

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

September 9, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at the Hampton Inn, Rochester NY. Meeting called to order at 10:03 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 |
| 6. James Pitcher; DRA Binghamton | Binghamton@wnyreferee.org |
| 7. Bill Helwig, DRA Buffalo | buffalo@wnyreferee.org |
| 8. Jerry Sullivan, WNYSR Rep | ejsreft@hotmail.com |
| 9. Tom Ross, SDI | sdi@wnyreferee.org |
| 10. Ron Kuck, DRA Syracuse | Syracuse@wnyreferee.org |
| 11. Bill Bianchi – Rochester | Rochester@wnyreferee.org |
| 12. Steve Wu – Treasurer | Treasurer@wnyreferee.org |
| 13. John Cook; Ithaca | Ithaca@wnyreferee.org |
| 14. Chris Chilano; Batavia | Batavia@wnyreferee.org |
| 15. Tom Barker; Elmira | Elmira@wnyreferee.org |
| 16. Jeff Cook | FFjcook@hotmail.com |
| 17. Bill Phearsdorf; Southern tier | Southerntier@wnyreferee.org |
| 18. Joe Delity; Southern Tier | jdility@wzrd.com |
| 19. Angela Paparo; DRA Syracuse | apaparo@twcny.rr.com |

Not Present

Chris Chilano
Bill Phearsdorf
Tom Barker
Jerry Sullivan

Meeting minutes were reviewed from April 29, 2012 SRC meeting.

There was a motion to accept the minutes with proposed changes by Bill Campbell, seconded by Joe Delity. Minutes are approved.

New Business, SRA report and topics:

Mike Tata

- Fees are as they have been for the last couple of years
- Referees upgrading for 2013 requirements – will send out the list by area
- Bank accounts – we do the financials – IRS filing for all districts – then found out Watertown had their own bank account – they must get rid of this account – we cannot have this – tax ID number must be used to open an account with the approval of Steve Wu
 - Angela/Ron to follow up with Watertown

- Meeting dates will be finalized with the Hampton Inn – trying to get the 2nd Sunday of the months that we meet – January/April/September for full SRC, previous month on 2nd Sunday for the executive committee. This will be finalized this month with the Hampton Inn.
 - If you are not able to attend, please send a representative
- Will send pictures to Bill of the women’s match on our website – Amanda Ross was a part of the referee team! If there are any other pictures you want to add to the website, please see Bill Campbell
- Working with State Adult division to get an adult division in Western NY in 2014
- By-laws update – please review and be ready for detailed discussion at the January 2013 meeting which has to be sent to US Soccer AND the IRS (for tax exempt status)
- Policies and Procedures
 - Policies and procedures were mailed out with yellow highlights indicating changes made
 - Question – how are we going to enforce the penalties? Local units should collect the fine. If it’s a thruway league game, the state referee committee will collect this fine.
 - Question – who will report the late referee? If it’s made known, report to the local assignor by the team. Needs/wants a line in this policy on the exact procedure/example/steps to take written down what happens when this occurs. This is policy of the state referee committee so it is reported to the state referee committee.
 - Question – Is it fair to fine the AR the same as the center referee? Yes
 - Question – Should we not have a set fee for being late \$50, \$100 if you miss the game the premise being that the game fee is different based on the game that is being played.
 - Bill Campbell moves to adopt the new Policies and procedures as amended, Seconded by Art Jaspe, all in favor, none opposed, unanimously approved.

Bill Campbell

- Regional’s: Did extremely well this year, of the 12 people we sent we had 5 semi-final centers, 3 got final centers and 8 got final assignments. Molly was invited as a backup.
- Presidents Cup: 2 persons invited.
- ODP – 1 person invited to go on to the Regional championships
- Young Referee of the Year: This year’s winners Michael Boltry –Buffalo & Ellena Holl- Ithaca
 - Passed out young referee of the year requirements for all to read:
 - Able to handle a regional level assignments
 - Best human being you have at that age level who happens to be a referee – reference volunteer work inside and outside of soccer and academics who is a well rounded individual who is involved in a lot of activities.
 - Only one reference letter should come from a referee. Generally get one from higher level referee assessor, one from a teacher/professor and one from the volunteer work they have done. An essay and a resume must be included.
 - Syracuse – please resubmit your female recommendation next year
- **Draft copy** of Risk Management proposal originally written by Rich Wagner but has been edited
 - Will be going into negotiations with NYW – goal is to settle by mid October
 - Problem is that they do not know how to match that the referee who arrives to the game is the referee who was assigned to the game
 - Reminder – a photo has to be on the risk management pass
 - They are asking that the referee show their pass as a courtesy to the coach before the match – if they do not have one, there will be consequences but the match will continue
 - If a pass has not been provided, this referee infringement will be communicated for additional investigation to ensure that they have a RM pass

- If no pass has been issued, there will be a consequence passed down
 - #13 - Once the match begins the coach loses the right to ask for the pass
 - Issues surrounding the right to fine members of our organization
 - Items #9 & #10 – we are not responsible for this, it should be reported to the league
 - Item #8 –if a referee does not have a RM pass the game will go on, however if a coach does not have a pass they are asked to leave the game
 - One should never start a game if the coach does not have their risk management passes
 - *Note - This is not policy yet*
- DRA – Bill has your books in his car - Only 75 books left after today’s distribution will be given First come first serve
- Executive committee members – turn in SYRA report at end of month – email info to Bill C

John Kramer; SAC

- Will be asking assignors for their personal schedule to see what they have assigned to themselves and address any issues to look for balance and equity
 - Just a realignment to ensure that we are complying to policies and answer any questions which may arise
- Will be asking assignors for information he may need to complete profiles
- Will be looking at upgrade lists
- Will be doing clinics together and will include issues in upcoming clinics
- Game information is normally purged in December so he will ask for this within the next few weeks

Tom Ross; SDI

- 46 people attended the USA vs. Costa Rica game
 - Great questions were given – detailed and written down from aspects of the game
 - Quality observations were discussed, it was impressive that the level of knowledge
 - Believe we made some good progress work with US soccer
- Assignor/instructor training at one time – a 4 hour session
 - Trying to combine the jobs together to work together to gain additional working time
- Asked instructors to submit topics for instruction
 - Areas where we could improve on training
 - Find at least one area for improvement
 - Trying to get recertification program to be done by all
 - Relevant to our people in the areas that they require help
 - Does not have to be a whole topic, but information leading to what needs training
- All registrations this year will be through Game officials
 - Most of the bugs of last year have been eliminated
 - In the near future an email will come(no reply can be given)
 - All special instructions will go out before any recertification clinics
 - 2 page document explaining what needs to be done with specific instructions will come out as a link to the email address listed in Game Officials (any and all)
 - Special instructions for grade 9 will be sent from Tom or Mike
 - Specific instruction to DRA – if someone has completed their assessments it is an upgrade, if not they register in their current grade
 - All else will register for recertification clinic as a referee

- If you have someone currently living outside western NY, call Tom and he'll get them into the system
- When they register there will be multiple sessions
 - Log in
 - Register
 - Watch session for information
 - Attend a session – 5 question quiz
 - Session for written test – score of 75% – 85% required depending on grade
 - Classroom training session
 - Unless they need fitness test their requirement will be complete
 - They have 5 days after recertification clinics to finish the written test as the DRA will close the class – will cost \$10 afterwards – no cash or checks – all credit cards. Instructions to people who want to pay by cash – fill out form - \$10 charge – make check to Tom – we just want people to use credit cards –use prepaid cards.
 - If there is a special situation, or a financial situation (told to pay more than they are supposed to) communicate with Tom to make manual adjustments in the fee
- Life members –they should have already received their information - Mike will complete recertification for these – 2 new ones this year.
- Instructors who are attending instructor recertification – will fulfill their requirement for testing; he will put the test scores manually into the system
- There is a 'forgot password' button which works unless they have changed their email address
 - Please change all passwords when requested to PASSWORD which will force them to change their password when they enter
 - Officer status has the ability to change email addresses
- Assessors – have to make sure that they are not logged into US Soccer Game officials- log into western NY referee
- Upcoming clinic will be doing an associate instructor clinic in the winter TBD, largely by invitation only
- Will be completing 2 intermediate clinics in different areas this season
- If anyone has any other needs locally, please see Tom
- Refunds through Game Officials – we will have to refund via checks until we're set up on credit cards with a \$5 fee (we are charged) until we are refunding through credit cards. Note that the person does not have to take the refund but can keep a credit on Game Officials. Of course if a class is cancelled we will refund without a fee.
- Recerts schedule completed and posted by November to Tom Ross

Art Jaspe; SDA

- Are all leagues closed? Buffalo Fall league is a gray area
- If anyone got an assessment and did not get feedback, get with Art
- Will publish by January is instructions to referees for assessments and how they get assessors
 - Putting together a package to allow referee on a first come first serve basis to get an assessor or group of assessors to assess them over a period of years
 - Working to make it simple for both referees and assessors

- Working to make a program for the referee to choose an assessor as the referee is paying for the assessment that they feel that they know and trust and believe that they can get information from
- Also can monitor the feedback of the referee
- Work to get this in the next general meeting
- Would like brought to January meeting or emailed the game fees in each district for adult matches and under 17 and above the current referee game fees only
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Steve Wu – treasurer:

- Treasurer report
- Fiscal year ended June 30
- \$129000
- \$119000 expenses
 - Still have other expenses to be paid out
 - Expenses 27% USSF
 - Training/printed material 25%
- Binghamton/Buffalo – reports are on time – great job!
- Issues:
 - Southern Tier – need to contact treasurer – Walt – have a checking account with no activity in 2 ½ years, checks are cashed but not through referee unit – there might be a bank account that we do not know about
 - Rochester – no correspondence – 3 emails to Tony and Neil and they have not responded –no transactions recorded for 2011 and 2012 in quick books. Have asked for information repeatedly, in addition to having to request several times to pay outstanding bills. Bill Bianchi to take this information back. Need information brought forward to Steve. If this does not happen, the board will have to take over the Rochester account.
- The year is closed, the auditor has all of the reports which will be reviewed with Mike and a report filed with the IRS

Jerry Sullivan

- Not present

District reports:

Syracuse

- Will work with Ron on turnover.

Buffalo

- Any communication in regards to Buffalo’s website? He is having trouble communicating getting access.

Rochester

- Will get Steve information on treasury or will replace the treasurer.

Southern Tier

- Will get things straightened out

Ithaca

- No Update

Binghamton

- No Update

Elmira

- No Update

Batavia

- No update, not present

Next meeting: Executive meeting Sunday, December 2nd at 10 am

Motion to adjourn the meeting by John Kramer, motion was seconded by Bill Bianchi; Meeting concluded at 12:05 pm