

Western New York State Soccer Referees Association Meeting Minutes

10 January 2021

I. Call to order

Chairperson Serrano called to order the regular meeting of the WNYSRA at 10:02 EDT on 10 January 2021 as an online conference.

Roll call

Secretary Wolgast conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Stephanie Serrano, Chair

Michael Tata, SRA

Tom Ross, SDI

Art Jaspe, SDA

Bill Campbell, SYRA

Bill Pasnak, SAC

Dave Wolgast, Secretary

Steve Wu, Treasurer

Bill Bianchi, Rochester

James Pitcher, Binghamton

Julie Randall, Ithaca

Bill Phearsdorf, Southern Tier

Bill Helwig, Buffalo

Chad Sustello, Elmira

Jason Byrnes, Syracuse excused

Amateur Representative not represented

Youth Representative not represented

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from September 2020 previously distributed via Dropbox link

Motion: Ross

Second: Pasnak

Approved unanimously

III. Treasurer's Report – Wu

<See Appendix>

Motion: Pasnak

Second: Campbell

Approved unanimously

IV. SRA Report (Tata)

- 2021 Registration is in progress and recerts have begun
- Will be sending out monthly newsletters, so send any input to Michael
- SafeSport requires that any email under 18 years, another adult must be included. We are looking at OMS to see how we can make sure another email is included.
 - Art – for an individual email to a minor, could we auto-copy a designated adult? Looking into this and further studying the SafeSport regulations.
 - Art – Transporting a minor – not allowed without written permission from parent/guardian
- Frank Giancroce passed away on New Year's Eve 2020. Frank was long-time Region I Referee Administrator

V. SYRA Report (Campbell)

- Both WNY Young Referees of the Year won Regional Award
- Thruway League will likely include fewer clubs
 - We have a referee contract in place
- WNY Champions League (24 teams currently)
 - We have a referee contract in place

- Mailings – Campbell volunteered to distribute badges, Velcro, etc... through his business – Decision: DRAs will be responsible for distribution
 - Mailing cost approx. \$0.90 apiece for badges, \$5.50 for books, Whistles \$3.80 per in padded mailer in 2020.
 - Ross – Alternatives to mailing – Put responsibility on Districts, possibly have distribution day(s) where referees can come to receive badge and other materials
 - Jason (Syracuse) – Syracuse would be happy to run distribution
 - James (Binghamton) – Binghamton will run distribution
 - Bill (ROC) – ROC will run distribution
 - Bill (BUF) – BUF will run distribution
 - We will communicate individually with districts/DRAs on how to get them materials

VI. SDI Report (Ross)

- Recert clinics (Zoom) – The later sessions are very lightly subscribed – Worry that referees will wait until the end and will run out of opportunities
- A fair number of referees are not completing their registration within 24 hours of their recert session.
 - OMS issues
 - Referee personal error
 - Referees who do not complete in time will be required to pay a \$10 fee and retake an online class
 - Helwig – Where is full recert session schedule available? Ross – Link was sent out with registration instructions – opens Dropbox file with full schedule
- Entry Classes – are we going to have entry clinics? Needs decision today to determine how to do recruitment effort and set up format
 - Tata – Leagues will likely not start by May
 - Pasnak – Recommends no entry classes given uncertainty

- Jaspe – Recommends no new entry level classes – we have large number of 2020 new referees who have not gotten games yet
- Bianchi – Recommends no new entry level classes – reduced numbers of games, especially in age groups where new referees would work
- Byrnes – Recommends no new entry level classes
- Helwig – Recommends no new entry level classes
- Serrano – Is there anyone who thinks we should have entry level courses – no affirmative response

Motion: Ross – No entry level courses in 2021 unless conditions drastically change (

Second: Pasnak

Motion carries unanimously

VII. SDA Report (Jaspe)

- Has communicated RM, SafeSport, and Safe Playing Environments requirements. Sent out recert Quiz to introduce Ref Coach program
 - Pitcher did not receive – Mailing list is up to date, possibly blocked by RoadRunner
- Continuous communication/discussion ongoing with Pashalidis on program future
- We will continue to use GameOfficials for Assessment

VIII. SCA Report (Pasnak)

- Working to get all assignors registered for 2021

IX. Binghamton

- New treasurer – Scott Theal
- No numbers so far on how many returning referees

X. Buffalo (report given by Tata)

- Has received questions from referees on requalification for advanced grassroots (adult)

- Tata – If they were Adv grassroots in 2020, they will be Adv grassroots in 2021 as long as they take recert and pass written test.

XI. Elmira

- No report

XII. Ithaca

- No report

XIII. Rochester

- No Report

XIV. Southern Tier

- No Report

XV. Syracuse

- No Report

XVI. Old Business

- Ross – 172 new referees licensed in 2020
- Tata – Bank accounts: Will be completely under control of State Treasurer with no access by local treasurer – local dues will be collected via OMS. Requests for funds should be sent to State Treasurer. Would prefer local districts not collect any checks if possible.
 - Helwig – Please publish details of the new policy to local boards as this is a new procedure for treasurers. Tata – Will write up and send out to all treasurers and presidents
 - Dues will be paid to the home district on record in OMS profile. Other districts may not charge dues to guest referees. May charge a fee if necessary for assigning systems
 - Anytime anyone is paid from state accounts, there must be a W-9 on file

XVII. New business

- Tata – Meeting Dates – Zoom for March/April meeting – Will determine and announce dates within a few weeks. Likely 21 March 2021.

- If no games in 2021, we will charge registration fees for 2022. US Soccer will likely not offer transfer either

XVIII. Good of the Organization

- Katy Nesbitt has been re-appointed to International Panel AR for 2021

XIX. Meetings

- January 10, 2021

XX. Adjournment

- Motion – Campbell
- Second - Pasnak

Chairperson Serrano adjourned the meeting at 11:52 EST

Minutes approved by: <Name>