



MDCVSA Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 7 pm
Conference Call

1. Roll Call

Member Leagues

Capital Coed Soccer League
Central Virginia Soccer Association
Commonwealth Soccer League
Fredericksburg Field House
Northern Virginia Adult Soccer Association
Roanoke Adult Soccer League
Valley AFC
Washington Area Women's Soccer League

Lou Chinchilla
Justin Reagan
Andre Woolcock
Chris Tierney
Natalie Parcell
Lynn Cochran
Steve Simon
Jessie Kratz

Officers

James Sadowski
Marti Bevan
Lou Chinchilla
Jessie Kratz
Chris Tierney

President
Vice President
Registrar
Treasurer
Secretary

Delegates

Anita Hood
Steve Long
Jamie Williams
Aaron Toellner

Staff

Mary Beth Falk- State Administrator
Jamie Tierney- National and State Cup Commissioner/Administrative Assistant

2. Credentials Report

There were 52 votes of 104. A quorum was achieved.

3. Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda was approved.

4. Minutes

Jim noted that the September 17 reference, on the agenda, was not an official meeting, but when ballots were counted for the office of President. Jim gave everyone two minutes to review the minutes and reminded everyone we are doing Robert's Rules.

Motion to adopt the minutes from the 8/26/2014 meeting was approved.

5. Officers' Reports

a. President's report

Jim first thanked everyone for their confidence in him by re-electing him for 2 more years. Jim reported that at the USASA MYM meeting in September, USASA realized that everyone is facing the same issues as we do—we have attrition to unaffiliated leagues. USASA hired a consultant and concluded they needed to change their business model—they are too dependent on player fees and insurance, and they aren't serving most of their members and we should see further reduction in fees.

i. Retreat recap—the EC all got together, as a board, away from their lives, in Williamsburg, Virginia, for Strategic Planning and to devise a 5 year plan. The Board will present an official report, but Jim reported it was a very productive meeting. The main items that were discussed were the need to create league incentives, and to offer more value to our players.

b. Vice President's report

Marti did not have anything to report at this time.

c. Registrar's report

Lou stated that one of the main talking points is the online registration rebate. We need to get more leagues onboard. We also are again looking for a new online vendor that better meets the needs of our current users.

d. Treasurer's report

Jessie stated we hired a new accountant who will file our 990 and conduct a 3 year review. She reviewed all our current accounts and noted that she has consolidated some of them. She will send around our account statements next week. She will also send out a draft budget, before our next meeting in August, for all to review and comment on beforehand. Jim added to Jessie's report that our money reserves were getting a very low yield, and we are in the process of consulting a financial advisor.

e. Secretary's report

Chris did not have anything to report at this time.

6. Referee Matters

Jim discussed the new grade 7 requirement. He reported that US soccer said it's okay to use grade 8s as Center Refs if Grade 7s were not available or if a grade 8 is better suited for that match. He reiterated that using a grade 8 as CR does not affect insurance—if assignors don't have enough they can use an 8, period. He also reported the State has not had an SRC meeting in a while. The SRC did have a call with assignors, and leagues should not panic, and should continue to use grade 8 referees. Anita Hood said we definitely need more referees. Lynn Cochran asked if there will be no problems for assignors who don't use 7s—will assignors get accused of not using a grade 7, and will they get in trouble? Jim said assignors still have the flexibility of which they use and can use a grade 8, if it's better than a grade 7, although he can't promise assignors will not get in trouble, but he honestly doesn't see it being an issue and if it is, to give it him a call.

7. Administrator's Report

Mary Beth discussed the new league requirements that will be put into place which will include new set dates, by season—Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer—for player registrations. This will help to streamline how we currently do it (the 30 day rule), across all leagues. Those dates will be presented at the August 2015 meeting.

8. National and State Cup/Administrative Assistant's Report

Jamie Tierney has replaced Diane Larkin. Jamie stated that all the information online has been updated. The Men's Open, Over 30, is up on our website. She said we don't have the dates for the regional rounds yet, that will be given out at the USSF AGM in February, and updated accordingly. All entry forms are online and the deadline to enter is March 16, 2015. On the topic of state cup, a June event in Richmond will impact CVSA. State cup will have more regional teams depending on where it is. We would like to see participation with CVSA teams in that event. CVSA, historically, has had great success in hosting the event. We would like to see CVSA take the reins again. Justin Reagan will get back to us about hosting it in June. CVSA has a board meeting in February and can discuss then. Normally when we put out notice in February, for it to be held in June in Richmond, we have had the most participation. We do want to put notice out early and CVSA will get back to us.

9. Old Business

a. 2015 Veterans Cup (Jessie & Chris)—This year's dates are July 14-19, 2015. USASA has added more events to make more of a "Soccer Festival," for all of their competitions, and renamed it the "National Championship Series" which will include Veterans Cup, National Cups, U23 and Women's championship. Registration is open now. We highly encourage everyone to spread the word. MDCVSA will offer a subsidy of \$250 to send local teams to Veterans Cup. Veterans Cup teams range from Over 30 to Over 70 with a new division added for Over 30 Coed. Jessie will get out the policy about the subsidy.

10. New Business

a. USASA tournament pass—USASA allows their state associations to use this lower cost option to build their membership and generate more revenue. Cost is \$10 per player. We currently have restrictions, (our guests pay more than our member league players), and so the question is, do we need those restrictions? Will we allow some members to affiliate just for tournaments? Temporary memberships? Does this dilute leagues? A high amount of other state associations do allow this, and it does help them, but they are "player" based, and not "league" based like us. We need to weigh the pros and cons. We need to find a way to introduce unaffiliated teams and players, and not miss out on this opportunity. Right now leagues should think about these issues to be discussed at the next meeting.

b. Option for MDCVSA Direct affiliation—Jim feels we should try to adopt a process/application for teams to do this, and this could be a low cost option for us to consider. There is a movement within USASA and other State Associations to provide players and teams with short-term memberships. Question from Steve Long, "Have any other states used this"? Yes, many states have used this option to host tournaments which resulted in more affiliated players and eventually more affiliated leagues.

c. Move to Calendar Year in 2017, at the earliest—Jessie had stated that USASA has already moved to the calendar year, and for us to do this as well, would be much easier for our reporting. She will discuss the options with our accountant and report again on this in August.

d. Online registration/plan to rebid for 2016—Jim stated currently our product doesn't meet all of our needs, and work as well for us as we need it to. USASA currently use Sport NGIN. We will, as we did last time, send out an RFP (Request for Proposal) and obtain bids, test the products, and give feedback. We would like to start earlier, Spring of 2015, so we aren't pressed for time, which was the case last time we did this. Anita Hood stated that everyone should go online and we should have a mandate. Jim responded that he didn't think we can mandate, but we might rather start offering incentives to leagues to use it. Jim is also looking into the membership card aspect of the online registration.

e. New Website with Blue Sombrero—already discussed.

f. New Member Leagues—two new member leagues were given provisional status by the EC, they are:

1) Virginia Soccer Training Facility- VYSA Adult League, Fredericksburg, VA

2) Valley AFC Women's League- Roanoke, VA, President Steve Simon-PRESENT

Both were approved, as full member leagues, by the full council without objection. A warm welcome to our newest members!

g. Women's and Coed state cup dates for 2015 and 2016—Jamie added to the new website a link for Veteran's Cup and the Women's champion division that will be held in July in Virginia Beach. Women's teams can register directly through USASA. MaryBeth talked about the National Championship Series taking place in our backyard, of which, Veterans Cup, which is being hosted by our state association, is a part of. Spread the word, it will be a great event for all levels of adult soccer! One of the retreat agenda items discussed was to use the Neptune Soccer Classic as a Women's State Cup. We were also looking into a Coed State Cup, as possibly part of the Neptune Soccer Classic as well. Marti will take these suggestions to her NSC committee to see if this is something they would like to handle in that way, that would be beneficial for all.

11. Open issues raised from the floor

Jim will send out directives in writing about the grade 7 matter. It will be in conjunction with the follow up to the assignors. The main concerns are assignors wouldn't have enough grade 7 referees. US Soccer has said they won't do anything. Many of the less competitive leagues don't want to be bothered with using grade 7s or higher. Anita Hood stated that, "Some refs just want to ref," and Jim added, "Why shouldn't they?" If leagues are happy with their refs, then use them. Anita Hood really needs more referees.

12. For the Good of the Game

- a. Upcoming US National Team Matches-Game in Mexico
- b. August 22, 2015, next Council Meeting to coincide with DC United match at RFK 7pm—may have budget call. Our AGM should be in person; We would have a meeting, proceed to a tailgate, and watch the DC United Match, all in one, so please put it on your calendar.

13. Adjournment (8:00 pm)

Steve Long made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Falk
State Administrator