

Western New York State Soccer Referees Association Meeting Minutes

4 November 2018

I. Call to order

SRA Tata called to order the regular meeting of the WNYSRA at 10:07 EST on 4 November 2018 at Radisson Rochester Airport. Welcome to new Ithaca DRA Julie Randall.

Roll call

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

Stephanie Serrano, Chair (excused 12:30 EST)

Michael Tata, SRA

Tom Ross, SDI

Art Jaspe, SDA

Bill Campbell, SYRA

Bill Pasnak, SAC, not present

Dave Wolgast, Secretary

Steve Wu, Treasurer

Rochester not represented

James Pitcher, Binghamton

Julie Randall, Ithaca

Bill Phearsdorf, Southern Tier

Bill Helwig, Buffalo

Batavia not represented

Elmira not represented

Angela Paparo, Syracuse (Excused 12:30 EST)

Amateur Representative not represented

Youth Representative not represented

II. Treasurer's Report – Wu

- Annual Financial Report presented
- IRS Form 990 presented
- Current Balance Sheet presented
- Audit
 - No issues, all accounts reconciled
- Budget surplus for 2018
- Board must approve financial statements
 - Motion: Phearsdorf
 - Second: Pitcher
 - Vote: Yes – Unanimous to approve
- Report on current treasury issues
 - Buffalo – Treasurer resigned. Not notified of new treasurer
 - Rochester – Not notified of new treasurer
 - Batavia – not represented
 - Southern Tier – check for mentoring was supposed to be written to Southern Tier Youth Soccer League. Check was written to an individual with no W9 on file. Must have W9 or funds returned by November 30, 2018. Funds have been released to league and paid to mentors

III. SRA Report

- DRAs – Look for box in the mail with badges for recerts. We do not have velcro discs yet – Velcro and whistles will be mailed separately
- Tata will mail out Emeritus badges individually
- USASA Annual Meeting, Buffalo, NY 9/21-9/23
 - Highest attended ever
 - Referee Grade Changes (proposed)

- 9-8-7 will be combined into one grade
 - 6 remains State Referee
 - 5 – Regional Referee
 - 4-3-2-1 National/International Referees
 - No word on impact to Assessment/Instruction process
- Assessment – Referees will pay for assessments at registration. Assessors will be paid following submission of report to SDA and referee
 - Wu will work out payment details
- Assigning of assessors
 - Referees will no longer choose games to be assessed. They will be assigned by district/regional coordinators as follows:
 - Buffalo/Southern Tier -- Jaspe
 - Rochester – Tata/Pasnak
 - Syracuse/Ithaca/Elmira/Binghamton – Campbell
- WNYSRA AGM – November 2019, location TBA
 - Ross – Motion AGM to be held at Radisson First weekend in Nov 2019
 - Second – Campbell
 - Ross – Amended Radisson used if available
 - Second – Campbell
 - Discussion
 - Ross – Historically, no bids have been made by other districts
 - Campbell – Rochester is central to largest number of referees
 - Call the Question (cloture) -- Jaspe
 - Vote Yes (Unanimous)

- Motion Carried
 - Annual awards will be presented
 - Potential to bring in USA WWC crew to speak
 - Looking for ways to attract younger referees
 - Presentation by Kris Bailey, SDI Alabama targeting less experienced referees
 - SRC meeting (SRC members attendance mandatory)
 - Use for Assessor/Instructor Recert
- Registration is confirmed by referee's name on the spreadsheet (approved by SRA)
- Recommendation: Units should waive local dues for first year referees

IV. SYRA Report (Campbell)

- State Cup – No real issues or complaints
- Eastern Regional Presidents – No referees supplied due to no NY West teams sent
- Eastern Regional ODP Girls (Lawrenceville/Princeton NJ) – 10 referees, 2 assessors. 4 referees invited to Eastern Regional Finals – Adam Brzozowiec, Hunter Brzozowiec, Danny Iadanza, and Alex Parent. Only Hunter Brzozowiec was able to attend
- Eastern Regional League Finals (Kirkwood, DE) – 3 invited to regionals (David Rousseau, Danny Iadanza, Antonio Triana). Mr. Iadanza and Mr. Triana were invited to represent the Premier League at the Regional Championships
- Eastern Regional Championships – 17 referees, 2 assessors sent, Antonio Triana invited to Nationals, Alex Parent as backup. Antonio was unable to attend due to family emergency
- Young Referee of Year:
 - Adam Brzozowiec (also Region 1 young referee of the year and excellent chance to win national award)
 - Alisa Hines
- **Regionals**

- States are no longer required to send referees to regional tournament
- Game fees will be offered in place of stipend. Travel allowance will be removed
- Region 1 committee will nominate referees instead of states
 - SYRAs objected, Region went forward anyway
 - Region will send list of potential candidates and SYRA will approve each candidate or not
 - List received is inaccurate – referees not registered, moved, not from WNY, etc...
- Letter from Frank Giancroce resigning as Eastern Regional Referee Administrator
- Number of teams expanded, tournament expanded to 7 days with day off in the middle
- Head of Delegation position eliminated
 - Objection filed with NYWest
- Assume that NYWest will no longer support referees going to Regionals
- Region will hire a replacement for Frank
- Regional Tournament/National Champ no longer considered referee identification events. There will be a DA event same week as Regionals in 2019
 - US Soccer will no longer provide referee coaches
- Jaspe – Region can coordinate assessment and instruction programs if they wish to fund
- Serrano – Can we shift resources away from Regional to DA for referee development? Other tournaments?
 - Campbell – will require policy changes to financially support DA referees. No changes for 2019

V. SDI Report (Ross)

- Grade 8s who want to go to advanced recert should get override code from DRA – Only referees who can handle subject matter
- Batavia Issue – No recerts scheduled for Batavia – invite Buffalo and Rochester to schedule something closer to Genesee County
- Remind GameOfficials users to subscribe for reminder/group email messages – must have at least one email address and one phone number displayed publicly.
- Tata – Encourage minimum age of 14 for entry classes
- Entry level classes –
 - Classes will be set up in GO in near future
 - Marketing assistance available – some areas getting very low turnout
 - If fewer than 15 participants, district must pay a portion or cancel the class
 - If greater than 40, split into multiple classes
 - Outlook for next year – 8 hours online, 8 hours field for 2020
 - Need to find facilities where field sessions can occur
 - Materials under development
 - Tata – Northern climate SRAs are objecting to field training requirements
 - We cannot set additional standards for referee registrations (US Soccer policy)
 - RDYSL require referees to attend Referee 101 and field clinic – This cannot be enforced
 - Additional clinics can be offered, but not required

VI. SDA Report (Jaspe)

- Biggest change is addition of assessment fees to referee registration. Email sent to all applicable referees explaining process
 - Assignors will now select match(es) to be assessed. If those matches are not of sufficient quality, WNYSRA will pay for re-assessment

VII. SCA Report (Pasnak)

- Not Present

VIII. Batavia

- Not Present

IX. Binghamton

- Entry course and recert dates/locations are set. \$5/student will be collected to pay for space
- Can board waive unit dues for first year referees? Yes (Tata) – See last bullet in SRA report

X. Buffalo

- New board – John Kramer - President. Bob Stoll – Treasurer. Need to gather info on rest of election results
- Buffalo has set up all recerts
 - Dates in November, December, January, February and March
 - 50-60 recert registrations so far
- Andy Evenhouse trying to get BDSL to arrange additional days of the week for games to spread out referees and take load off of Sundays
- New bylaws for Buffalo & WNY RU still need review by SRA

XI. Ithaca

- Welcome to new DRA Julie Randall
- Samantha Cleary and Nick Wagner are now Members at Large on Ithaca board
- Mentoring meeting coming up in November

- Report to be generated for 2019 mentor grant (Binghamton, Ithaca, Elmira joint)
- Tata – Primary DRA function is managing referee registrations.

XII. Rochester

- Not Present

XIII. Southern Tier

- Will act on action items called out earlier in meeting re: Mentor payments and instructor appointments

XIV. Syracuse

- New President – Dan Roark has stepped down, new president has been elected
- Request info on what is needed for application for mentor funds

XV. Old Business

- Ross - New uniforms are required for 2019 season. Referees may face sanction for not wearing proper uniform

XVI. New business

- Tata -- Batavia board have all resigned – Recommend that Batavia District be dissolved
 - Motion – Campbell
 - Second – Phearsdorf
 - Discussion – None
 - Vote – Yes (Unanimous)
 - Batavia referees will be able to self-select a new district
 - Ross – Eliminate from website & GO ASAP to avoid referee confusion. Will contact Greg Irwin for changes to wnyreferee.org
- Wu – Local account issues
 - Rochester – Has no checks – gets bank drafts to cash or uses ATM machine and supports with receipts

- Tata – recommend dissolving local accounts
 - Pitcher – objection to removing local accounts – process for paying for small expenditures (pizza, room rent, etc...) too difficult to send through State Treasurer
 - Campbell – Steve Wu should make recommendation for most workable scenario
- Jaspe – Where is new State Youth office? Ross – it is now in Rochester

XVII. Adjournment

- *Motion – Ross,*
 - Second - Campbell

SRA Tata adjourned the meeting at 13:39 EST