

Mohawk Valley Soccer Referees' Association

2/8/2009

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Andy Totman, Ray Pitcher, Kit Hutchinson, Ed Kobos, Bill Brooks, Bjorn Solli, Denis Mistic, Art Durando, Rich Abel, David Gould, Eric Ventura, Alan Copeland, Bruce Harris, Ed Condzola, Paul Mazloom, Gary Gerhardt, Rick Mitchelson, Bill Bailey, Joe Stanco, Jim Wright.

1. All present when meeting was called to order received a new green whistle and new ENY coin.
2. Correspondence.
 - A. There is a new uniform kit being available for training classes for \$69.50. Current referees can also order this by calling 1-877-661-9981.
 - B. The new ENY Referee Administrator is Howard Rubenstein.
 - C. There will be a Pro Clinic on March 21 and 22. See Ed if you are interested in attending.
3. Officers' Reports.
 - A. President: Ed went to the ENY state meeting. USSF is pushing to have everyone fulfill their 8 hours of training to reregister. All our meetings and the physical fitness test count toward the 8 hours, but we will still need to get 2 more hours. Conferences like the AYSO section meeting workshops will count toward the 8 hours as well. In addition, USSF would like to have everyone assessed twice per year. The MVSRA is going to train about 6 mentors to review all referees at least once per year.
 - B. Vice President: Art has been mentoring referees at RSSC. He passed out a sheet based on his observations. It listed both good practices and areas where improvements are needed.
 - C. Secretary: No report. However, members were reminded to send telephone or e-mail changes to Pete.
 - D. Registrar: No report.
 - E. Assignor: Members who are no planning to officiate this summer need to contact Kevin so that the MVSRA knows how many slots to purchase on Arbiter.
 - F. Treasurer: As of 1/27/2009, there is \$1426.03 in the account with no outstanding bills.
4. Reports of Committees.
 - A. Membership: We need to set up a course to train new referees. Art and Ed will handle this.
 - B. Training: After the meeting, there will be a review of fouls.
 - C. Constitution Review: Ed presented a portion of the proposed revisions. These will be sent to the membership via e-mail.
5. Unfinished Business.
 - A. Website: Glen Bahr will get the new website up and running.
 - B. Meetings for 2009: February 8, April 19, May 17, June 14, July 12, August 22 (fitness test), and November 15 (AGM).
6. New Business:
 - A. Dues: 2009 dues will be \$20 and must be paid to Jim before April 19. Afterward, members will be charged a \$10 late fee.
 - B. ENY tournaments. The following tournaments will be conducted by ENY:
 - a. ODP,
 - b. State Cup to be held June 13 and 14 at Stringham park Lagrange, NY
 - c. Challenge Cup,
 - d. Region 1 Tournament.Contact Ed IMMEDIATELY if you would like to participate because he must send in recommendations.
 - C. CNYSSL items. The CNYSSL seasons starts June 1. The CNYSSL President and some members of their Board will attend our May meeting to discuss the league. This year substitution opportunities will be done just like in high school soccer. A consistent lightning policy will be developed and a rainout fee will be worked on. All players sent off MUST be removed from the field. Last year, an illegal player was used by the team that won the B Division championship so the team was stripped of its trophy, the manager was banned for

one year, and the player fined. Because of this, CNYSSL will now have new pictures on player passes every three years.

- D. Life Membership. John Elnicky, a retired member of the MVSRA, was nominated by the Executive Board to become the first Life Member of the MVSRA. Ray made a motion, seconded by Bill Brooks, to name John as a Life Member. Discussion mentioned that John has been involved in soccer all of his life. Motion passed unanimously. John will be presented with a plaque that Ed designed.

7. Items for the good of the game.

- A. The complaints about indoor referees include: not enough hustle, indecisiveness, positioning, and not having enough compassion for younger players who are injured. Be sure to be aware of these when doing indoor games.
- B. RSSC indoor availability. Be sure to send availability to Eric as early as possible and reply to assignments quickly.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM to begin training on fouls by watching video clips of situations that had occurred in actual games.

Respectfully submitted (and ghosted by actual secretary/flu sufferer Peter Inserra),

Kit Hutchinson
Acting Secretary/Registrar