

Minutes of the MYSA Council Meeting  
August 24, 2002  
Holiday Inn, I-55  
Jackson, MS

**Meeting called to order: 9:12 a.m.**

**Council Members Present:**

Brent Clements, President, George Hoff, Executive Director, Jeanne Soboul, Secretary, Stephen Peresich, Southern District Director, Alex Farned, Northern District Director, David Dodd, Central District Director, Nigel Bolton, ODP, Director of Coaching, Shirley Griffin, KidSafe, Gene Phillips, Treasurer, Kay Breland, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Select, Dawn Wright, Registrar, Ray Holloway, TopSoccer

**Missing Council Members:** Cindy Johnson, Western District Director, Chris Dahlman, Disciplinary and Appeals, Tony Bombich, Recreational VP, Tim Clements, State Youth Referee, Chuck Tate, State Director of Referee Instruction

**President's Report** – Brent called the meeting to order at 9:12am. He made introductions of the newly elected as well as the existing council members. The question was asked as to whether to accept the minutes from the last council meeting as read. There were several changes that needed to take place. Jeanne will amend the minutes.

**Motion: To accept the minutes from May 3, 2002**

**Maker: Dawn Wright**

**Second: Gene Phillips**

**Motion Accepted**

The minutes will be edited and given to Suzanne.

USSF met in San Francisco. There were major changes that took place. The Amateur changed names. In the fall of 2003/2004, the U10, U11, and U12 teams will be small sided. This is a national change and not just a Mississippi change. Actually, there were only a very few dissenting votes on this change. The motion passed very strongly.

Several council members have missed several council meetings and will fall under the "missed meeting rules" in the administrative manual rules.

After Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, late charges will be charged \$100. KidSafe issues came up at the meeting such as people are not always willing to disclose their social security number. The stand taken is either disclose the information or do not coach. The protection of the child wins over the protection of the parent's social security number. Pat Pullen Insurance is handling our insurance needs. We are concerned about the age matrix. Does a person qualify if they are under the age limit? MYSA rules that it does not have to cover a younger child. 50% of players playing at 2 or 3 years of age do not play soccer at the age of 5 years old. Brent suggested that the information that children born after July 31, 1998 should not play due to there not being any insurance coverage be posted on the website. The council presented Nigel with a birthday cake and we all sang to him. Nigel is going to write an article for the *In Touch* magazine about the facts concerning kids playing soccer at the younger ages and the percentages of "burnout".

**Recreational Vice President - Tony Bombich** – Tony is in Atlanta and could not attend the council meeting. There is no report from Tony except that he is still wrapping up the Tide Cup. It was mentioned that we must do a post tournament report as well as a financial statement to get to the sponsors in order to get our money back from them. This is a must.

**Approved** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Division I Vice President – Kay Breland** – The scheduling meeting has been canceled and a notice was sent out to everyone. The league games will be scheduled and the schedules will be mailed out along with the league rules. The deadline for the letter of intent, bond money, and the league fees are Friday, September 13. Regionals went great. The complex was awesome and the teams did very well. The hotel selection was a difficult situation since the accommodations were not good at all. The regional tournament will be held in Greensboro, NC next year. We will make hotel reservations much earlier. Having 6 MYSA people on site made it very easy for everyone attending. The teams were all well behaved. The U19 girls had the only point scored against North Carolina and this was also the 1<sup>st</sup> goal given up in 6 months. Mississippi is not ready yet for a regional tournament since we need to have 18 full size fields for play. The manager's meeting held in Jackson this past July was excellent. There has been a lot of positive feedback coming forth. 50 teams came to the Division I meeting. If you want a manual on disk, the cost is \$20. The other meetings held at the seminar went very well also. There were 26 in Dawn's class and 10 in Chris'. This event pretty much paid for itself. Also, there is to be no more "walk-in" service at the MYSA office. As far as qualifying for the Snicker's Cup, we have to see what we have playing in league play to determine seeding. This is what we are striving to do. Stephen Peresich suggested freeze dates for the Division I league games. It makes it a balanced format and everyone follows the Div I rules. Also, have the best referees there as well. Include as many teams as possible in the Snicker's Cup. Div I should not be taken for granted. Use the seeding for the Snicker's Cup. Brent said that Div I is being restored to this manner. Nigel mentioned that the U14 and up are only sponsored by the Snicker's Cup. Another suggestion was made that no fall league games be played due to the JV games being played as well as other sports. We should always strive to develop the players in the fall, not the team. In the spring, the team will develop. We should get the schedule from Kay for Div I play by October.

**Amateur Vice President – Vacant** - Kenyatta has left us for San Francisco so we must find a replacement for him right away. We need to appoint someone qualified quickly. We do not want to lose Amateurs in Mississippi. Please get an appointee suggestion to Brent in the next 2 weeks. Aaron Wilson's name has been brought up but it has been mentioned that he is unable to fill the position. There is a lot of paperwork that needs to be taken care of as well as someone who can give direction to players after the U19 age. The qualifications are listed in the manual.

**Secretary – Jeanne Soboul** - The list for sizes was passed around for the new MYSA shirts. They will be ordered shortly. Jeanne also sent around a list for everyone's email address. The minutes will be emailed to the council members and we will also be receiving a MYSA.org email address.

**North District Director – Alex Farned** – Referee clinics – Desoto City has had 1, Tupelo will have one on Monday, Columbus and Starkville's clinics are coming up, and Oxford's is in the works. There will be a coaching meeting at the end of the month. The fees for the Tide Cup for some programs have not been paid. Alex will speak to Tony and Gene about this. The Centers of Excellence kicked off for each district. This is a district run program and is held on a monthly basis. Quality coaches are available.

**Central District Director – David Dodd** – He reported that they are getting their program up and running. Practices are beginning. Southwest Rankin is no longer that name. It has been changed to Florence Park and Rec. The same people are involved and the sports director is Sam Agnew. Florence Youth Soccer Association director is Richard Harris. David is looking for Philadelphia to sign on. Canton also wants to form under the name of Canton Park and Rec.

**Western District Director – Cindy Johnson** - Cindy is absent. Brent asked if anyone had any suggestions for her replacement. She still has not sent in her funds while everyone else has already. The name of Gerald Self has been brought up to take over this position and it was noted

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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that he is a good man, very detailed, and is also a great referee. As of today, \$1327.30 is still owed from the Western District.

**Motion: To enforce the MYSA rule 3.1 that if any elected or appointed Council member who misses three (3) regularly scheduled Council meetings in a seasonal year shall be automatically removed from office.**

**Maker: Gene Phillips**

**Second: Alex Farned**

**Motion Carried**

**Brent will have a letter out to Cindy Johnson right away. He asked that the council members do not discuss this event outside of this meeting as Brent wishes to notify Cindy first.**

**Southern District Director – Stephen Peresich** - The Centers of Excellence is being revamped. We offer a good product and we have 2 – B license coaches conducting this program. It is held every other Sunday starting in October. There will be no select players attending. We will be concentrating on the U10 age group. There are 11 fields now at SMSC, 9 in Pascagoula, and 4 more international fields being built at the new high school as well as in Stone/Wiggins. The Southern District Cup needs a host and location. This may have already been decided at the AGM but the minutes need to be checked to determine this. There are 2 new clubs, The West River Soccer Club in Gautier and the Poplarville Association.

**Financial Report of the Treasurer– Gene Phillips** - Gene presented the 11 month projected budget. There is \$75,000 after bills now that new checks are in. He will be transferring money into short-term money market certificates. Raising fees, tournament fees, mailing lists, player cards and the like took in a great amount of money. There was an \$8,900 profit from tournaments. Tony needs to turn in his expenses from the Tide Cup. For ODP being held in the next few weeks, there is 30 cents for each player and a \$40 tryout fee. In 2002, there were 120 ODP players playing and 1500 Division I players. The proposed budget is based on 23,000 players. Gene requested from Jeanne that she send him a copy of each council members email address. Also, each district has an account set up now and Gene will pay the bills with the district director's approval.

**Old Business** – Each district director has been issued a credit card and Gene will pay the bill pending the district director's approval. You must give 4 ref clinics per year. It will cost the referee \$43.00. \$250 is the basic cost of the clinic. Expenses that will be paid out to Nigel are for mileage, lodging and meals. The total cost should be no more than \$350. There may be some multiple instructors. Another piece of information is that assignors for each district do not have to be referees. The assignors meeting cost \$150 for the clinic, \$10 registration fee (yearly) and a \$30 class charge. You also must have 2 coaches' clinics a year.

**Break for lunch at 12.25pm**

**Meeting resumed at 1:45pm**

**ODP and Coaching – Nigel Boulton** – The coach's cup grant for US Soccer Foundation closes in November. We can apply for any grant that we choose. Nominations are needed for Coach of the Year and must be in my September 30 for boys and girls. ODP had their best year ever. For regionals, we had some from Mississippi and also had 4 make the National team. The boy's team was very good. The girls were amazing. The '86 girls made regionals. The '88 girls were exceptional. The '89 girls did well in Atlanta. The tryouts for ODP this year will be held on September 8 and will be held in different districts. These locations are Tupelo, Gulfport and Brandon. Those rostered in the previous ODP camp do not have to tryout. The best kids will be

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**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

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invited back for the second tryout in October in Brandon. The names will be posted on the website. New uniforms will be ordered this year as well as new t-shirts.

**Referee – Tim Clements** – Tim is not here but he sent in a report. The district and state cups went relatively well. Officials were selected first on merit and then on need. The mentor program worked very well also. We received many compliments from coaches and parents on this program. There was a “referee of the tournament” selected and that also helps bring out a better brand of officiating because of the competitive nature. Bob Hinds was selected the recipient of the Andy Stone award. The award goes to the assessor at the Region III tournament who is voted by the referees from all states to be the one who best serves the referee community in providing useful guidance. Tim was very disappointed with the girls ODP camp this year. There was a new administrator assisting Don Gurney and she would not allow anyone outside of the 18-30 age group attend. She contacted our individual referees individually as opposed to Tim, which was also done 2 days before Tim went to Regionals. Brent will bring all of the problems up at the national and regional meeting. The boy’s ODP camp had no problem with youth referees attending. Tim has appointed District Referee Administrators for the upcoming year. Their primary focus will be to provide better communication for each of the member organizations in their district and the referee program. They will be the first point of contact for the organization and will find the answer or will put them in touch with the proper person. The DRA’s are as follows:

- North: Robbi Jouben
- South: Wayne Holloman
- Central: Mary Thomas
- West: John Turner

We are also increasing the referee fees for this upcoming year. The new fee schedule is:

U11-12	\$46 per game (20/13/13)
U13-14	\$62 per game (26/18/18)
U15-16	\$79 per game (35/22/22)
U17-19	\$100 per game (40/30/30) *unchanged
Assignor’s Fee	\$5 per game with a \$100 minimum

State Referee Committee is: Chuck Tate, Doug D’Miccao, Richard Flowers, Kevin McClure, and Tim Clements. The state referee meeting had 170 people attending. Next year it will be a 2-day event.

**Rules and Revisions – vacant** - Needs a chairperson. District Directors need someone from your district to serve on this committee. We need 1 person from each district.

**Discipline and Appeals – Chris Dahlman - absent** and no report

**KidSafe – Shirley Griffin** – for District directors’ information, the manual says that 2 weeks after the teams are formed, October 1, kidsafe forms must be in. \$100 penalty starts if not in compliance. Dawn will check with Ellen to get the upgrade for Shirley. Also need to add the form that was approved at the AGM into the manual. The question was asked if the U6 and U8 teams were mandated to play small sided. The answer is yes. Also, can teams be picked so coaches can bring kids needing a ride to the games and practices? The answer was to do what makes sense at this level. The U 10 age group is very closely monitored.

**Registrar – Dawn Wright** – In reference to her class held in Jackson: The western division had 6 reps out of 10, South had 7 out of 15, North had 1 out of 9, Central had 8 out of 11. The meeting went pretty well. The release and transfers was a hot topic as well as time limits to get things into the office. The boundaries for teams were discussed. West River boundaries do not include Vancleave. They will be told to quit recruiting in Vancleave. The Picayune and Poplaville had boundaries dispute on one area. Dawn had a wonderful map design showing us all what the

**Approved** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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boundary lines are exactly. The city of Millard is part of the Picayune area. Dawn will contact both of these areas and rectify this situation. Any suggestions are welcome.

**Top Soccer - Ray Holloway** – Top Soccer has received \$2655 and a \$2180 equipment grant was received. A \$5,000 buddy grant will be applied for from Uniroyal Tires.

**Motion: To fill out the paperwork for application for the grant for Uniroyal**

**Maker: Kay Breland**

**Second: David Dodd**

**Motion Carried**

We applied for the Chevy \$1000 grant but did not receive it. It is being used for programs to get them started and running. Mike Flynt is a great help with our visually and wheelchair impaired program. We will have the first program of this type in the United States. It will work with boundaries and laser beeps. Right now this is still in the talking stage. The goal is to have at least 3 representatives per district. We need a contact person. One suggestion that was made was to have a demonstration to be held at the Tide Cup and the Snicker's Cup. Top Soccer doesn't cost anything to start up. We need to get the word out. We just need volunteers to get it established.

Stephen Peresich left the council meeting early at 3:00 pm.

**New Business** – Brent discussed over lunch the new website and how it is changing to a more professional look. Another company will be handling it and Brent has seen the MYSA website with its pull down menus. It is going to be much more user friendly as well as is going to be managed more efficiently.

**Approval of Sub Pools, Exception Requests –**

**Motion: To allow Brandon U12 and U14 boys and girls to be granted Division III status**

**Maker: Gene Phillips**

**Second: David Dodd**

**Motion Passed**

**Motion: Brandon U16 and U19 boys be allowed to have rosters in excess of 18. The U16 boys allowed to have a roster of 21 and the U19 boys a roster of 19 players. This is for the fall only.**

**Maker: Dawn Wright**

**Second: Gene Phillips**

**Discussion: David feels that this will open a Pandora's box. Nigel feels that if we give an extension now, we will get more requests later on. Shirley says this should be fall only and if not enough players with another coach, then just disband.**

**Roll call vote:**

**Alex Farned – Yes**

**Gene Phillips – Yes**

**David Dodd – No**

**Dawn Wright – No**

**Kay Breland – No**

**George Hoff – Yes**

**Jeanne Soboul – No**

**Motion denied**

**Motion: Allow the U16 Division III NW Rankin boys to have 19 players.**

**Maker: David Dodd**

**Second: Kay Breland**

**Approved \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Approved as Amended \_\_\_\_\_**

**Motion denied**

**Motion: To allow these teams or other team at a later time to roster more than 18 players. Limited the players to 18 at all MYSA district and state cups.**

**Maker: Gene Phillips**

**Second: Alex Farned**

**Motion Approved – No roster exceptions**

Division Exceptions – Clinton –

U12 boys and girls      2 U12 girls teams

U14 boys and girls      3 U12 boys teams

2 U14 boys teams U16 boys teams

They wish to be Division III

**Motion: To approve all of the exceptions for the younger teams but not the U16 teams**

**Maker: Gene Phillips**

**Second: David Dodd**

**Motion Approved**

**Motion: To allow Picayune to have all ages to be classified Division III**

**Maker: Gene Phillips**

**Second: David Dodd**

**Motion Approved**

The Operations Manager job description is ready. An ad will appear in the Clarion Ledger at the end of the month. We need a 3-4-person committee to weed through the applications and make recommendations.

Brent will send a letter to Steve Golding of Vicksburg to get an explanation of their by-laws.

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting**

**Maker: Kay Breland**

**Second: Dawn Wright**

**Motion Approved**

**Council meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm**

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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