



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

Meeting Minutes

Held at the Hampton Inn, Rochester, NY, on December 1, 2002. Meeting called to order at 12:00 PM.

Roll Call

1. Curt Hamlin, SRA (sra@wnyreferee.org)
2. William Fahey, SYRA, (syra@wnyreferee.org)
3. William Pasnak, SDI (sdi@wnyreferee.org)
4. Art Jaspe, SDA (sda@wnyreferee.org)
5. Christopher Chilano, SCA, and DRA (Batavia) (cchilan1@rochester.rr.com)
(Represented by Sam Paradise, Batavia Unit Treasurer)
6. James Gabor, Sr., Treasurer (wizjg@yahoo.com)
7. Dennis Rice, Recording Secretary (dricel@rochester.rr.com)
8. James Pitcher, DRA (Binghamton) (soccer_referee@juno.com)
9. William Helwig, DRA (Buffalo) (billreferee@yahoo.com)
10. William Campbell, DRA (Ithaca) (tripsdad@aol.com)
11. Gary Fisher, Ithaca Unit President (GFisher329@aol.com)
12. Richard Reif, DRA (Rochester) (rar0@eznet.net)
13. Joe Delity, DRA (Southern Tier) (baraab@localnet.com)
14. Ronald Kuck, DRA (Syracuse) (rakuck@baldcom.net)
15. Dave Herron, DRA (Twin Tier) (dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org)
16. Alexander Badr, DRA (Elmira) (badram@stny.rr.com)
(Represented by Robert Johnson, Elmira Unit President) (amj45@juno.com)

Not Represented

1. Tony Buiniskis, President of NYSW (ajb4soccer@aol.com)
2. Arman Capan, Amateurs WNY (arman@eznet.net)

Approval of October 20 Minutes

1. The minutes were approved. The by-laws are now past the 30-day review period as stipulated in the minutes of October 20, and are approved and in effect.

Reports of Officers

1. SRA – (Curt Hamlin)
 - a. 568 registrations, or approximately 32% of total are completed to date.
 - b. The referee coins have been ordered (5000). More information below in Old Business.
2. SYRA – (Bill Fahey)
 - a. Bill requests that all DRAs provide all youth league referee fee information to him for reference purposes.
 - b. Working to schedule and arrange a “Mom and Pop” course in the Vestal area.
 - c. Discussed a request from Chris Luhrs (Binghamton area) to be put on the “fast track” Project 20 program. Discussion included experience relative to the others in the program, and how to get

opportunities for more U-19 experience. The Executive Committee recommended that he build experience level before being considered for fast tracking.

3. SDA – (Art Jaspe)
 - a. 21 assessors registered to date.
 - b. There will be no entry level assessor’s clinic held this year.
4. SDI – (Bill Pasnak)
 - a. Entry level courses are being planned. The current information is available on the web site <http://www.wnyreferee.org>
 - b. Pro league course planning is in progress
 - c. All DRAs please send list of instructors to Bill Pasnak, so that he can make sure his list is correct.
5. SCA – (Sam Paradise for Chris Chilano)
 - a. All DRAs should submit names of persons interested in taking the assignor’s class to Chris Chilano.
 - b. All assignors should forward a copy of their respective contract(s) with league(s) to Chris Chilano.
6. Finance Director – (Jim Gabor)
 - a. Jim is working to coordinate the budget and voucher details with Ian Redpath. Detailed financial information is available through Jim if needed.
 - b. The accounting software (Quick Books) hot line support is chargeable. It was recommended and approved by the SRC to purchase a 12 month support package at \$299, pending Ian’s advice.

Old Business (Action items)

1. Amend by-laws as discussed and distribute (Ian Redpath, Curt)
 - **Complete**
2. File federal and state forms, and obtain state tax-exempt number (Ian Redpath)
 - **Remains open**
3. Develop and administer mentor program in Districts (all DRAs)
 - **See #5 and 6**
4. Write bio sheets for Youth Referee of the Year and submit to SYRA (Dick Reif)
 - **Complete**
5. Forward candidates to SYRA for “Project 20” (all DRAs)
6. Provide write-ups of “Mom and Pop”, Project 20, and Mentor programs (Bill Fahey)
 - a. **Bill distributed copies of Project 20 Guidelines. All DRAs are asked to communicate the guidelines to their respective Districts and to forward lists of candidates to the SYRA.**
 - b. **The Non-Certification Clinic (formerly “Mom and Pop”) description and request forms were distributed by Bill as well. All DRAs should also communicate this information to their respective Districts as appropriate.**
 - c. **Progress on the Mentor program continues. Bill Fahey has copies of the USSF and the Rochester programs, and Bill Helwig will forward information on the Buffalo program. For 2003, the Districts will administer the Mentor program locally, and Bill Fahey will be available to explain the program and administration if needed. NYSW will no longer fund this 100%.**
7. Develop budget codes and standard vouchers (Jim Gabor)
 - a. **The accounts and voucher forms are setup.**
 - b. **Jim will contact Ian Redpath for approval of the structure and amounts before we can implement.**
8. Obtain additional quotes and procure referee coins (Curt, Bill Fahey)
 - a. **5,000 coins have been ordered at a cost of \$1.04/ea. plus shipping (est. \$1.15-\$1.25 total/pc.)**

- b. The Committee agreed that transfer price will be \$2.00/pc. to referees and \$1.25/pc. for Directors and Administrators to be used as give-aways for tournaments, clinics, and other events.
 - c. The Committee directs that local districts and others shall not obtain the coins in bulk for resale at a profit.
9. Develop proposal for use of certified referees & assignors and Grade 9 (Bill Helwig, Bill Fahey)
 - a. USSF is proposing a transfer program (details will be forwarded when received)
 - b. The issue of rec. leagues affiliated with USSF but not using affiliated referees remains open.
 10. Schedule courses through the SDI (all DRAs)
 - a. The information is now available on the web site: <http://www.wnyreferee.org>
 11. Repackage and submit SDA proposals for next meeting (Art)
 - a. Emeritus status proposal whereby those Emeritus referees officiating six or more games per year are required to be assessed was tabled until next meeting. The main consideration is not to require this only of Emeritus referees, but to also include any referees who routinely officiate 6 or more amateur matches per year.
 - b. Missed maintenance assessments – Referees who miss required maintenance assessments shall be downgraded one grade for the next registration year. This may be appealed to the SRC for exceptional circumstances if postmarked by August 31 of the year in which the assessment was missed.
 - c. The requirement to pre-deposit the assessor’s fee for upgrade was tabled, pending discussion of administrative issues.
 - d. The assessment fee guidelines and procedures for maintenance assessments were accepted by the SRC.

New Business

1. The Districts shall report financial status to Jim Gabor, retroactive to July 1, 2002, when the SRC was incorporated. The SRA and the SRC are the only entities recognized by USSF, and the SRC must ensure that the Districts under it are operating under generally accepted practices. However the local Treasurers report status, monthly or quarterly will probably be ok. The SRC must issue a 1099 to all those who services are paid \$600 or more. This is exclusive of expense reimbursements.
2. Shirts for Committee members were approved with the new WNYRA logo to be embroidered on the shirt. Directors can also purchase the shirts to be used for referees representing WNY at tournaments and clinics.
3. Discussion of requirements for officiating the proposed new A-League team in Syracuse – Candidates (State referee or higher grade) are to be submitted to Reinhold Spath, who then coordinates with USSF. For those who want consideration, registration deadline is Dec. 15th.
4. Registrations – completed registrations are still slow (just over 30% so far)
5. Bill Helwig shared that Buffalo chose to continue funding developmental assessments in place of or adjunct to the mentor program. The mentor funding may still occur from local dues. Bill also mentioned that there was a mentor model in Minnesota that is worth considering whereby the mentor acted much like a fourth official, and helped with control of substitutes, coaches, and sidelines.
6. Some discussion occurred over uniform changes. We will not have any additional mandates for 2003.

Good of the Organization

1. SDI –
 - a. The Districts should advise Bill Pasnak where libraries should be set up, combining Districts where it makes sense (e.g., Binghamton and Twin Tier). The DRAs will be responsible to coordinate with the instructors.
 - b. Bill is working with the Binghamton area to conduct an intermediate course for 2003.
2. SCA – Please get candidates names to Chris Chilano for the Assignor’s course.
3. SDA – There will be no entry level assessor’s clinic for 2003.
4. SDI –

- a. Pro league course planning in progress.
- b. Entry level course information is now available on the web site: <http://www.wnyreferee.org>.
- c. All DRAs please send a list of instructors to Bill Pasnak.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:23PM.

Next meeting will be February 9, from 12PM until 5PM at the Hampton Inn, Rochester (Greece), NY.

Action Items:

1. Provide youth league referee fee information to Bill Fahey (DRAs)
2. Submit names of those interested in Assignor's class to Chris Chilano (DRAs)
3. Forward copy of Assignor's league contracts to Chris Chilano (all Assignors, DRAs)
4. Complete budget, voucher, and financial details (Jim Gabor)
5. Communicate Project 20 and "Mom and Pop" guidelines to Districts (DRAs)
6. Forward Buffalo Mentor program info. To Bill Fahey (Bill Helwig)
7. Re-submit (1) Emeritus status proposal to generalize the assessment requirement from emeritus only to include all referees routinely assigned amateur games and (2) upgrade assessment deposit proposals at the next meeting (Art Jaspe)
8. Setup districts financial status reporting to Jim Gabor (DRAs)
9. Advise Bill Pasnak where libraries should be setup (DRAs)
10. Send list of instructors to Bill Pasnak (DRAs)