

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

## October 26, 2003 Meeting Minutes

Held at the Hampton Inn, Rochester, NY. Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM.

### Roll Call

1. Curt Hamlin, SRA ([sra@wnyreferee.org](mailto:sra@wnyreferee.org))
2. William Fahey, SYRA, ([syra@wnyreferee.org](mailto:syra@wnyreferee.org))
3. William Pasnak, SDI ([sdi@wnyreferee.org](mailto:sdi@wnyreferee.org))
4. Art Jaspe, SDA ([sda@wnyreferee.org](mailto:sda@wnyreferee.org))
5. Christopher Chilano, SCA, and DRA (Batavia)  
Represented by Sam Paradise ([cchilan1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:cchilan1@rochester.rr.com))
6. James Gabor, Sr., Treasurer ([wizjg@yahoo.com](mailto:wizjg@yahoo.com))
7. Dennis Rice, Recording Secretary ([drice1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:drice1@rochester.rr.com))
8. James Pitcher, DRA (Binghamton) ([soccer\\_referee@juno.com](mailto:soccer_referee@juno.com))
9. William Helwig, DRA (Buffalo) ([billreferee@yahoo.com](mailto:billreferee@yahoo.com))  
Jennifer Jones, Associate DRA (Buffalo) ([jjx2soccer@hotmail.com](mailto:jjx2soccer@hotmail.com))
10. William Campbell, DRA (Ithaca) ([tripsdad@aol.com](mailto:tripsdad@aol.com))
11. Richard Reif, DRA (Rochester) ([rar0@eznet.net](mailto:rar0@eznet.net))
12. Joe Delity, DRA (Southern Tier) ([baraab@localnet.com](mailto:baraab@localnet.com))
13. Ronald Kuck, DRA (Syracuse) ([rakuck@baldcom.net](mailto:rakuck@baldcom.net))
14. Dave Herron, DRA (Twin Tier) ([dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org](mailto:dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org))
15. Alexander Badr, DRA (Elmira) ([badram@stny.rr.com](mailto:badram@stny.rr.com))  
Represented by Tom Barker ([TLBARK1078@aol.com](mailto:TLBARK1078@aol.com))  
and Ted Kamas ([theodoro3@yahoo.com](mailto:theodoro3@yahoo.com))
16. Tony Buiniskis, President of NYSW ([ajb4soccer@aol.com](mailto:ajb4soccer@aol.com))
17. Arman Capan, Adult Soccer Assoc. WNY ([arman@eznet.net](mailto:arman@eznet.net))  
Represented by Reinhold Spath ([rms1@eznet.net](mailto:rms1@eznet.net))

### Approval of last Minutes

Minutes of March 16, 2003 were approved.

### Reports of Officers

#### 1. SRA - (Curt Hamlin)

- a. **Abuse/Assault:** There were four abuse/assault instances handled. There were others but did not file reports. It is important that abuse and/or assault incidents must be reported to the SRA within 48 hours. Referee assault and abuse **must** be handled by the State Associations/SRA and not the districts. The procedure will be covered in recertification clinics.
- b. **Assessments:** Instances where assessments were due but not completed will be corrected for next year. Some instances were due to a state assessor not performing to expectations.
- c. **Certificate of Insurance:** Sent via e-mail to DRAs and those requesting; used to provide proof of insurance for use of facilities (clinics, etc.).
- d. **Other USSF:** The Grade 9 recreational referee program is established, with 38 registered. There is a special recreational program law book for sale by USSF. An associate instructor can teach the program with SYRA approval as well as a regular instructor.
- e. **Budget:** The 2003 budget estimates did not get spent per plan. We plan to spend more on referee development in 2004. Otherwise, the budget is basically the same as last year. The budget was

passed unanimously by the SRC.

- f. Two referees have been refused participation by the RDSL (Rochester Adult League). Other Districts may be contacted for possible adult game assignments.
- g. **SRC 2004 Meeting Dates:** Jan 18, Mar 21, Jun 20, and Sep 12. All meetings to be held at the Hampton Inn in Greece from 10AM until 2PM. The SRA is looking into changing the Sep 12 date to late August; determination will be likely be made by the next SRC meeting.
- h. **Clinics:** There are still many Grade 5,6, and 7 referees who are not receiving the mandated refresher clinic time. (More info. to follow in SDI report).

## 2. SYRA - (Bill Fahey)

- a. **NE Region meeting in New York:** Regionals for 2004 will be June 30 – July 5 (extended to six days). ODP will need 9 officials and 2 assessors; Regionals will need 10 referees and 2 assessors. This number is reduced from 2003, partly due to reduced sponsorship levels. Any referee nominated by his/her DRA to go to Regionals should be ready to commit July 19-25 for Nationals as well if selected. **This is a double commitment, and must be communicated clearly by DRAs to referee candidates.**
- b. **Risk management:** The handouts from NYSW were shared and questions were directed to and answered by Tony Buiniskis. For all referees 18 and older, each referee shall fill out the application form and include a check for \$6.00 (good for two years), to be collected by each DRA (preferred method) and forwarded to the SRA. In the event the individual does not want personal information (e.g., SS#) to be handled by his/her DRA, the application can be sent directly from the individual to the SRA. Those individuals who already have fingerprint-based clearance will be honored for issuance year plus one additional upon submittal of documented proof. Similarly, a current coach pass number is acceptable as proof. The DRAs can submit directly a list of individual's coach pass numbers to the SRA as part of the overall submittal. No copies of any information will be kept by the SRA; he will forward to the NYSW Risk Management Director, Angelo Grande, directly. Information and forms are also available on the NYSW youth website. In the future, instructors will include the risk management information and application as part of the new referee course materials. This proposal was moved to be accepted, seconded, and passed unanimously by the SRC.
- c. **Youth Referee of the Year:** The award will be presented in November. Please submit candidates to the SYRA no later than Nov. 2. If there are no nominations, please state so.
- d. **State Contract:** A cancellation clause and travel statement with wording from the NYSW insurance carrier will be added to the proposed contract. A copy will be sent out separately by the SRA. The proposal as amended was accepted and passed by the SRC.

## 3. SDA - (Art Jaspe)

- a. **Upgrade Policy and Procedure:** The new procedure as published in the Policies and Procedures is now in use
- b. **Adult Game Assessment Program:** This is now in use starting this year.
- c. **Assessor Registration:** Request that assessors register through the Districts and over to the SRA as per the other normal registrations. The SDA then receives the registrations from the SRA.

## 4. SDI - (Bill Pasnak)

- a. **Upgrade and Recertification Clinics:** Recert. Clinics will be 3-5 hours in length. The upgrade clinics are more extensive and longer. For upgrade, referees must verify that they have taken an appropriate intermediate or advanced level upgrade clinic in addition to all other requirements for upgrade. Recertification clinics will be paid for by the SRA. Bill Pasnak will construct a chart that summarizes the requirements. The DRAs should contact the SDI to schedule these recertification clinics. Upgrade clinics will be scheduled **after** the SRA receives upgrade requests from the attendees.
- b. **Pro Clinics:** Dates are TBD. All referees who wish to apply must contact the SRA. The national level fitness test must be passed and the referee must be a State Grade to qualify.

- c. **Entry Level Course:** CDs of instructional materials were distributed to the DRAs.
- d. **Instructor Course:** The DRAs should submit a list of candidates for the entry-level instructor course to the SDI.
- e. **Assignor's Course:** The DRAs should submit a list of candidates for the assignor's course to the SCA. Bill Fahey will work with Tony Buiniskis to have currently non-certified assignors included.
- f. **"Mom and Pop" Clinics:** We want to hold more of these clinics to get more people exposed to the material. Nationally, the referee attrition rate is 79% after four years, largely in part to behavior encountered on the sidelines.
- g. **Entry Level Course Fee Structure:** The forms and fee structure were distributed by the SDI to the SDAs. We would like to have two instructors wherever possible for this course. The new fees do not include mileage and miscellaneous copies and supplies expenses, which should be reimbursed by each respective District.

#### 5. SCA - (Chris Chilano)

- a. **Assignor Contracts:** Only three assignor contracts were submitted. The SCA must have copies of all contracts for 2004, including leagues and tournaments. These contracts should be on file in the event of a problem to provide basis for resolving issues that might arise.
- b. **Assignor's Course:** DRAs please submit interest and candidates to the SCA for an assignor's course this spring. See also #4e above.

#### 6. Finance Director - (Jim Gabor)

- a. **Financial Summary:** We still have a large positive balance. Per #1e above, this will reduce as we spend more on referee development in 2004.
- b. Request to purchase 'window' envelopes: approved.

#### Old Business

1. The SRA is now approved as 501(c)3 Tax Exempt status by both the Federal Government and New York State. Forms are available from the SRA or SYRA if needed for purchases that qualify for use within the organization.
2. Chart of accounts is complete and is aligned with the budget. Jim Gabor made an adjustment so that the accounts would work with the software accounting package.
3. The financial reports still have some districts missing last year's report.
4. Surge protectors for the digital projectors were purchased.
5. Copies of the assignor's contracts with the leagues were not all received. The SCA cannot intermediate between the leagues and assignors without a copy of the contract. Action: Jim Pitcher and Bill Campbell will locate additional good examples and forward through the SCA.
6. The Pro Clinic issue is resolved in that the fitness test and the clinic are mandatory.
7. District Reports: All except Elmira were received

#### New Business

1. Need two more referees from Syracuse for Professional League.
2. Reinhold Spath now has an indexed tape library of soccer games to borrow.
3. **Head of Delegation Position:** The SDA proposed that the SRA fund an additional person to help in administration as Head of Delegation whenever ten or more members from WNYSRA are present (e.g., ODP and Regionals). Recommend that this be a volunteer position and that expenses and transportation be paid. The SDA will write up the job description. Motion was made to accept the recommendation, seconded, and passed unanimously.
4. Bill Helwig announces that Jennifer Jones will be the Associate DRA from Buffalo to stand in whenever Bill is unavailable.

## **Good of the Organization**

1. no new items

Meeting was adjourned at 2:08 PM.

**Next meetings will be Jan 18, Mar 21, Jun 20, and Sep 12 from 10AM until 2PM at the Hampton Inn, Rochester (Greece), NY.**

## **Action Items:**

1. Bill Pasnak will construct a chart that summarizes the recert. vs. upgrade clinic requirements.
2. The DRAs should contact the SDI to schedule recertification clinics.
3. Chris Chilano will locate good examples of assignor's contracts and send to the Jim Pitcher and Bill Campbell.
4. DRAs are to provide candidates for new assignors to the SCA and for new instructors to the SDI.
5. For Youth Referee of the Year, DRAs submit candidates to the SYRA no later than Nov. 2. If there are no nominations, please state so.
6. DRAs are to ensure that the SRC receives upgrade requests by March 1, 2004 instead of April 1.