

Minutes of the MVSRA meeting on April 19, 2009

- 1) Called to order at 7PM by Ed Kobos
- 2) Attendance: Ed Kobos, Kevin Waters, Jim Wright, Peter Inserra, Kit Hutchinson, Eric Ventura, David Gould, Alan Copeland, Paul Mazloom, Glen Bahr, Bruce Harris, EJ Conzola, Gary Gerhardt, Rick Mitchelson, Bill Brooks, Bill Bailey, Ray Pitcher, Andy Totman, Steve Barth, Denis Mistic, Rifet Begic, Bjorn Solli (22 members out of 36)
- 3) Correspondence:
 - a. Starting in 2010 all referees recertifying for grade 8 must be at least 15 years old and grade 9's may be assigned centers for small sided games only.
 - b. The Red Bulls Soccer Club is offering their referee package with 4 dates available at a cost of \$108 per person see <http://redbulls.com/soccer/newyork> for details. For our club they have a modified offer of the Gold Cup final which should feature the USA men's team on May 8 and the Red Bulls game on July 26 for a cost of \$65 per person. Contact Ed if interested.
 - c. There are 11 new directives issued by USSF and it is very important all referees read them and direct any questions to Ed. The directives can be accessed through our website <http://mvsra.org>.
- 4) Officers reports
 - a. President
 - i. The assessors/instructors meetings went very well (although it consisted of a lot of travel to the NYC area).
 - b. Vice-President
 - i. A mentoring PowerPoint presentation will be uploaded to our website (<http://mvsra.org>) it is about 15 minutes long and should be viewed by all members. If you do not have a PowerPoint reader there is a downloadable one available on our website.
 - c. Registrar
 - i. 13 new members will be joining our ranks soon but we lost 5 from last year.
 - ii. There was some discussion about the Association purchasing 30-40 pairs of socks to keep on hand for quick purchase but it was later decided that no one wanted to be responsible for storage and issuance of the socks.
 - d. Secretary
 - i. Alex Matthews updated his email info and everyone seems to have received it. If you have any changes email the secretary right away so that your correct contact info gets on Arbiter.
 - ii. A copy of the roster will be forwarded to the President who will update it with the new referee's info and email it to the membership.
 - e. Assignor
 - i. A new league called the Thruway League started April 19 and should add a few games to our schedule so be sure your Arbiter calendar is updated as often as possible. Check out their website

<http://www.thruwayleaguecup.com/schedule.cfm> and I am sure a link will be on our website soon.

- ii. CNYJSA games will be starting early next month and the season runs till late June. There will be many games available for both new as well as experienced referees so be sure your Arbiter calendar is updated as often as possible. If you are planning on refereeing their games visit their website (cnyjsa.org) and printout their game day what ifs and rules and regulations so that you know what to do.
- f. Treasurer
- i. Our account balance is \$1118.63. It was requested the treasurer look into the possibility of obtaining a debit card for the Association to use for ordering online instead of having a member order and be reimbursed.
 - ii. An audit of the account will take place before the next meeting on **May 17, 2009**.

5) Committee Reports

a. Membership

- i. The president requested the secretary and treasurer coordinate looking into when each member paid their initiation fee and let the president know.
- ii. The 13 new members consist of 5 youths, 3 females and 5 men

b. Training

- i. Art took a mentoring course and will be selecting a few referees and training them how to mentor also. Every referee will be mentored at least once this spring/summer and every spring/summer thereafter.

c. Constitution Review Committee

- i. The amendments to our bylaws that were discussed at the February meeting were passed unanimously (Ray Pitcher/Glen Bahr). The second set of amendments will be discussed at the **May 17, 2009** meeting and voted on at the June 14 meeting. After passing or failing the secretary will amend the bylaws and email a copy to all members.

6) Old business

- a. Dues were collected by the treasurer and anyone who hasn't paid will now owe \$30.
- b. Our website, <http://mvsra.org>, is up and running and if anyone has picture(s) of a member in action email it to Glen Bahr for posting. Kudos to Glen and his crew for all their hard work in getting the website looking so good!

7) New business

- a. Professionalism for all referees was addressed and it was noted that there should not be any dissent between fellow referees.
- b. ENY recertification dates for 2010 are August 22, November 15 and December 19.
- c. The next meeting of the MVSRA will be **May 17, 2009** and will probably be held at Cavallos due to the number of referees potentially attending (31 + 13 new) plus guest Jim Price of the CNYSSL.
- d. The Rising Stars Soccer Complex is now assigning over 800 games per session and there are still adult games being played until May 30 when playoffs start. If interested contact Eric Ventura right away.

- e. At the **May 17** meeting we will be discussing the refresher most of us took in November.

8) Tournaments

- a. Camden will be July 11 and 12 but this may be the last year for USSF referees as they may change to AYSO affiliation next year.
- b. State Cup will be held in LaGrange (don't insert ZZ Top reference here as no one will get it but Gary and I) near Poughkeepsie on June 13 and 14 if you are interested contact Ed.
- c. OD P and Region 1 are using the same referees as last year and are full.
- d. There is a tournament at the Soccer Hall of Fame in Oneonta called the Legends of Soccer http://soccer.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=tournaments_homepage and if you are interested email the following information to Geoff Davis at davisgb@oneonta.edu: name, grade level, when grade was obtained, age, availability and contact info.

9) CNYSSL

- a. Season starts June 1 but the number of teams has yet to be finalized (should be at the April 20 meeting).
- b. All player passes and pictures will be updated every three years by CNYSSL.
- c. The MVSRA president is now a voting member of the CNYSSL board.
- d. The lightning policy, rainout policy and the substitution procedures for the year have been updated and it is important that all members know them by heart for the upcoming season especially since they have changed from previous years. They can be accessed through our website <http://mvsra.org>.

10) Items for the good of the game

- a. Ray Pitcher is looking for referees for a tournament on June 6, if interested contact him right away.
- b. Herkimer is undergoing some soccer field rehab so their games might be played at the high school.
- c. Robert Fusillo, brother of member Tom Fusillo, was in a serious accident in December and is undergoing rehabilitation. A fundraiser is being held to defray costs associated with the accident, rehab and travel. If interested in tickets to a spaghetti dinner, 50/50 or raffle tickets contact Peter Inserra.
- d. Art Durando has created a compilation of MVSRA members' recommendations for refereeing strategies. It's up on the new MVSRA web site, <http://mvsra.org>. Some very good ideas have come out of this, and most of it is applicable to outdoor as well, so please check it out. You'll find links in the red box on the MVSRA web site, <http://mvsra.org>.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM (Kevin Waters and Rifet Begic).

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Inserra, Secretary

MV Soccer Referees Association