registered that most of the participants will come from the central and southern areas of the state. Tony Bombich is planning to do

an on-site visit prior to the AGM and will report his findings to the Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Tony Bombich advised the Council that he anticipates proposals to be presented to the membership at the AGM related to expanding the areas in which Division II players could be registered – meaning that Division II players would not be restricted by the organizational territorial boundaries. Tony Bombich stated that based on the numbers of Division III players in smaller organizations this may make sense but should be reviewed closely. Currently, MSA rules prevent secondarily rostered Division II players to cross organizational territorial boundaries. .

Kay Breland, Third Vice President, advised the Council that one round of league games have been completed in the U13/U14 age groups. All went well except one game as daylight became the issue. The U15-U18 league games had to be rescheduled and will be played March 3rd and 4th. The U13-U15 boys will play league games March 10th and 11th. The U13-U15 girls will play their league games at a later date. Kay Breland advised that the hotels for Regionals had been selected and that the situation is not ideal but that all the states of having issues with the accommodations. Due to the number of teams in the U11-U12 age groups, these have been divided into a Northern and Southern conference and all league games must be completed by April 15, 2007.

Dawn Wright, Register-Secretary, advised the Council that the eOrganization web-based registration was going well even though there had been a minor glitch or two. Generally, registration is going well but we need to continue to monitor organizational submissions. Other registration issues would be brought before the Council under New Business.

Alex Farned, Northern District Director, advised the Council that the Northern District Tournament would be held at Tupelo. Alex Farned advised that he was looking at a member directory and dealing with some organizational issues at Grenada. George Parsons is helping Alex Farned to work through the current issues. Alex Farned has attempted host several coaches' clinics but is having problems getting all the coaches in the district to attend. The Northern District has held several referee clinics but Alex Farned stated that the Northern District was still in need of additional referees.

Kim Quarles, Central District Director, advised the Council that the Central District had hosted several referee clinics and had attendees from the Central and Western districts. The Central District is planning to host a coach's field session in the spring. The Central District Tournament will be held in Jackson and hosted by Jackson Futbol Club. The desire is to be able to handle most of the games onsite at JFC but may have to use other local fields, depending to number of teams qualifying.

Jimmy Lott, Western District Director, advised that the Western District Tournament would be held in Vicksburg. Jimmy Lott, who served as the Tournament Director for the Coaches' Cup advised that the tournament went well and thank all Council members who assisted.

Tommy Gore, Southern District Director, advised the most of the organizations in the Southern District were having problems getting coaches and referees. Many of the organizations have lost many of their previous coaches and referees from Hurricane Katrina. Some of the organizations in the Southern District have decided to only play a spring season rather than playing in the fall and in the spring. Fields are still one of the major problems. Upward is starting to be a competitor. The Southern District Tournament may be held in Hattiesburg, but the arrangements have not been finalized.

Brent Clements, Immediate Past President and Executive Director, advised that he would update the Council on activities as they were addressed in the agenda.

Kevin Adams, ODP Administrator, sent an email to advise the Council that George Fradenburger went to Orlando and was selected as MVP and named team captain. Kevin Adams believes George will be a great representative for MSA and appears that he may be chosen to travel with the U14 National Team to Mexico. In addition, James Gulley has made the Regional Team and National Pool. The ODP '90 girls are still struggling so they have combined with the ODP '91s and appear to be improving. A goalkeeping clinic is scheduled to be held in Brandon next weekend. Tony Sabio will conduct this training clinic.

Tim Clements, State Referee Administrator, advised the Council that 39 clinics have been held to date. Two more possibly three clinics have been scheduled. Tim Clements advised that overall we have approximately 250 less referees than in past years which includes approximately 200 newly certified referees. There are a number of referees that have not yet recertified. It is believed that we need to change the mindset. Tim Clements asked that the District Directors push referees in their districts to recertify early in the season rather than later. Late fees may help in getting them to recertify earlier but we are still running further behind than in the past 3-5 years. Tim Clements advised the Council that with referees waiting to certify later in the season (December or later), any law changes would have been made in July. The number of referees available in Tupelo is way down and we must work to increase numbers which may include subsidizing initial costs for referees. The Referee Committee recognizes there is a problem and has been challenged to come up with suggestions to build the referee base back up. The letter went out to remind all organizations to make sure their referees are certified and have completed the KidSafe form online. Tim Clements will travel to Washington next weekend for a SRA non-US Soccer event. Assignor issues within the state will be handled under New Business.

Chris Dahlman, Discipline & Appeals, was not in attendance and is continuing to have medical issues. There is one D&A item on the agenda that will be addressed under New Business. There is one issue at Brandon which should be coming shortly. It is believed that the Program Director needs to handle rather than having D&A notify. However, reports will not go back to Program Director. This needs to be recorded at the office but will not be reported to Executive Council in case appeals are filed. It appears that the Brandon president went outside and has had contact with some Executive Council members. The Council members are reminded to stay isolated from such discussions.

Shirley Griffin, Risk Management Coordinator, advised the Council that there had been 93 hits this year. Shirley Griffin advised that DUI is not on the current matrix and that the Council may want to consider adding it. There was one incident where a coach that listed a misdemeanor but the incident reflected on the background check as a felony. Shirley Griffin stated that there were 8 or 9 organizations that had not responded to her requests. Shirley Griffin believes we are having trouble getting accurate background checks without required full given names and social security numbers. For future reference, the social security number has been added as a required field on the KidSafe form. A committee has been put together to evaluate any hits to the KidSafe records.

Topsoccer. An event was recently held in Ridgeland, MS and appears to have been well received with a good turnout. No report was given.

Cecil Wright, SoccerStart Administrator, is working with the City of Jackson to start an intercity program. Vaughn, MS still wants to start something in their schools. Representatives from Pickens, MS have been contacted and have shown interest in starting a program there.

Robert Ware, Premiere League Administrator, is doing an excellent job. Most of the Premiere League games have been played.

Gene Phillips, Treasurer, distributed copies of the Financial Reports to the Council. Gene Phillips advised the Council of the need to look at the proposed building and make a decision moving forward. In addition, Gene Phillips advised the Council that a lease for the new office space had been signed for a three (3) year period.

OLD BUSINESS

Several items which were tabled will be addressed and some items need to be reaffirmed.

Clinton Soccer Association – Mighty Mites Program – Request for fee reduction. The request of CSA is to ask the Council for a reduction in player fees from \$16.00 per player.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to bring this item off the table. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion ensued related to the request and the purposed. CSA desired to have the participants covered under the MSA insurance. The Council was advised that there was at least one other organization that was registering U3/U4's.

Motion Kim Quarles made a motion to instruct Brent Clements to write a letter to the two known organizations (Clinton and Brandon) stating that MSA does not recognize or sanction a U3, U4 or Mighty Mites program. To be including in the letter is that these players are not covered by MSA insurance and fees are to be remitted to MSA. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

George-Greene 2005-2006 Player Fees. The George-Greene Board is scheduled to meet tomorrow and per Ron King there should be no problem paying the past due fees. The Council reaffirmed to allow George-Greene to bring their account current.

Redistricting Plans will be moved to the bottom of the agenda.

Fee Restructuring will be moved to the bottom of the Old Business agenda.

4th Vice President (Adult) vacancy. David Dodd has talked to Rusty Bryant again and is still waiting on a recommendation for appointment. David Dodd advised the Council that we do not want to just appoint someone to fill this position. We need to find the right person to take this program forward. The Council reaffirmed that this position will remain open.

New Building Construction and Land Lease Payment will be moved to the bottom of the Old Business agenda.

Director of Coaching. Resumes have been received and compiled. David Dodd will appoint committee members under new business and the resumes will be distributed for the committee to begin its search to fill this position.

Coaching clinics. Nigel Bolton will host a US Youth licensing course at William Carey and we need to make sure there are attendees from each district. Cost and date information will be distributed by the office. Tennessee is hosting a C license course in February. There will be D clinic held near Hattiesburg in February.

Lunch recess at 11:46 a.m.

Return to order at 12:22 p.m.

Guest Greg Lewis has left the meeting.

Kay Breland, 3rd Vice President, must leave the meeting around 1:00 p.m. due to other obligations. David Dodd advised the Council that the agenda would be adjusted to allow any issues which could specifically affect the D1 program to be handled prior to her departure.

Organizational Registration. eOrganization was activated at the beginning of this seasonal year, but we still have organizations which have not submitted all required documents / information.

Motion Dawn Wright made motion to instruct the Executive Director to send a letter to the President of each and every organization that any organization remaining not a member in good standing as of December 31, 2006 that said organizations and all teams in the failing organization will be suspended for participation in any MSA program until said good standing requirements are met and that on January 10, 2007 all organizations be sent a letter advising of organizations that are not members in good standing and that participation with any of these organizations will subject the organization to suspension for participating with a member not in good standing. Kay Breland seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to suspend the Rules for changing the timeline for Rules and Revisions proposals. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Dawn Wright made a motion to change the date of distribution of the Rules & Revisions proposals from December 30, 2006 to January 6, 2007. Kim Quarles seconded the motion. The vote was 8 for, 1 against and 0 abstentions.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to return to the Rules. Kay Breland seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Registration Issues. Two organizations have notified the State Registrar of possible need to disband one Division 1 team each (Tupelo and Laurel-Jones). Until specifics related to placement of players and the necessity of disbanding is established, these items will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

Regional President's Cup. Kay Breland and Tony Bombich have contacted possible qualifying teams to gauge interest in participation. There is interest but they have received no firm commitments. This item will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

Fee Restructure. Gene Phillips discussed the breakdown of fees. Discussion ensued. Gene Phillips will distribute breakdown information for the proposed restructure prior to the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting. This item will remain tabled.

New Building Construction and Land Lease Payments.

Motion Gene Phillips made a motion to bring this item off the table. Jimmy Lott seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Discussion. Gene Phillips advised the Council that it appeared we were locked into the Land Lease for a minimum period of 10 year.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to write a letter requesting release from Letter of Intent due to economic conditions and if not released to begin using the fields for ODP training as covered in the LOI. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries with 1 opposing vote.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to instruct the ODP Administrator to request use of the fields for ODP events and provide a list of dates for upcoming use by ODP for the remainder of the seasonal year for which he would like to hold at the fields covered under the LOI. Kim Quarles seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to recall the previous motion related to sending a letter requested release from LOI. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries with a 2/3 vote.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to strike the letter from the previous motion regarding release and not send. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

Director of Coaching Committee. 10-15 applications have been received. Appointments of the Committee will be Tony Bombich, Doug Kitchens, Dawn Wright and Kay Breland with David Dodd serving as liaison. The Committee is instructed to narrow the selection to the top 3 by Council selection.

MSA Car Tags. This has been productive with approximately 8 tags being purchased each month. We need to keep pushing as this is a good revenue source.

MHSAA. There are no other updates related to this matter. A timeline of actions have been maintained on the MSA website. Mark Wilson and Jeff Stewart have formally requested copies of what MHSAA

approved at their recent Board meeting. MSA has had contact from MS legislature members on whether they can be of assistance in this matter.

MRPA. In its previous meeting the Council had approved to participate and the check is ready to be mailed on Monday. Alex Farned requested that the amount be reduced to \$300 for membership and to be an exhibitor at their annual meeting.

Mississippi Youth Soccer Association. The final filings to be performed by Phil Buffington to change the name to Mississippi Soccer Association should be completed by December 31, 2006. Brent Clements and Dawn Wright will look at filing for trademark protection and advise the Council of their findings.

Risk Management Committee – Phil Buffington and Ron King have been appointed members-at-large of the Risk Management Committee.

USYS Workshop. Any members desiring to attend must register by December 15, 2006.

International Clearance Rule – 207. Amendment.

USOC Grievance has been withdrawn and any remaining funds will be redistributed to state associations.

Coach of the Year nominations. Two nominations were received.

Motion Brent Clements moved to accept Eric Johnson as Central District Coach of the Year and Carl Armstrong as Northern District Coach of the Year. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Brent Clements moved to name Eric Johnson as MSA Coach of the Year. Jimmy Lott seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

US National League (informational purposes only). The US National League may replace ODP. It is believed that a proposal will be made to the Federation to allow USYS to take over the Referee Program and bring it back under USYS.

MSA Annual General Meeting. General discussion of topics to be offered in addition to a guided tour of the impact of Hurricane Katrina on soccer in the Gulf Coast area are a Referee recertification for Grade 8 and a Grade 9 Bridge course, Discipline & Appeals Procedures, MSA Online Access, Registrar's Roundtable, Soccer University.

Motion Kim Quarles moved to have the Executive Director moved forward with implementation of the online eRegistration program and that as a part of the July Planning Meeting a course will be taught by Dawn Wright with District Directors for upcoming organizational registrars and other applicable personnel. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Brent Clements moved to suspend an individual who has come up with an unexplained KidSafe hit until the matter has been cleared with the Risk Management Committee and that notification shall be by certified mail, UPS or Federal Express to the organization with response required from the organization within 10 days after receipt. Tony Bombich seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Dawn Wright made a motion to allow Kevin Adams, ODP Administrator, to sell prior years' ODP uniforms as practice apparel. Gene Phillips seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Motion Brent Clements made a motion to give the Zodiak ODP uniforms to the City of Jackson SoccerStart program. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

MISOL. Brent Clements advised the Council that MISOL has not re-registered its teams for participation. Tim Clements is to advise all referees that these teams are not registered with MSA.

Motion Kim Quarles made a motion to send a letter to all referees advising them that they are not allowed to referee games under the current certification badge and to advise MISOL of same until registration is completed by all teams. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Player Passes for Starkville Adult participants.

Motion Gene Phillips moved to not require player passes for Adults in order to register teams. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Biloxi Xpress Request. Biloxi Xpress has requested to host a tournament the same weekend as one of the MSA tournaments.

Motion Kim Quarles made a motion to deny Biloxi Xpress' request. Alex Farned seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Poplarville Fees. Request was made to aid Poplarville in fees owed to SMSC for referees / fields during the recovery of Katrina.

Motion Tommy Gore made a motion to pay fees owed to SMSC by Poplarville out of the Katrina Recovery funds as both associations are adversely affected by Hurricane Katrina. Alex Farned seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Referee Assignor issues. Discussion ensued. The District Referee Assignors have been tasked to confirm with each organization in their respective districts to check the status of meeting the required number of referees for the applicable organizations. The District Referee Assignors need to set up a system of verification. This issue will be tabled for further discussion and action at the next regularly scheduled Council meeting. It is the belief of the Referee Committee that all Assignors being used in our jurisdiction should be certified in Mississippi. A proposal will be forthcoming for consider at the AGM to mandate that Referee Assignors be Mississippi certified and not to accept other states' certifications due to the inability to discipline where necessary with an effective date of February 1, 2007.

Request for Appeal of SMCSO decision. Basic facts are that SMCSO has suspended a coach and an assistant coach (with liberties) in its organization for a period of two (2) years and sent its notification to MSA. Prior to receipt of notification from SMCSO, a letter was received from the suspended coach or representative therefore requesting information on how to appeal SMCSO's decision. The Requesting Party (suspended coach or representative) was sent an email by President Dodd with a PDF attachment on the procedures for filing an Appeal to the next level which would be with the State. Time limit requirements were given and understood. A appeal letter was received this week Monday, November 27 (after the required deadline for filing an Appeal of SMCSO's decision with the State) stating that the Requesting Party be given consideration for Appeal because SMCSO failed to notify within the specified time. The Council voted unanimously not to accept the Appeal because it was 28 days past the Appeal deadline. The Council felt that to hear the appeal would give cause to SMCSO to appeal on the basis that MSA was not following it's own bylaws.

RedBull Sponsorship. This item will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

Redistricting.

Motion Brent Clements moved to bring this item to the table. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

Kim Quarles advised the Council of various meetings and the outcome of those meetings are in the proposed Redistricting Plan distributed to the Council.

Motion Kim Quarles made a motion to accept the District Redistricting Plan as presented excluding the Boundary Change recommendations to become effective at the beginning of the next seasonal year (2007-2008). Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries.

There being no further business to properly be brought before the Council. Alex Farned made a motion to adjourn. Tommy Gore seconded the motion. The Motion carries. The meeting adjourned at 4:23 P.M.

Dawn Wright, Secretary-Registrar