

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

January 12, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at Valicia's restaurant, Rochester NY. Meeting called to order at 10: am

Roll Call:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Michael Pat Tata; SRA | sra@wnyreferee.org |
| 2. Dave Baxter, Chairperson | chair@wnyreferee.org |
| 3. William Campbell, SYRA | syra@wnyreferee.org |
| 4. Art Jaspe, SDA | sda@wnyreferee.org |
| 5. John Kramer, SAC | sac@wnyreferee.org , jrefk@aol.com |
| 6. James Pitcher; DRA Binghamton | Binghamton@wnyreferee.org |
| 7. Bill Helwig, DRA Buffalo | buffalo@wnyreferee.org |
| 8. Jerry Sullivan, WNYSA Rep | ejsreft@hotmail.com |
| 9. Tom Ross, SDI | sdi@wnyreferee.org |
| 10. Bill Bianchi – Rochester | Rochester@wnyreferee.org |
| 11. Steve Wu – Treasurer | Treasurer@wnyreferee.org |
| 12. John Cook; Ithaca | Ithaca@wnyreferee.org |
| 13. Chris Chilano; Batavia | Batavia@wnyreferee.org |
| 14. Tom Barker; Elmira | Elmira@wnyreferee.org |
| 15. Bill Phearsdorf; Southern Tier | Southerntier@wnyreferee.org |
| | phearsdorfb@yahoo.com |
| 16. Angela Paparo; DRA Syracuse | Syracuse@wnyreferee.org |
| | apaparo@twcnny.rr.com |
| 17. Ian Redpath | |

Not Present

Chris Chilano

Meeting came to order 10:07 am. Meeting minutes were reviewed from the April 14th SRC meeting. There was a motion to accept the minutes by Bill Bianchi seconded by Bill Campbell. Minutes are approved.

New Business, SRA report and topics:

Mike Tata

- Vicki and I to continue to look for a new venue for our monthly meetings – goal is to find an available area which also serves lunch.
- Passed out directory to check for correct information
- By-laws are approved and effective – they are on our website – one slight change needs to occur for the date of the AGM
- Policies and procedures approved in October are on line – the biggest change is on the assessment part
 - If the AR and the Referee are requiring the assessment the cost is the game fee plus \$15

- Many local districts have their own policies and procedures and by-laws; local districts do not need them as they can use the states. If you do have them, they must be submitted to the Chair.
- At the end of August the DRA's are up for renewal as well as Art or Tom. Your local districts must nominate you for return – they must notify Mike by the end of August to follow the policy.
- Steve Wu is the chair of the finance audit committee – he will be recruiting 2 members to put together a budget and other items as required. Anyone here can serve on this committee.
- Annual general meeting is in our by-laws, we are targeting for a March date. He would like to see a district take the lead on setting up the AGM. Dave Baxter and Vicki are going to work to help set up the AGM for March 2015. This should be a full weekend event! Mike has sent Dave and Vicki a proposed agenda.
- All of our duties are outlined in the by-laws, please review them
- Secretary will maintain our records and send out business communications.
- Treasurer is responsible for all financial accounts regardless if it is a district or state account. He is fully accountable to manage these accounts. Steve will reach out the each district treasurer.
- The DRA's roll is to manage the referee registration, getting recerts set up, entry level courses, and the mediator of disputes.
- Chair- mediator of meetings and collects attendance before the meetings
- Has a list of people who he cannot find an assessment for – it is up to the referee and assessor to work this out. Please pass on that if they pay at the field it is at their own risk. The policy states that they do not have to pay the assessor on the field; it is that they are to be paid once the assessment is submitted.
 - Buffalo is having trouble with referees who have stated that their assessment was completed, the assessor was paid but the assessment is not in the system. Art is working on this list, however the referee must be able to give good information on when and who did their assessment.
 - If anyone is having any issues with the assessor or assessment, the referee must personally notify Art Jaspe
 - If the referee has missed beyond their control the next year Mike will make the decision to have 2; or downgrade and apply for upgrade.
 - Mike will send the list to Art of those individuals who are missing assessments
- We renew Arbiter in January which is due at the end of the month:
 - Buffalo – 700 referees with 13 assignors
 - Elmira – 90 referees with 5 assignors
 - Rochester and Batavia– 700 referees with 14 assignors
 - Syracuse – 165 referees with 3 assignors
 - Ithaca – 125 referees with 1 assignor (free assignor)
 - Southern Tier – 80 referees with 3 assignors
 - 103534 – state – 60 referees
 - 107177 – Texas?? Watertown??– 50 referees
 - Binghamton – 90 referees with 2 assignors
 - Payroll - \$80, Buffalo uses payroll with check writing (\$129) to be billed to state youth
 - Thruway league does use ref-pay. If the league is requesting it, then they should pay the fee – pay us for this service
 - Bill Campbell to collect
- Please give Mike the dates of the local meetings (he gets Rochester information)
- If you have executive meetings please let him know so that he can come to them periodically

Bill Campbell; SYRA

- Needs names for Regionals by March 1st
- Will get the numbers required for regionals, ODP camp and others on the website.
- Bill will send dates and location in an email
- State cup – need names for state cup nominees by April 1st
- We like to use State Cup as the feeder to the Regional pool
- The Risk management list has been updated on 12/12 and posted on DRA site. If you're trying to check people when registering, it is there. It won't be updated again until we have registrations coming in.
 - There are no approved 2014 referee registrations as of today
 - The only registrations in US soccer right now are the nationals and recreational classes done over the summer
 - Right now we're running about a week behind, we will have this worked out with Arbiter by the end of the month and Bill will update the list when this is complete
 - The list on the DRA site is the list of current referees as of 12/10 of all referees registered in 2013
- We do not manage risk management - If anyone wants status of risk management, look at pass and see expiration date – should contact the state youth office

John Kramer; SAC

- Sent all DRAs an invitation to find people interested in taking an assignor's course. Plan to run a course in Buffalo on February 15th with approximately 10 people. Cost of the course is \$55 includes lunch and registration.
- Will set up an assignor course that is centrally located.
- Plans with the expressway league – where games are going to be located – find someone to take these games over.
- Expressway league appears to be growing.
- The recreational leagues are looking for registered assignors, this is why we are looking for additional assignors
- Expecting 9-12 people at the February training – house league assignors
- Suggesting that one assignor take care of the entire expressway league to reduce the confusion from last year.
- Will be sending out information for assignors to complete.

Tom Ross; SDI

- Next year US Soccer –law books will not be printed.
 - Would like to propose the possibility of us printing them or us buying them for our referees.
- Arbiter issues – no way for us to get information from US Soccer to Arbiter.
- Will be going to seminar in Salt Lake City – has a number of issues for them to work out.
- Recerts are a big issue with some districts as we don't have a means to easily sign up people to individual clinics – the current process would be time consuming and confusing.
- Registrations are going very well. The only issue we've had is that people can't go beyond the personal information page. This is a bug with internet explorer. Inform people to re-boot or use another internet browser.
 - Use fire fox as Chrome does not allow report writing

- Entry courses going through Arbiter is going well. Has not heard of trouble with people signing up.
- Recert clinic – please read instructions on central hub!
- If people contact you with questions about the process, check the central hub. If there are performance issues, please email Tom.
- Entry clinics - please use the form that was sent out as he needs all of this information and does not want to come back to you for additional information. April 2013 minutes asked for information by November 1st. Has still not gotten information from some areas yet. It is difficult and timely to go back and re-set up information. Next year's deadline will be strictly enforced. Start planning now for next year's recerts!!!!!!
- Updates on fitness testing, all referees must do sprint and intervals in 2015
- Cannot go to RTS for fitness testing
- There will be more information on fitness testing coming
- Futsal – rescheduled January 25th - a general notice was sent out this morning. Wants instructors to attend to teach future classes. There is room for additional people.
 - US Futsal is now associated with US Soccer.
 - May be a possibility of a Futsal tournament in December 2014 in Niagara Falls
- Had the opportunity to present the awards to the young referees of the year which was very positive.
- Upgrade clinic will be scheduled in March.
- Grade 7 update clinics will be given every year and a grade 6 upgrade clinic every 2 years.
- If someone is caught in these clinics given, call Tom Ross.
- If you have grade 9's who want to upgrade, they can go to day 2 of the entry level classes

Art Jaspe; SDA

- Preliminary list of number of assessment is 600 on game officials
- Looking at assessments missed or not posted will be cleared up by the end of the month
- The system used last year – there were secondary assessors used for some referees – this system was helpful in getting an assessor if you were unable to get your assessor – this year we will do the same with a primary and secondary assessor. The referee has a choice as to which assessor to choose. This was done to make it more convenient for the referee and give them a choice of assessors.
- Will reiterate to the assessors and the referees that they are required to pay the fee for the assessment but only after it is posted on the website.
- As above stated, see Art if there are issues that cannot be resolved

Steve Wu – Treasurer

- Treasurer report – financial statement as of 12/31
 - Income: \$37,241
 - Expenses: \$19,423
 - Profits: \$17,818
- 1099 targeting by January 20th – still need to hear that quick books have been updated by Rochester (reconcile electronic checks with quick books)
- Make sure we don't pay assigning fee out of referee checking account (district treasury)
- The checking accounts district is strictly for SRC business only
- We are paying \$250 a year per district for quick books – we need to assess whether some of these districts should be on quick books as they use such a small number of checks. For these

areas, there are other avenues available which are less costly. These areas may have to be taken over by the state treasurer.

- Batavia
- Southern Tier
- Ithaca
 - This item has been tabled to discuss at the next executive meeting. Also each district needs to determine if they can pay their own \$250 quick books fee. We will make a decision in April for the May renewal fee.
- The SRC as of 12/27 has taken over the Southern Tier checking account as we did not have any correspondence with the treasurer for over a year. We had to amend our tax return as we received over a year's worth of activity in December. Repeated attempts to contact Southern Tier went unanswered. We have removed the Southern Tier personnel from the account. The SRC is now responsible for all expenses and bill paying until the board decides what to do with this account.
- Audit committee – we want to assemble a committee to audit and review our expenses. Whoever is interested please let Steve know, it can be from the general membership.

Jerry Sullivan

- Not present

District reports:

Syracuse – Angela Paparo

- Completed 2 of 3 recerts – will get the list to Tom this week
- Working through executive board issues – very limited participation lately
- Scheduled 1 entry level, may do another one in Watertown depending on their number of participants

Buffalo - Bill Helwig

- 6 recerts so far; 321 registered on Arbiter, 328 through recerts
- Happy with the way registration is going
- The last recert will be quite large
- 14 new referees so far, low for Buffalo
- 3 entry level courses scheduled February through March
- Risk management – at a state recert in Buffalo in December – has there been any change in any policy from NYW for Risk management? The answer is No. The question centered about whether the game is played if a referee does not have their RM pass. If asked, they must produce their RM pass. The option if one or more cannot produce the pass, they do not have to play the game and no one is paid. If they find a substitute official, they must have a RM pass which is produced. If they use the official without the pass, the game is played and official is paid. This information is in our recert material.
- The Buffalo league is giving out a lanyard pouch to hold the referee RM pass.
- Making some small changes to mentor program and how it is administered. If it works they will share it with others.

Rochester – Bill Bianchi

- Official that has been selected to FIFA board as AR – Amanda Ross
- 2 grade 8 recerts completed

- 1 state recert completed
- 2 entry level classes scheduled this year – need more – Mike will have one in April. Working on locations for 2 more end of February/ March time frame.

Southern Tier - Bill Phearsdorf

- Will talk to their board about the bank account issues
- 3 recert clinics scheduled
- Is still trying for an Entry level class
- Numbers are remaining the same, hoping for more

Ithaca- John Cook

- 1 upgrade clinic
- 2 entry level clinics upcoming
- Numbers are decent, hoping entry level clinic will help!

Binghamton – James Pitcher

- 2 recerts only
- Will be out of town Thursday January 16th until February 2nd

Batavia – Chris Chilano

- No report

Elmira – Tom Barker

- Concerns with the expressway league – parents do not want to put their kid’s personal information on website.
- Putting a young referee on their very first game without AR’s has been concerning. Local unit should help provide support.

Next meetings:

Full SRC meetings – April 6 and September 7

Executive meetings – March 2, August 10 and December 7

New Business:

- A box of whistles was sent to Bill Campbell – he will be sending you whistle if you have an entry level class
- \$.30-.33 each for the pouch lanyard that Buffalo purchased for the referee passes. John Kramer purchased them.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by James Pitcher, motion was seconded by Bill Helwig; Meeting concluded at 2:06 PM.