

Western New York Referee Association State Referee Committee United States Soccer Federation Affiliate

September 12, 2004 Meeting Minutes

Held at the Hampton Inn, Rochester, NY. Meeting called to order at 10:30 AM.

Roll Call:

1. Curt Hamlin, SRA (sra@wnyreferee.org)
2. William Fahey, SYRA (syra@wnyreferee.org)
3. Art Jaspe, SDA (sda@wnyreferee.org)
4. Dennis Rice, Recording Secretary (drice1@rochester.rr.com)
5. James Pitcher, DRA (Binghamton) (soccer-referee@juno.com)
6. Jim Gabor, Sr., Treasurer/DRA (Buffalo) (wizjg@yahoo.com)
7. Jennifer Jones, DRA (Buffalo) (jjx2soccer@hotmail.com)
8. William Campbell, DRA (Ithaca) (tripsdad@aol.com)
9. Christopher Chilano, SCA, and DRA (Batavia) (cchilan1@rochester.rr.com)
Represented by Sam Paradise
10. Paul Lysiak, DRA (Rochester) (paul.lysiak@kodak.com)
11. Joe Delity, DRA (Southern Tier) (jdelity@localnet.com)
12. Ronald Kuck, DRA (Syracuse) (rakuck@baldcom.net)
13. Alexander Badr, DRA (Elmira) (badram@stny.rr.com)
Represented by Tom Barker (TLBARK1078@verizon.net)
14. Jerry Sullivan, WNYSYA representative (Adult Soccer Assoc) (ejrsreft@hotmail.com)

Not Present:

1. Dave Herron, DRA (Twin Tier) (dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org)
2. William Pasnak, SDI (sdi@wnyreferee.org)
3. Gary Acker, President of NYSW (president@nyswysa.org)

Guests:

1. Lisa Augustine, Buffalo District President
2. Dan Rourke, Syracuse Treasurer
3. L. Ruffino, Buffalo Treasurer
4. J. Credon, Southern Tier Treasurer
5. Ian Redpath, WNYSRA Financial and Legal Advisor

Approval of last Minutes

Minutes of June 20, 2004 were approved.

Reports of Officers

1. SRA - (Curt Hamlin)

- a. Final registration status shows an overall decline in referee registrations from 2003 (-3% overall with three Districts gaining and seven districts losing numbers)
- b. All assignors are required to be registered in order to assign travel leagues and up. We also request to have house league assignors take the assignor course.

2. SYRA - (Bill Fahey)

- a. Youth Referee of the Year – Syracuse and Buffalo were the only Districts to submit candidates. All Districts are to confirm with Bill Fahey either that there are no candidates or submit names on or before Sep 24 (10 business days from this meeting). Selection must be complete by mid-October, and there is a

questionnaire and write-up process to be completed before selection.

- b. The assault case from the State Cup hearing was Aug 29. The coach charged did not appear, and was suspended until March 5, 2005. Given that the incident was June 5, the total suspension was nine months. The current practice seems to be that the Youth Board uses inactive winter months for suspensions, which is, in effect, not a significant consequence. Any Board Members who have suggestions for this Board that could help us address this situation, please submit to Bill Fahey. Curt Hamlin will provide an example of what the Adult Leagues do in this type of situation.
3. **SDA - (Art Jaspe)**
 - a. No final information on number of assessments yet. Art will provide when complete and we will publish as an amendment to these minutes.
4. **SDI - (Bill Pasnak) –**
 - a. No report
5. **SCA - (Chris Chilano) –** Report sent with Sam Paradise – No significant problems reported. Chris will contact the Districts for summaries and will setup a clinic for Assignors.
6. **Finance Director - (Jim Gabor)**
 - a. Treasurer's clinic held concurrently with this meeting to standardize financial reporting. There should be one check from each District that is sent to the SRC for registrations (Districts to consolidate the funds to reduce overall number of transactions at the state level)

Old Business

Reviewed and verified completion of action items from last meeting:

1. Jim Gabor and Bill Fahey will determine how to avoid the ODP assignment level problems encountered this year.
 - Art Jaspe will also participate. Still Pending
2. All members please review the WNYSRC Assignment Procedures document and send comments/recommended changes to Bill Fahey, Curt Hamlin, and Chris Chilano before the Sep 12 meeting.
 - Not finalized. The only feedback received was from Syracuse re: fine structure. The State fines will be published as a recommendation to the Districts. Referees have the right of refusal as independent contractors. The Board recommends five working days as a grace period for turn backs.
3. DRAs shall ensure that their local Treasurer will keep financial records per the new standard chart of accounts, and shall ensure that their name is on the District bank account(s).
 - The Treasurer's clinic was held concurrently with this meeting. All Districts except Rochester participated.
4. Bill Pasnak will develop a program for the proposed statewide recertification clinic.
 - Complete through first round of implementation.
5. Bill Pasnak and Bill Fahey will update materials for the Buffalo District recertification clinics.
 - Complete. Additional updates will be added based on recent referee assessment results.
6. Investigate the possibility to have a clinic designed specifically for referees who officiate adult games (SDI lead with SRA follow-up) – still pending

New Business

SRA

1. **Coins and Patches** – purchased at around \$1.10 each, we have nearly \$5,000 left in inventory. Curt suggested that we lower the price or give them away. Anyone needing these items, contact Bill Fahey or Curt Hamlin and they will provide the requested number up front. The Board decided that we would now sell these items for \$1.50. DRAs are asked that instructors present these items at the beginning of classes.
2. For Youth Premiere Leagues, a **supplemental report** is required if incidents occurred (i.e., cards). The DRAs should include this policy information in recertification clinics.
3. **“Florida” Software** – can be found at wnyreferee.com. Many of the advantages of using this software and its functionality were reviewed. All DRAs and Board Members must sign on and start using the

system. Call Curt directly if you have issues.

4. **Referee Administrative Handbook** – was distributed and key points reviewed. In order to officiate adult games, the fitness test and assessment requirements must be met. These requirements are totally separate from registration requirements and are for assignment purposes. Risk Management clearance now applies to and is required of **ALL** referees, assessors, and instructors.
“The committee decided that **EVERYONE** must go through the risk management process in order to get assignments from WNY. This does not stop their registration and only effects their game assignments from within WNY. ALL risk management passes are to flow through the SRA; there are many reasons for this. Please, do not mail these directly to NYSWYSA...it does not speed up the process...in actuality it slows it down because they have to communicate with me what is going on and check with me about the status of the individual.” – Curt Hamlin
5. **Registration** – National sent many registration packages to individuals in error as well as some duplicates to the SRA. The National Office will send out a post card and an e-mail to advise everyone to bring their registration package to recertification clinics and not to mail them in. Curt will give books and referee badges to the DRAs for the upcoming registration process. State badges will come later. We must account for all badges at the end of the year, so send all remaining badges to Curt. This also applies to Grade 9 badges. In response to request to provide bridge course for grade 9 to 8, the Board decided to discount the regular cost of the grade 8 entry level course to grade 9 referees instead.
 - **SUMMARY** – Registrations go back through the DRA at recertification classes. The Districts should combine registration and recertification clinics into one event. Curt and Bill will not accept individual registrations, except for special circumstances like college students.
6. **Assignments** – Please communicate to your Assignors that due consideration should be made for situations and ensure that at least one AR is qualified to take the middle if the referee becomes injured or otherwise unable to continue. Referees 17 and under can be subject to verbal as well as physical assault by an adult 18 and over.

SYRA

1. DRAs must ensure that registration gets completed for their respective Districts by Dec 31.
2. NYSW Youth has a new President – Gary Acker
3. The situation with too many tournaments in the Rochester area for the available referee resources is causing dysfunctional competition for referees during those weekends (28 tournaments in 12 weekends). Bill Fahey wanted some help to work this issue. Bill Campbell, Paul Lysiak, and Jim Gabor agreed to work on a committee to address this problem.

SDA

1. The Committee reviewed a separate document provided by Art Jaspe on proposals for the 2005 Youth tournament.
 - a. The SRC will provide event-specific shirts
 - b. The SYRA will have the recommended mandatory meeting before the event at the hotel and invite the SDA and Chief of Delegation, if one is appointed
 - c. We will select the team earlier this year in order to confirm airfare and car rental arrangements. Bill Fahey agreed to begin immediately after the Region 1 meeting in December.

Good of the Organization

1. James Pitcher (Binghamton) advises that he has referees who can travel in WNY for game assignments.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Next meetings will be Dec 12, Mar 6, May 22, and Sep 18 from 10AM until 2PM at the Hampton Inn, Rochester (Greece), NY.

Action Items:**Old Items:**

1. Jim Gabor, Art Jaspe, and Bill Fahey will determine how to avoid the ODP assignment level problems encountered this year.
2. Finalize the WNYSRC Assignment Procedures document
3. DRAs shall ensure that their local Treasurer will keep financial records per the new standard chart of accounts, and shall ensure that their name is on the District bank account(s).
4. Investigate the possibility to have a clinic designed specifically for referees who officiate adult games (SDI lead with SRA follow-up) – still pending

New Items:

1. Districts are to confirm with Bill Fahey the Youth Referee of the Year candidates by Sep 24.
2. Art Jaspe to provide a final report on 2004 assessments.
3. Chris Chilano will contact the Districts for input to final Assignor's report and setup an Assignor's clinic.
4. All DRAs and board members are to contact Bill Fahey for needed supplies of coins and patches.
5. DRAs are to include the requirement for supplemental reports when incidents occur in recertification clinics.
6. All DRAs and Board Members must sign on and start using the Florida software system at wnyra.com.
7. DRAs must return to Curt all remaining referee badges.
8. Bill Campbell, Bill Fahey, Jim Gabor, and Paul Lysiak will form a committee to address Rochester tournament referee resource problem.

Amendment 1: Treasures Meeting Minutes

The following items were resolved at the Treasure meeting:

1. At the Treasures meeting it was agreed that all districts would not accept cash for registrations. Checks only will be received for payment. All checks are to be made payable to the local unit. The local unit will then make a batch of registrations, and send the batch with one check per batch to the state, made check payable to WNYSRA, Inc.. Risk management checks will be made payable to NYSWYSA. No CASH is to be received or sent.
2. It was agreed that every time the unit treasurer makes a report to their board or membership, they should send a copy of this report to the state treasure. Reporting to the state should be done at least quarterly, and should be in the form of the spreadsheet (Chart of Accounts).
3. All districts would look into getting a check program seen on the web and using this program for bookkeeping.
4. Mr. Redpath stated that he would make the modifications requested at the meeting and he would renew the Excel spread sheet and send it out when completed.
5. Mr. Redpath stated that a copy of the state Tax Exempt form was available by contacting Curt Hamlin.
6. Mr. Redpath requested each district to update or resend him their banking information... (Type of Account, Bank, Account #, and Address of Bank). He also requested an Asset Liability list... (Type, Date of Purchase, and Cost. Asset Liability is an inventory of equipment owned by the district.
Exp: Overhead projector 11/02/2002 300.00

Amendment 2: Annual Report of Assessment Program

To: WNY State Referee Committee

From: State Director of Assessment

Re: Annual Report of Assessment Program

Date: December 12, 2004

Assessment Program Personnel in 2004:

Grade 3	4
Grade 5	3
Grade 6	3
Grade 7	9
Grade 9	12
Total	31

The WNY Referee Assessment program has continued to build on the foundation of previous years. With a cadre of 31 assessors, we were able to assess or evaluate 265 matches, i.e., 78 local youth and amateur matches, 60 professional matches (both men and women) and 127 Developmental and Guidance evaluations.

Our assessors participated in various leagues and tournaments around the state and the Region. In addition to the local youth and amateur leagues and tournaments, we provided assessors for matches at the highest level, i.e., international matches, A-League and W-League matches, Region 1 Senior Select and the NYSWYSA State Cup Finals and the USYSA Region 1 championships.

We learned this past year that the earlier we involved the individual official in the assessment process, the better we were able to assist him in meeting his particular goals. Now that all officials have access to the new state website, each official will be able to access the State Assessment Program directly and plan his season more efficiently.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Jaspe, SDA