

MINUTES OF THE NTSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 1, 2020

Janet Campbell, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE

Via Zoom - Janet Campbell, Carlos Quinones, David Osborne, Dick Metivier, Erin Pfarner, JC Whaley, Larry Hall, Paula McFarlin, Tony DeBruno, Trent McColly, and David Messersmith

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Jim Mills

STAFF PRESENT

Gary Williamson, Rob Martella, and Lisa Skiles

GUESTS PRESENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The following minutes of the NTSSA Board of Directors Meeting were approved as submitted:
August 4, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- Janet Campbell noted Dan Pullen was out of the hospital, back at work, and doing better after his bout with COVID-19.

STAFF DISCUSSION

Gary Williams stated he was in Lubbock last weekend and held a coaching course with twenty-seven (27) coaches in attendance. Gary noted he received permission from the U.S. Soccer Federation to hold a blended "C" Coaching Course with about thirty-six (36) candidates. They will hold the classrooms session virtually and hopefully hold the field session in 2021.

Gary also noted the past three (3) weekends they have held ODP tryouts with great attendance with about 900 players that have gone through the tryouts. They have one (1) more to hold that was rained out and hope to schedule it that after Labor Day depending on field availability.

Rob Martella reported he has been busy with Frontier Conference which held its first weekend of play this past weekend which was rained out on Sunday. Rob noted it was very hot on Saturday playing the 12:00 PM, 2:00 PM, and 4:00 PM timeslots and they had three (3) referees have issues with the heat that had to be replaced.

Lisa Skiles noted Member Associations Bylaws and Rules were due today and we only received twenty-five (25). Lisa noted she would be sending out emails tomorrow as a reminder these are now past due. Lisa also reported the "Guidelines after diagnosis of COVID" have been sent out to the Member Associations in English and Spanish as well as posted on our website.

David Messersmith added to his report that he has finalized the trademark resolution with North Texas SC. David also noted employees will be returning to the office on Tuesday's and Thursdays beginning Tuesday, September 15th and continue to work from home the remaining days.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OFFICER REPORTS

Carlos Quinones – Nothing to add to written report

Dick Metivier – Nothing to report

Erin Pfarner - Nothing to report

J.C. Whaley - Nothing to report

Jim Mills – Absent – written report submitted

Tony DeBruno - Nothing to add to written report

Larry Hall - Nothing to report

David Osborne - Nothing to add to written report

Paula McFarlin - Nothing to add to written report

Trent McColly - Nothing to add to written report

CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED

- Play down request from Coppell Soccer

OLD BUSINESS

JC Whaley presented the 2020/2021 Coaching Committee for approval. The committee was approved.

David Messersmith and Rob Martella presented the E-Sports Gaming platform. Rob noted Global Digital Sports has built out the platform for North Texas Soccer and are working on a North Texas Soccer logo to be used with this platform. Rob discussed the fee distribution structure for the gaming platform between North Texas Soccer, Gyo Score, and Global Digital Sports. The cost is \$29.95 per season which lasts approximately three (3) months and would only be open to registered North Texas Soccer players. A motion was made and seconded to split the remaining \$10.00 to North Texas and \$6.00 to the Member Association or Club. The motion was approved.

David Osborne noted he is still working on completing the ODP Committee for 2020/2021.

Janet Campbell discussed the Zoom workshops that need to be held. Tony DeBruno noted he is looking at hosting one at the end of September. Carlos Quinones stated he will be holding one later this month. Dick Metivier said he would get with Heather on hosting one for new Treasurers and Completing the 990. David Messersmith stated the PowerPoint on completing the 990 has been posted on the website also.

NEW BUSINESS

Trent McColly discussed the Referee Code of Ethics changes. After some discussion the board noted this would be a housekeeping change to the North Texas Soccer Bylaws and Rules.

David Messersmith presented a request from Soccer Spectrum to allow Adult players to complete the Spring/Summer sessions on their 2019/2020 indoor player card since the center has been closed due to COVID and the players were not able to complete play. A motion was made and seconded to allow the adult players at all our Indoor centers to allow play to continue through 12/31/2020 with their 2019/2020 player cards that expired on 8/31/2020. The motion was approved.

David Messersmith discussed that our financial outlook is currently in the positive and noted it would be closer to the end of the month once all expenses have been booked to have a better estimate. Janet Campbell noted she is concerned about the Fall 2020 season registrations with the number of Member Associations stating registration numbers are down and some are not having a fall season.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Carlos Quinones
Vice President
September 1, 2020

During the months of August the following misconduct hearings were conducted:

	<u>August</u>	<u>2019/2020 YTD</u>
Appeals - A&D Committee Chairman - Vice President	3	3
Appeals - Executive Committee Chairman, President	0	1
Appeals - Risk Management Chairman, President	1	3
Competitive Committee Hearings Chairman, Youth Commissioner	1	20
Cup & Games Committee Hearings Chairman, Cup and Games Chairman	0	0
Indoor Chairman - Vice President	0	0
Outdoor Chairman - Vice President	0	7
Referee Assault / Abuse Chairman, President	0	21
Referee Misconduct Chairman, Vice President	0	2
Youth Commissioner Hearings Chairman, Youth Commissioner	0	0
Total Hearings:	5	54

Activities:

David Messersmith
Executive Director
September 1, 2020

Meetings held/attended since last board meeting:

1. South Region ED's weekly conference calls
2. Staff weekly conference calls
3. COVID Diagnosis Guidelines
4. Trademark resolution finalized with North Texas SC
5. Insurance renewals with K&K
6. Mesquite Soccer meeting
7. Member Associations fall seasons in COVID
8. Board members on various issues
9. Return to office plans

David M Osborne
Chairman, Olympic Development Program
September 1, 2020

With the ongoing concerns relating to the Covid-19 pandemic I am very happy to report that approximately 400 kids came out for tryouts for the 2006, 2007 & 2008 in both the Boys & Girls ODP age groups

I attended the tryouts on Sunday 9th & 16th August 2020 out at MoneyGram in Dallas

Helped out Gary on Sunday 16th August with critiquing on the 2007 Boys

Unable to attend the 2004, 2005, 2009 & 2010 ODP tryouts on Sunday 23rd August 2020

Tryouts on Sunday 30th August 2020 were cancelled due to rain in the DFW area

Worked with a concern parent whose son was not able to attend the 2006 tryouts. Met with Gary & Joe to allow her son to come out to practices and tryout for the 2006's. Parent was very happy we could help her out

Met with Gary concerning forming an ODP Committee and came to a consensus that once tryouts are complete and age specific teams are formed will put a committee together with 3 or 5 Coaches from the ODP teams.

Also included with my report which came to me after last month's board meeting is a PDF USYS ODP & MLS Partnership Benefits for all to read

I can't thank Gary, Joe & Janet enough for their guidance, support and help through my first month on the NTSSA Board

ODP Board Report - August 2020

Tryouts:

- Dates:
 - 2006, 2007, & 2008: 8/9 & 8/16
 - 2004, 2005, 2009, & 2010: 8/23 & 8/30
 - 8/30 was cancelled due to rain, TBD for rescheduled dates
- Registration Numbers:
 - New Players:
 - 2004: 36 Boys, 11 Girls
 - 2005: 48 Boys, 30 Girls
 - 2006: 36 Boys, 45 Girls
 - 2007: 40 Boys, 46 Girls
 - 2008: 46 Boys, 39 Girls
 - 2009: 58 Boys, 45 Girls
 - 2010: 73 Boys, 53 Girls
 - Returning Players:
 - 2004: 17 Boys, 17 Girls
 - 2005: 22 Boys, 19 Girls
 - 2006: 34 Boys, 37 Girls
 - 2007: 23 Boys, 32 Girls
 - 2008: 23 Boys, 13 Girls
 - 2009: 36 Boys, 28 Girls
- Total Tryout Registrations: **911**

**Jim Mills
Youth Commissioner
September 1, 2020**

This was a very busy month in both recreational and competitive in regard to questions and issues. In addition we had Frontier league begin play. Had video meeting with USYS in regard to National Championships.

Recreational registration is facing the biggest challenge with many reporting registrations numbers as low as 50%. I am aware of 5 associations that have decided on cancellation of the fall season. I have had many discussions with associations and continue to recommend keeping roster continuity to avoid a impact for future seasons. This will make it easier as we come out of this situation. In addition, I have recommended to many to consider pushing registration to later so that the kids can get back to school and Labor Day holiday behind us. This I believe will create a better picture of the state of the pandemic and hopefully give confidence in returning to play. In addition, I have discussed possibly playing smaller sided for the season so that kids can play. In this case you would still form normal rosters and allow teams to split to play the smaller sided. All associations face a different challenge and I will continue to be available to help them find alternatives to still have a good experience. I have in addition talked to several people from cancelled associations that are concerned with what they should do with their players.

We did conduct a hot topic webinar and it had good discussion. We are working to post it on the website.

Competitive soccer has begun play. We have had several complaints of possible recruiting and people transferring. Much of this is due to the unsettled Covid situation and concern of refunds should play be stopped. The number of teams that have had to stop for quarantine has been minimal with most coming from exposure outside of the team. Many clubs quarantine the team based on one confirmed case. Parents are responding well to the limited attendance at events due to league policy.

Frontier Conference began play both with dual games and our first hosted event at Moneygram Park. We had a hot but good first day but faced rain on day two and had to cancel. We have two more hosted events this fall. One will play in Arlington and the other in Ft. Worth.

**Paula McFarlin
Women's Commissioner
September 1, 2020**

During the month of August, some meetings I attended were via ZOOM.

Tues., Aug 4th, I attended the NTSSA Board Meeting
Wed., Aug 5th, I attended the NTSSA Return To Play Meeting
Sun., Aug 9th, I attended the NTWSA 9v9 Tournament
Sat., Aug 15th I attended the NTWSA Board Meeting
Mon., Aug 17th I attended the NTWSA Captains Meeting
Sat., Aug 22nd, I attended the NTWSA Captains Season Package Pickup
Tues., Aug 31st, I attended the NTSSA Risk Management Hearing

NTWSA held a one day 9v9 tournament on Aug 9th at the UTD Soccer Complex. This was a very welcomed one day event due to the summer season being cancelled. A total of 16 teams playing 3 games each in the heat of the day. NTWSA had masks made with their logo on them for each player along with hand sanitizer carabineers as a thank you for the team's participation in the tournament.

NTWSA started the Fall Season on Sunday, August 23rd with their regular season of 10 weeks.

Tony DeBruno
Chairman, Cup and Games
September 1, 2020

In anticipation of the 2020 Fall season and planning for TOC, Christi sent out a survey to the member associations. We asked a number of questions of the associations related to fall 2020 return to play and TOC plans (see below). I have attached an excel spreadsheet with the responses for your review.

What are your association's fall 2020 plans for return to play?

If your association is holding a fall season, what date will the season begin and what date will the season end?

If your association is holding a fall season, what new procedures, if any, are you instituting? For example, restricting number of spectators at a game, removing bleachers, etc.

Assuming the 2020 TOC is played in December as scheduled, will your association enter teams?

If the 2020 TOC is rescheduled to the spring of 2021, we would then be using spring team rosters vs fall rosters. Will your association enter teams in a spring TOC?

For the 2021 TOC scheduled to be held in December, 2021, and in future years, would your association be interested in being a "host" association for TOC? We are researching options to hold the event in multiple areas of the Metroplex since we no longer have a coaches' meeting and team check-in is completed online. This may allow multiple associations to host an age group at their facilities.

If your association is interested in being a host association for TOC, how many fields does your association have available in each field size? (11v11, 9v9, 7v7, 4v4)

If your association is interested in being a host association for TOC, how many of your fields are lighted? Please indicate how many fields are lighted for each field size, 11v11, 9v9, 7v7, and 4v4.

Does your association own the fields used for league and/or tournament play?

If your association does not own the fields used for league and/or tournament play, does the association have the first right to use the fields from the municipality that owns the fields?

Are there storage facilities at the fields that we can use to store TOC supplies and awards?

Will your association be able to provide volunteers to help if TOC games are played at your fields?

We have had 46 member associations respond so far:

Fall 2020 plans?:

42 associations plan to play

4 associations **are not** planning to play

Participate in a Fall 2020 TOC?:

28 associations indicated **yes**

10 associations are undecided at this time

8 association **do not** plan to participate

If TOC was moved to Spring 2021 would your association participate?:

29 associations indicated **yes**

12 associations are undecided at this time

5 associations **would not** plan to participate

Would your association like to be a host site for future TOC competitions?:

19 associations indicated **yes they would like to be a host for TOC**

12 associations are undecided at this time

15 associations **would not like to be a host for TOC**

The Cup and Gams committee will be meeting this month to review and be ready to make recommendations at the October Board meeting concerning “go / no go” for TOC in the fall of 2020. If the recommendation is no, then a recommendation for Spring 2021. In addition we’ll make recommendations for spectators, and other return to play guidelines (masks, sanitation, concessions, etc.)

We’ll also make a recommendation concerning either continuing to centralize TOC, “quadrant” TOC throughout the metroplex, or rotate TOC

Trent McColly
State Referee Chairman
September 1, 2020

The North Texas Soccer Referee Program has begun 2021 new registration using <https://ntxreferees.omgtsys.com>. The 2021 recertification process begins September 1 with officials completing some online content and taking their 2021 license exams. To help with the new registration process, the North Texas Soccer Referee Program has been conducting Zoom meetings with all license types. The committee met with Emeritus Referees August 25 and Assignors August 27. Other meetings are scheduled: Regional Referees will meet September 1, Grassroots Advanced September 2, and Assessors September 3. We will be meeting with Grassroots Referees during the week of September 8-11.

Individuals who want to become referees will now complete online modules and attend a 3.5-hour in-person field session. So far, the field sessions have been received with much praise because of the engagement and practical field activities. The online content contains our program's content along with US Soccer modules.

The North Texas Soccer Referee Program continues to provide additional communication on Facebook and Twitter about upcoming events and continues to work with Brad Grim to get a website up and running where information can be posted and training videos can be uploaded.