

Western NY Referee Association  
State Referee Committee  
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION AFFILIATE

May 1, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at the Hampton Inn, Rochester NY. Meeting called to order at 10:01 am

**Roll Call:**

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Pat Tata; SRA                  | <a href="mailto:sra@wnyreferee.org">sra@wnyreferee.org</a>               |
| 2. Dave Baxter, Chairperson       | <a href="mailto:chair@wnyreferee.org">chair@wnyreferee.org</a>           |
| 3. William Campbell, SYRA         | <a href="mailto:syra@wnyreferee.org">syra@wnyreferee.org</a>             |
| 4. Art Jaspe, SDA                 | <a href="mailto:sdi@wnyreferee.org">sdi@wnyreferee.org</a>               |
| 5. John Kramer, SAC               | <a href="mailto:sac@wnyreferee.org">sac@wnyreferee.org</a>               |
| 6. James Pitcher; DRA Binghamton  | <a href="mailto:Binghamton@wnyreferee.org">Binghamton@wnyreferee.org</a> |
| 7. Bill Helwig, DRA Buffalo       | <a href="mailto:buffalo@wnyreferee.org">buffalo@wnyreferee.org</a>       |
| 8. Tom Ross, SDI                  | <a href="mailto:sid@wnyreferee.org">sid@wnyreferee.org</a>               |
| 9. Ron Kuck, DRA Syracuse         | <a href="mailto:Syracuse@wnyreferee.org">Syracuse@wnyreferee.org</a>     |
| 10. Bill Bianchi – Rochester      | <a href="mailto:Rochester@wnyreferee.org">Rochester@wnyreferee.org</a>   |
| 11. Joe Dility, DRA Southern Tier | <a href="mailto:jdility@wzrd.com">jdility@wzrd.com</a>                   |
| 12. Chris Chilano, Batavia        | <a href="mailto:CChilan1@rochester.rr.com">CChilan1@rochester.rr.com</a> |
| 13. Steve Wu – Treasurer          | <a href="mailto:Treasurer@wnyreferee.org">Treasurer@wnyreferee.org</a>   |
| 14. Vicki Martuscello –Secretary  | <a href="mailto:secretary@wnyreferee.org">secretary@wnyreferee.org</a>   |

**Not Present**

- Bruce Rosenkrans
- Jerry Sullivan, WNYSR Rep [ejstreft@hotmail.com](mailto:ejstreft@hotmail.com)
- Dan Roark – referee development

**New Business, SRA report and topics:**

Pat Tata

No Twin Tiers, Elmira – Greg Wheeler resigned – contact is Sandy Hillman

- Must be aware of sub-assignors and make sure that they are registered before they assign a game
- Scholarship money — make sure that the check is made out to the school, not the person awarded the scholarship
- Taxes have been filed on time (but we did have an extension) – next filing is November 2011
- Rochester Lancers – pro league – indoor – affiliated with US Soccer – will be playing at the Blue Cross Arena
- Looking at candidates for Referee of the Year – must be active in USASA events
- Lost two referees – Binghamton area – Robert Downey and Michael Slovetics

Registration

- Deadline last Saturday of April; April 28<sup>th</sup> – Registration is closed for this year
- Not looking to take new registrations – there are some people in process – Bill will send updated spreadsheet in May
- 2080 referees registered and approved, less than 20 pending
- Anyone who goes into legal pending must be cleared out of the legal department – a US mail letter goes out to the individual.

- Let instructors know that there is a deadline and finite number of days to turn in paperwork
- When we have referees who are non- US citizens – we need to provide documentation that they are allowed to work in the United States (entry course)
  - We have had 4 come through, 3 have been completed, 1 has not – that person’s registration has been refunded
- Is there a policy as to the number of youth games that a state referee is supposed to do? Attempt is to have a fair games being assigned so that state referees are not all getting the U19 games – If they are a State Referee and they don’t want to do youth games that is their prerogative. We cannot force referees to complete youth matches.

#### Assignors

- Let assignors be very careful to not hinder referee development

#### Budget items

- If there is something that you wish the state referee committee to fund, July 1<sup>st</sup> we begin fiscal year – submit your request

#### Grievance committee

- State Adult league has allowed us disciplinary actions for official misconduct– which is for adult matches - we have three names for grievance committee – need at least 2 more people for this committee (no one in this room can be on this committee), does not have to be a referee but preferably it is one. It will be a hearing panel. Hearings will be scheduled as needed. Logistics need to be worked through.
- Disciplinary sanctions 53110 –USSF bylaws 701. Officials’ misconduct – officials/referees/assignors/assessors. Authority of the grievance committee suspension is from US Soccer is from all activities including coaching.
- Send names to Pat who would like to bring to executive committee in August.

#### Bill Campbell

##### State Cup

- Separate website for State Cup is <http://StateCup.WNYreferee.org>
- Play down rules and fees are listed and different from the final 4
- Rules information are listed and correct on the website for play down matches (red card rules)
- There is a new contract for State cup – turns the state cup into a business with SYRA in charge of all referee items. Send questions to Bill.

##### Assessing

- Room – keeping to 23 –Bill will assign rooms
- SRA will pay for dinner on Saturday night for the assessors again

##### Regionals

- List passed out as to who has accepted to the various regional tournaments
- Have appointed Chris Trottier and Molly Cunningham plus a third (Rick Nolan) to the Director’s premier league finals but regional budget is cut so they’ve dropped from three to two
- If anyone knows of a name of someone to send to Region I ODP camp, please send names to Bill ASAP
- Girls ODP camp U16/U17 – one of the best things that region one does! Location is in Rhode Island at U of RI
- Looking for people who have done State Cup and barely missed or new to regional list and can benefit from instruction
- Low key and intensive training

##### Risk Management Update

- Emails were sent with links for private information but they were caught by SPAM folders

- Does not have a list who has passed to date
- If as an assignor you know of someone who has not passed, please deal with this issue
- Each of the DRA's will get a listing this week of the recreational clubs – must find out who is the assignor of the group. We can then manage the 50 largest clubs.
- NYW did form a recreational group and asked for a representative from the referee side

#### Tom Ross

- Instructors for re-certifications – if you need help getting instructors – please contact Tom early
- Entry classes – will try to get the leagues more involved in setting them up - In Rochester classes are not scheduled properly so he is going to work on getting RDYSL and RDSL setting up classes and he'll provide instructors if required
- One of his goals by next season is to have an online method of registering and paying for classes to eliminate paperwork and checks coming to instructors – aggressive idea but it would be a better system for instructors would be able to go and get their class list – money would go to treasury. Working on this. If it can be applied to our online registration that would be best.
- Secondary goal is to have online recertification testing.
  - Game officials has a program that costs more than doing it yourself but works well. Questions are randomized, can have a pool of questions that will choose (ex) 50 out of 100 questions. Provides us with a list of questions people missed so that we can focus on areas that require additional training. Game officials have not provided us with a price yet. If we go to Game Officials, they can accept online payments.
- Online re-certification testing is the third thing Tom is looking at. This is a three hour training class, requires acknowledgement within the program which requires the student to truly watch the class. Flexibility is an advantage as students can do this class from school, reduction of expense of setting up recertification clinics, and the student can start and stop the process until they're done.
  - Trying to get this set up for the small districts for next year
- Intermediate and advanced clinics – 70-75 on Saturday and 30-45 on second day. Believe that the process went well. Looking at changing the clinics to three clinics a year – Rochester – Syracuse – Buffalo. Different topics, different agendas – make more accessible to referees who are looking to upgrade. If anyone has any ideas of areas that need to be addressed in these clinics, please get with Tom. Re-cert clinics will start November at the earliest.

#### Art Jaspe; SDA

Art will not be at State Cup

- Dick Reef will be chief assessor
- Payment process – would like to know if the process was fair last year
- A few changes in assignments for assessments based on referees – change on line and send changes to Bill Campbell
- Kurt Hamlin wants to be reinstated as a level 5 (also needs fitness test)
- All assignments are made and assessors are ready to accept assignments
  - Buffalo – found community center for training – classroom environments at reasonable expense –if anyone is looking for an environment, let Art know.
- Season is beginning to roll!
- Based on what we've experienced we've had less and less non-written feedback in the computer – have notified assessors that they must fulfill requirements. Only a few issues.

#### John Kramer – SAC

- List of assessors are out – will send to assignors
- If there are not enough games in their own district at the levels that they require, will help to get games assigned
- There is only one assignor in the Southern Tier – not using Arbiter

#### Steve Wu – Treasurer

- Remind district treasurers that he needs information as of June 30<sup>th</sup> – copy of bank statement and email on cash balance - goal is to file our return on time
- Please make sure to check your Quick books – make sure payments to instructors and assessors (and any vendor) have tax ID number so that we are covered at tax time.
- Must make sure that the proper tax ID number is charged (company versus individual)
- Some concern that checks combined for travel expenses or classes – clearly we have only reported income on 1099 of the service
- Please make sure local units do not pay out any assigning fee – must be paid out by league
- 1099 is issued for over \$600
- It is permissible to purchase apparel for people if local board has approved expenditure – there is an approved vendor with an account already set up – see Pat Tata if you need this information

#### **District reports:**

Syracuse –No report

Buffalo –.No report

Rochester- Assignment priority – youth leagues – what has priority? This will be discussed in executive meeting. Look at top 15 as per in referee administrative handbook. All youth leagues are the same in priority.

Southern Tier-Has 4 referees that are grade 9 but should be grade 8 – this information and list needs to be sent to Pat and Bill Campbell. Need to identify instructors for this area. Need a plan to develop the referees in that area.

Ithaca –No report

Binghamton- No report

Twin Tiers- No report

Elmira- No report

#### **New Business:**

- If you cannot make the meeting, please send a representative.
- Supplemental medical insurance – 108 in favor /91 opposed – only 10% response – this is a 100% enrollment program – this season we would cover the cost, next year it is a \$5 increase in registration fees - will drop this program as there is not enough interest

**Next meeting:** Executive meeting Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>  
Full SRC meeting Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup>

Motion to adjourn the meeting, motion was seconded; Meeting concluded at 11:54 am