

## DOC Meeting Notes – 4/18/18

*Associations in Attendance:* Mike Rottjakob (ABYSA), Jeff Gross (BSC), Kalla Stark (Carolina Rapids), Godwin Iwelumo (CVYSA), Vicky Elcome (CCSC), Mark Thornton (CSA), Martin Slavin (CSL), Todd Abbey (FSC), Winston Pennington (GCAA), Forrest Collier, Steve Diamond, Will Thomson, Guy Garguilo (GUSA), Craig Hollis, Joe Hollis (ICRD), Cam Ormsby (JASA), Phil Dobbing (LNSC), Pete Sadin (NCFC), Michael Walser (NCUSA), Omar Chalid (PGSA), David Upchurch, Josh Windley (PSA), Kevin Park (SSL), Philip Wilkinson (SISA), Matt Kennedy (TESC), Mark Simpson (TCYSA), John Cirillo (TUSA), Sean Trotter (URYSA), Derek Harrell (WCWAA), David Allred, Jason Schmieg (Wake FC)

*Others in Attendance:* Tom Condone (USYS), Keith Price (NCYSA), Art Rex (NCYSA), Larry Taylor (NCYSA), Kathy Robinson (NCYSA), Bill Furjanic (NCYSA), Keri Jones (NCYSA), Eric Redder (NCYSA), John Trice (NCYSA), Mark Moore (NCYSA), Rachel Jones (NCYSA), Debbie Morton (NCYSA) Colby Morton (NCYSA), Joette Kivett (NCYSA), Lyn Halstead (NCYSA)

### *Introduction:*

- Bill Furjanic welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending
- Bill introduced Tom Condone, USYS General Manager – South Region

### *New Business:*

#### USYS:

Tom Condone presented a power point with updates on the new structure of USYS.

- USYS has hired General Managers for each of the four regions in hopes of staying relevant in the landscape of youth soccer. Their focus will be to carry out the mission and vision of USYS by putting the player first.
- Membership of USYS has been sitting at 3 million youth for the last 10-15 years. How can they help to increase that number? How can they bring clubs and players back to USYS?
- In July/August 2017, changes to the USYS by-laws were passed by the member associations. There is hope that these changes will be instrumental in trying to professionalize the organization and strength its' foundation to help change USYS in a positive direction. The goal is to enhance USYS and its' member associations at the state, regional and national level.
- The region names have changed from a number system to East, Midwest, South and West.
- General Managers oversee the states in their region and should be reaching out in some way to each state to see how USYS can help. The GMs are responsible for service, education and outreach which may include but aren't limited to increasing customer service, sound financial management and creating compelling programs to bring back clubs who've left USYS. *Tom's goal is visit all the states in the South Region in the first 6 months.*
- USYS and its' General Managers will focus on four consistent themes to help achieve their goals:
  - Streamlining: simplify the layers that may make USYS cumbersome
  - Technology: be more effective/efficient with time and money for states, clubs & USYS
  - Professionalism: GMs are hoping to be the liaison between USYS and the states

- Community: GMS want to be more active in their regions and member states
- USYS wants to do a better job of helping states be creative and developing meaningful programs
- USYS is trying to work with the Soccer Foundation to create in/after school programs for underserved areas
- There is a desire to enhance the ODP program to help bring it back to where it once was
- USYS will continue pursuing their MLS relationship which will be vital to all the way around
- USYS is looking to promote and improve the Soccer Shots program
- A major goal of USYS is to re-brand itself completely by November 2018
- USYS Leagues Overview:
  - USYS National League
  - 14 conferences (multi-state leagues) for 2018-19
  - NC is now the Piedmont Conference (includes NC, SC and portion of GA)
  - They recognize that travel was a massive issue in the past and are hopeful that having an increased number of conferences will help with travel issues while keeping up the competitiveness of games
  - National League will be governed by league policies, a management group, part-time league managers for each conference (Mike Leland is the league manager for the Piedmont Conference) and an oversight management group of soccer professionals who will hopefully help give clubs a voice in each conference
- USYS press release will be going out soon

Tom opened up the floor to questions/concerns/comments.

- DOCs want dates/locations EARLY
- Looking for better administration of the leagues
- USYS league managers will be responsible for scheduling inter-state games and NC will schedule intra-state games

#### Risk Management: (Rachel Jones with NCYSA)

- Abuse Prevention training will be required for everyone involved in each association and must be completed before they can participate
- This is now required by law
- Each association now has an Abuse Prevention liaison so please contact them or Rachel with questions

#### *Old Business:*

#### ODP: (John Trice with NCYSA)

- Better luck with weather for ODP trainings this spring
- Big thanks to FSC and TWINS for the use of their facilities this spring
- April training is this weekend (4/21 and 4/22) for all age groups at Bryan Park
- Camp selections will be made following this weekend for the 2001-2005 groups

- 2006 and 2007 groups will finish their season at the Wilson event June 1-3, 2018
- June trainings are for players going to camp
- Plan is to bring 11 teams on the boys side and 12 teams on the girls side
- We are beginning to forecast for 2018-19; we will reach out to clubs with our thoughts and we encourage you to connect with us on suggestions/concerns
- We as a program are trying to stay ahead and relevant in the changing landscape of youth soccer to keep ODP available to as many NC families as possible

Youth Academy: (Eric Redder with NCYSA)

- Spring Showcase is this weekend 4/21 & 4/22 at BB&T in Winston (approx. 130 teams)
- Tentative date for Youth Academy Directors is June 7, 2018
- Weather deterred site visits this spring but we appreciate the continued communication
- Will look to continue connecting out in the community with academies this Fall

Recreation: (Bill Furjanic with NCYSA)

- Assistant TD for Recreation position is still vacant; please send resumes if interested
- We are currently in the midst of Recreation Regional Meetings that have taken place this month – please come if you can, this is a great way for us to hear from you! \*See schedule on agenda.
- Recreation Roadshows are still being offered – please reach out to us if you would like us to come out – these can be structured however you think will best suit your association

Coaching Education: (Bill Furjanic with NCYSA)

- If you want to host a course, you need to provide players! This is mandatory. Candidates can no longer be the “players”
- Reach out to Bill if you would like to host a course in the future
- Current and upcoming courses can be found on today’s meeting agenda or on our website
- Encouraged DOCs to be familiar with the DCC so they can assist their coaches with it

Open Discussion regarding increasing the limit of players that can dress above the 18 player limits did not take place as Keith Jenkins was not in attendance.

Meeting adjourned.