

# Western New York Referee Association

## State Referee Committee

### United States Soccer Federation Affiliate

#### December 12, 2004 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. Art Jaspe, SDA ([sda@wnyreferee.org](mailto:sda@wnyreferee.org))
4. William Pasnak, SDI ([sdi@wnyreferee.org](mailto:sdi@wnyreferee.org))
5. Dennis Rice, Recording Secretary ([secretary@wnyreferee.org](mailto:secretary@wnyreferee.org))
6. James Pitcher, DRA (Binghamton) ([soccer-referee@juno.com](mailto:soccer-referee@juno.com))
7. Jim Gabor, Sr., Treasurer/DRA (Buffalo) ([wizjg@yahoo.com](mailto:wizjg@yahoo.com))
8. William Helwig, DRA (Buffalo) ([billreferee@yahoo.com](mailto:billreferee@yahoo.com))
9. William Campbell, DRA (Ithaca) ([tripsdad@aol.com](mailto:tripsdad@aol.com))
10. Paul Lysiak, DRA (Rochester) ([paul.lysiak@kodak.com](mailto:paul.lysiak@kodak.com))
11. Joe Delity, DRA (Southern Tier) ([jdelity@localnet.com](mailto:jdelity@localnet.com))
12. Ronald Kuck, DRA (Syracuse) ([rakuck@baldcom.net](mailto:rakuck@baldcom.net))
13. Alexander Badr, DRA (Elmira) ([badram@stny.rr.com](mailto:badram@stny.rr.com))
14. Tom Barker (Elmira) ([TLBARK1078@verizon.net](mailto:TLBARK1078@verizon.net))

#### Not Present:

1. Dave Herron, DRA (Twin Tier) ([dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org](mailto:dherron@campbellsavona.wnyric.org))
2. Christopher Chilano, SCA, and DRA (Batavia) ([cchilan1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:cchilan1@rochester.rr.com))
3. Jerry Sullivan, WNYSA representative (Adult Soccer Assoc) ([ejsreft@hotmail.com](mailto:ejsreft@hotmail.com))
4. Bob Sokolinski, President of NYSWYSA ([president@nyswysa.org](mailto:president@nyswysa.org))

#### Roll Call Notes:

1. Welcome back to Alex Badr, who was deployed in Iraq
2. The SRC thanks Bill Helwig, who will temporarily re-assume the DRA Buffalo position.

#### Approval of last Minutes

Minutes of September 12, 2004 were approved with the stipulation that the Treasurer's meeting notes and the Assessment Program 2004 Report would be added.

#### Reports of Officers

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

- a. Registrations – to date, they are less than expected, given that the expectation was to have registration complete by 12/31 for all but exceptions like returning college students.
- b. Registration payments – per the recommended procedures that came out of the Treasurer's clinic in September, the DRAs are reminded that each registrant should write a single check to the local District. Each District, in turn, sends on a packet to Curt (SRA) with a consolidated check from the District. It is highly recommended to not accept cash, and the pink copy should be returned to individuals as a receipt. Each District should also ensure that the forms are complete (game counts, signatures, etc.)
- c. We have an issue with referees above Grade 8 who have not completed the minimum six games and other currency requirements. The SRC needs to decide how to address this at the next meeting.
- d. Risk Management – There are some of the risk management approvals that have become expired, mostly those who have transferred risk management registration as coaches. The majority of the risk

management passes obtained through the SRC expire in August, 2005. DRAs are asked to forward to Curt information on those who have obtained or are currently obtaining risk management as coaches.

- e. Assignor Risk Management implications – for Assignors who are found to assign Referees who do not have valid risk management clearance, the SRC proposed and passed unanimously that, for 2005, a letter of reprimand shall be issued. This is for one year only, and that this will be revisited with the intent to increase severity of sanctions in the future.
- f. Twin Tier District – Dave Herron is not continuing as DRA. There are 25 referees in the District. Bill Campbell proposed to combine the District with the neighboring Districts (Elmira and Rochester) and that a letter should be sent to each of the effected Referees that they may individually choose which of the two neighboring Districts to join. This proposal was made into a motion and passed unanimously by the SRC.

## **2. SYRA - (Bill Fahey)**

- a. 2005 Youth Tournament dates were distributed:
  - i. State Cup Finals: June 3-5 at Total Sports Experience in Gates (Rochester area)
  - ii. Region I ODP: June 10-12 in Princeton, NJ
  - iii. Region I Championships: June 30-July 5 in Virginia Beach, VA
  - iv. National US Youth Finals July 27-31
- b. Thanks to Bill Helwig for stepping in to assume the Buffalo DRA duties.
- c. Presentation of the female youth referee of the year award will be done by Bill Helwig. In addition, Bill H. will edit/improve the write-up together with Bill Fahey and Jim Pitcher before the next SRC meeting on March 6 so that they can be submitted to Region I.

## **3. SDA - (Art Jaspe)**

- a. Copies of the 2004 Assessment Program Report were distributed and will be added to the last minutes.
- b. We now have 22 registered Assessors.
- c. The SRC discussed how to improve quality of service and how to deal with declining performance issues with very senior referees. Every DRA should have capability knowledge for referees in their respective District. Data on declining performance (e.g., complaints from clubs and tournaments) should be documented and retained for reference in the event that assignment level or grade needs to be changed.

## **4. SDI - (Bill Pasmak) –**

- a. This year's Pro Clinic will be held on April 30 for Referees, Instructors, and Assessors. All State Grades and above are encouraged to attend, as this will serve as the only advanced clinic to be given in the area. Referees need to apply to the SDI and the SDA in addition to sending a letter to the SRA.
- b. The date for the Intermediate Clinic is not finalized. DRAs please note preferences for timing and candidates to Bill Pasmak. We should schedule this before June, when play resumes. There will be a charge if it is used for upgrade requirements.
- c. There will be an ITIP course for Grade 9 Assoc. Instructors and above. It will be offered in May, and is estimated to cost approximately \$2,000. This will be a full weekend with a National Instructor, and expected cost around \$60 per person.
- d. Bill P. presented a copy of the DOC, SDI/SRA and President's Assembly 2004 Report. This Assembly is held with the purpose of aligning the coaches and referees understanding of the game. We are asked to input rules instruction and tests, requested by the coaches. The SDI requests that all DRAs participate in coaches meetings and soccer organizations/ clubs in their respective areas. In addition, Bill Pasmak would like to secure an invitation to these local coaches meetings in order to present rules and promote alignment/understanding. The next level requested is to have "Mom and Pop" clinics for parents. As a minimum, Bill would like to address coaches at the travel level, and perhaps coaches and parents together for house leagues.

## **5. SCA - (Chris Chilano) – No Report or representative in attendance.**

## 6. Finance Director - (Jim Gabor)

- a. Treasurer's clinic summary was attached to the last minutes (Sep 12) as an addendum.
- b. All District Treasurers should have or ask for a non-interest bearing account, as we are a nonprofit organization.

### Old Business

Reviewed and verified completion of **action items** from pre-September meeting:

1. ODP assignment level problems - **Closed**
2. WNYSRC Assignment Procedures document was updated by Curt and distributed. DRAs and Officers please review. We intend to adopt this at the March 6 SRC meeting. - **Open**
3. District Treasurer will keep financial records per the new standard chart of accounts, and shall ensure that their name is on the District bank account(s). **Closed.**
4. Bill Pasnak will develop a program for the proposed statewide recertification clinic. **Closed.**
5. Bill Pasnak and Bill Fahey will update materials for the Buffalo District recertification clinics. **Closed.**
6. Investigate the possibility to have a clinic designed specifically for referees who officiate adult games (SDI lead with SRA follow-up) – **Closed.**

Reviewed and verified completion of **action items** from September meeting:

1. Districts are to confirm with Bill Fahey the Youth Referee of the Year candidates by Sep 24. **Closed.**
2. Art Jaspe to provide a final report on 2004 assessments. **Closed.**
3. Chris Chilano will contact the Districts for input to final Assignor's report and setup an Assignor's clinic. **Open**
4. All DRAs and board members are to contact Bill Fahey for needed supplies of coins and patches. **Open**
5. DRAs are to include the requirement for supplemental reports when incidents occur in recertification clinics. **Open**
6. All DRAs and Board Members must sign on and start using the Florida software system at wnyra.com. **Open**
7. DRAs must return to Curt all remaining referee badges. **Open – will close at end of registration**
8. Bill Campbell, Bill Fahey, Jim Gabor, and Paul Lysiak will form a committee to address Rochester tournament referee resource problem. **Open- copy of NYSW hosting process shared.**

### New Business

#### SRA

1. Updated Administrative Handbook – included are:
  - a. Game Assignment Guidelines
  - b. Referee Grades
  - c. Requirement for Grade 7 developmental assessments, where annual assessment for Adult Leagues does not apply.
  - d. Requirement for Grade 6 to have Division 2 or higher assessment. Note: it was determined that all Adult games except for recreational and co-ed qualify as 'Division 2' level for Rochester. The level of play being acceptable is always subject to the Assessor's judgment. Art will write up these guidelines for review at the March 6 SRC meeting.
2. Updated Policies and Procedures document – will be published on the website. Includes Risk Management and process for identifying and developing referees.
3. The Buffalo Adult League is now re-affiliated with USSF. Bill Helwig will pursue any remaining issues as applies to referees.

## **SYRA**

1. Handed out Youth Tournament dates.
2. Bill Fahey will ask for referees from the Districts for the State Cup.
3. Youth Referees of the Year will participate in the ODP Tournament.
4. Bill Fahey intends to resign as SYRA at the end of 2005. The SYRA position is appointed by the NYSW Youth organization with recommendation from the SRA. If anyone has a nomination, please advise Curt.
5. The use of approved protective headgear is not mandatory.

## **SDA**

1. No new business

## **SDI**

1. Request that one new projector and one new laptop be purchased for use outside of Rochester and Buffalo. Bill P. will send details to Curt.
2. A set of FIFA instructional DVDs were purchased. Bill P. is evaluating how best to integrate into instructional materials.

## **Good of the Organization**

1. Alex Badr acknowledges Tom Barker's recent contributions in filling in as DRA in Alex's absence.
2. Jim Pitcher reminds us that risk management passes expire in August and that all should contact their local DRA to renew when needed.
3. Jim Gabor had a question about funding for the mentor program. He will follow up with NYSW.
4. Bill Helwig stated that existing laptops sometimes had difficulties displaying action play parts of instructional CDs and DVDs. It was determined that these units should be used for entry level only, where action play is not needed.
5. Jerry Sullivan (through Bill Helwig) has a concern over where to locate the Grade 9 courses. It is seen as a difficulty to travel any distance for this course vs. the need to get enough participants in one place to warrant holding the course. After discussion, we determined that we need to make extra effort to accommodate larger number of local Grade 9 courses, especially for those referees under 14. By gaining more Grade 9s, we will demonstrate to NYSW that we have a viable program and that rec. clubs should use the grade 9s vs. uncertified referees.
6. Joe Delity remarked that he had a good experience with Grade 9 clinics and recertification in Bradford, PA.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM.

**Next meetings will be Mar 6, May 22, and Sep 18 from 10AM until 2PM at the Hampton Inn, Rochester (Greece), NY.**

## **Action Items:**

### **Old Items:**

1. The SCA will contact the Districts for input to final Assignor's report and setup an Assignor's clinic.
2. WNYSRC Assignment Procedures document is to be reviewed by all with response to Curt before next meeting so that we can adopt this on March 6 without further debate and changes.
3. All DRAs and board members are to contact Bill Fahey for needed supplies of coins and patches.
4. DRAs are to include the requirement for supplemental reports when incidents occur in recertification clinics.
5. All DRAs and Board Members must sign on and start using the Florida software system at wnyra.com.
6. DRAs must return to Curt all remaining referee badges. - will close at end of registration

**New Items:**

1. DRAs are asked to forward to Curt information on those who have obtained or are currently obtaining risk management as coaches.
2. letter should be sent to each of the affected Twin Tier District Referees that they may individually choose which of the two neighboring Districts to join
3. Advise Bill Pasnak of local coaches meetings and get for him an invitation to speak (30-45 min).
4. Art to write proposed guidelines for acceptable level of play with respect to "Division 2" and higher and a proposal for D&G assessments for Grade 7 Referees.
5. Bill P. and Curt to arrange for one new laptop and projector purchased.
6. Anyone wishing to nominate candidates for SYRA please contact Curt.