

MDCVSA Minutes
Annual General Meeting
October 5, 2002
Comfort Inn
Springfield, Virginia

The meeting took place on October 5, 2002 at the Comfort Inn, Springfield, VA and began at approximately 10:00 am.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:10 AM

I. Roll Call:

A. Member Leagues Present:

1. Afghan Sports Federation - Atiq Panjshiri
2. Capital Coed Premier Soccer League - Matt Page
3. Capital Coed Recreational Soccer League - Susan Straight
4. Capital Soccer League - John Burns
5. Central Virginia Soccer Association (Premier) - Derek McCown
6. Central Virginia Soccer Association (Recreational) - Derek McCown
7. Chesterfield Women's Soccer Association - Lauren Ware
8. Commonwealth Soccer League - Mike Marino
9. Hampton Roads International Soccer League - Selim Ozic
10. Northern Virginia Coed Adult Soccer League - Jack Smit
11. Northern Virginia Soccer League - Allen Sullivan
12. Peak Soccer - Janice Luth
13. Soccer Association of Charlottesville-Albemarle - Matt Page (*by proxy*)
14. Virginia Coed Sports & Recreation, Inc. - Wolf Antoni (*arrived after roll call*)
15. Washington Area Women's Soccer League - Eric Hoy
16. Washington International Soccer League - Chip Terrill

B. Officers Present:

1. President - Wallace Watson
2. Vice President - Jim Sadowski
3. Executive Secretary - Suzie Price
4. Recording Secretary - Michael Slie
5. Acting Registrar - Steve Long

C. Officers Absent: Acting Treasurer - Ralph Wills.

D. Others Present

1. Anita Hood - DC/NOVA Referees Unit
2. Don Hood - MDCVSA Representative to the State Referee Committee
3. Scott Meyer - State Referee Administrator

E. Credentials Report - Although the lack of detail in the Acting Treasurer's report made it difficult to determine the number of votes per league, Steve Long and Jim Sadowski calculated the number of votes per league and determined that a quorum was achieved and there were a total of 79 eligible votes.

II. STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Don Hood's Report: The MDCVSA (State) acknowledges the hard work of Scott Meyer and his importance to MDCVSA programs. Statistics for the last year: 222 Clinics held; 280

Assessments given; there was a 6.5% growth in the number of certified referees but less senior referees are available now than before. Mr. Hood expressed concern about an increasing number of incidents involving women using foul and abusive language. There were also an increasing number of complaints about referees not calling offside's correctly.

B. Scott Meyer's Report: There was a discussion about assessments and the scheduling of assessments. Mr. Marino (CSL) expressed concern that his leagues games were not being considered as "counting" for assessment purposes. Mr. Meyer discussed the policy on games "counting" for assessment purposes. He gets feedback from high level referees (national referees and national referee candidates) as to which games are considered "top amateur matches" for assessment purposes.

C. There was a discussion about how to become a certified assignor. Jim Sadowski (who has taken the USSF assignor class and is a certified assignor) explained the purpose of the class and briefly described the type of instruction that was given.

D. Chip Terrill (WISL) requested a copy of the list of all certified assignors in the state. Mr. Meyer noted that the web site (<http://vadcsoccerref.com/assignorsearch.html>) lists some of the certified assignors, but not all assignors want their name posted on the web site.

E. After a discussion concerning foul and abusive language and dissent, the council expressed its sentiment that referees should crack down on foul and abusive language and dissent. Mr. Meyer said that he would "put the word out" to the referees to let them know the council's position.

F. A lifetime service award was given to Don Hood by Mr. Meyer.

III. President's Report

A. Wally suggested that council members e-mail the local Soccer Hall-of-Fame board (internet address not given) about our nominees because they belong in the Hall of Fame and the board is youth oriented and inclined to ignore Adult/Senior division people. The Hall of Fame nominees from the MDCVSA are Kip Germain and Don Hood.

B. Acting Treasurer Ralph Wills and Wally Watson met with DC United about building a soccer complex near Centreville, Virginia. Costs estimates quoted by DC United sounded quite high to Mr. Watson.

C. Insurance claims forms written in Spanish are now available. Contact Wally Watson.

D. The player registration fee has been raised by the USASA. Wally believes that the fees were raised in order to provide funding to the National Team because sponsor money does not maintain player development programs such as Project 40 and Project Gold. Also, the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) is diverting profits from International Games to the professional leagues instead giving it back to the State Associations. Now, National Team profits go to MLS or WUSA instead of to the USSF. The result is a fee increase in addition to a loss of a revenue stream.

E. Wally explained the new USASA registration fees and the proposed MDCVSA fee:

- Player Insurance - \$10
- Player Registration - \$5
- MDCVSA Fee - \$1
- **Total registration cost per player - \$16**

F. Janice Luth (Peak) asked that registration and payment requirements be clarified as they are currently confusing.

G. The Afghan Sports Federation asked for a bill for the upcoming season.

H. There is no longer any team fee and the distinction between a premier and a recreational player has been eliminated.

I. President's conclusion on the fee increases: the fee increase came on the heels of loss of National Team revenue for the MDCVSA. Furthermore, it signifies the dissolution of the partnership between the USSF and local State Associations for National Team games. National Team proceeds that once went to the State Associations will go the MLS and WUSA. The MDCVSA will still receive proceeds from international games that do not feature the National Teams. Finally, the fee increase will affect recreational leagues and teams more than premier leagues and teams.

J. President's review of the \$60K USASA repayment and fine: Explanation, an audit found the MDCVSA had paid some fees late or had not paid some fees at all. Wally believed that the USASA allowed a settlement since the MDCVSA found the underpayments during a routine audit and brought the underpayment to the attention of the USASA voluntarily.

- Estimated underpayment - \$125,000
- Settlement reached with USASA - \$50,000
- Fine levied for late payment - \$10,000
- **Total paid to USASA as settlement - \$60,000**

I. Conclusion: Improvement of business practices is highest priority to avoid future problems.

IV. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Jim Sadowski's written report was sent prior to the meeting for member review so that it could be discussed at the meeting. A member survey was attached to the VP report so members could express their membership priorities. Jim also passed out the *Soccer in the USA* publication prepared by the U.S. Soccer Foundation.

V. ACTING TREASURER'S REPORT - The Acting Treasurer, Ralph Wills, was not present so Wally Watson passed out Ralph's written report.

A. Explanation and summary of Internal Revenue Service problems: The Acting Treasurer is currently working with IRS representatives to resolve the problems. Wally reported that the problem was caused because non-profit organization statements were not filed correctly with the IRS for two tax years. Wally indicated that the missing reports were finally filed by Ralph. The IRS sent a response Luis Del Aguila's address, which caused delay and when no response was forthcoming from the MDCVSA, the IRS levied fines. Ralph sent a letter to the IRS to appeal the fines. The appeal is under consideration but IRS correspondence was apparently still being sent to Luis' address.

B. Written Financial Report. Members again expressed serious concern about the inadequacy in Ralph's written financial report. This was also the second meeting in a row that Ralph did not attend. A subsidy was not classified properly (said State Cup but was really for the Veteran's Cup). A deposit for the CCSL was incorrect (amount wrong). The checking balance does not tie with the date listed on the balance sheet. No documentation was given for the CDs and those balances did not tie to the report. Members also noted the lack of sufficient detail (especially for deposits) and asked that future reports provide the level of detail as required by the Constitution. There were also inconsistencies concerning names and abbreviations. The term *market rate* was not defined.

C. Wally noted that there may be outstanding team subsidy payments due (TSP & Kip Germain's Veteran's Cup team).

D. The financial report was filed for future audit.

E. Mr. Burns (CSL) asked of the MDCVSA had officers and directors liability insurance that covered malfeasance.

VI. OTHER REPORTS

A. Select Teams Wally discussed that the program was discontinued at the MDCVSA level because goals and objectives of the program were not clear and the perceived benefits to the players did not justify the expense. Jim asked that council members use the questionnaire attached to his V.P. report to express their opinion on the Select Team program.

B. National Cups Steve Long reported that two teams from the MDCVSA advanced to the finals: Bier FC in the men's division and TSP in the women's (over 30). Also, there were many complaints on scheduling so please use your questionnaire to express your views on National Cup scheduling.

C. Concerning cup subsidies, two checks were written and other subsidies were requested.

D. Chip Terrill (WISL) asked that the Amateur Cup be started sooner.

E. Veteran's Cup The finalists were Annandale Fire in the over 40 division and Virginia Freedom in the over 50 division. Next year the Veteran's Cup takes place in Hawaii (August 6-10, 2003).

F. Coed Cup Jim Sadowski reported that this year the MDCVSA hosted the Coed Cup at the Hampton Roads Soccer Complex in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Heat was a big factor. The MDCVSA won both competitions for the second straight year. The Conquistadors (CCSL) won the open competition and Dave's Crew (SEVWSA and Va. Beach players) won the Over 30 competition.

G. State Cups

1. The women's tournament was held June 16, 2002 at Bryan Park, Richmond, VA. Winner: Our Way - WAWSL; Runner-up: Richmond United (CWSA).

2. Men's tournament held June 15 and 16, 2002, Bryan Park, Richmond, VA. Teams quitting the tournament after they were eliminated from the competition caused some problems. Winners: State Cup: LCC International (NVSL); Challenge Cup: Fan Rats (CVSA).

F. Women's Challenge Cup It was held in August on the Mall in Washington, D.C. No Virginia Beach teams participated. Eric Hoy (WAWSL) organized the tournament. The organizer, WAWSL, took a \$1,200.00 loss on the tournament.

*MOTION - to reimburse WAWSL for losses incurred in the tournament, **CARRIED.***

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Return of MDCVSA Equipment Wally read a letter from the former Treasurer, Luis Del Aguila, offering to pay for the computer that he has that was purchased with MDCVSA funds.

*MOTION - allow Luis to keep the computer if he allows copies of the Quicken files (needed for the audit) to be made - **CARRIED.***

B. Proposed Constitutional Amendment To eliminate the Delegates At Large.

*MOTION - to eliminate delegates at large (printed copy distributed for reference M1) - **FAILED.***

C. Audit Committee Reports

1. Fiscal Years 95-99: Not yet completed. Last international games reconciliation needs to be completed before a final report can be submitted.

2. Fiscal Years 99-01: Lauren Ware is still gathering data for the audit. Mike Marino resigned from that committee. Some missing data is believed to be on the computer that is in possession of the former Treasurer.

3. Mr. Burns (CSL) questioned the President about his failure to account for match tickets and cash advances given to both he and Luis.

MOTION - to postpone discussions/accusations of malfeasance until audit committee report is issued - **CARRIED**.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

MOTION - to confirm Steve Long as Registrar - **CARRIED**

IX. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. President Jim Sadowski and Wallace Watson were nominated. Jim Sadowski accepted the nomination. Wally Watson declined the nomination. The presiding officer directed that one vote be cast for Jim Sadowski and he was elected President. Jim thanked Wally for his many years of service, as did the council. Jim indicated that he would like to keep Wally involved as an advisor due to his extensive experience. Wally indicated that he would like to stay involved.

B. Executive Secretary Suzie Price and Chip Terrill accepted nominations. Suzie Price received 51 votes and Chip Terrill received 28 votes, so Suzie Price was elected Executive Secretary.

C. Treasurer Derek McCown and Ralph Wills accepted nominations (Wally indicated that Ralph, who was absent, had told him that he would accept the nomination). Derek McCown was elected Treasurer.

D. Delegates at Large Kip Germain, Anita Hood, Lauren Ware, Allen Sullivan, and Selim Ozic were all nominated and accepted the nominations. Janice Luth was nominated but declined the nomination. The presiding officer directed that one vote be cast for each nominee so the first five persons that accepted nominations were elected (unopposed) as Delegates at Large.

X. FOR THE GOOD OF THE GAME

A. The council acknowledged the Women's National Team success in Canada.

B. There was a request that the service award for Don Hood be purchased (first authorized at the September 2001 council meeting).

C. Jim Sadowski asked for council approval to allow Wally Watson to attend the Region 1 meeting in October in Foxboro, MA (at the expense of the MDCVSA) in the capacity as Immediate Past President. The council approved this request without objection.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.
