

**KANSAS STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
The Other Place. 22730 Midland Drive, Shawnee, Kansas  
July 7, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER.**

The KSRC was called to order by Rich Kaminsky at 6:10 PM on July 7, 2022.

**ROLL CALL (P = PRESENT, A = ABSENT):**

Voting Members:

P - Chairperson:	Rich Kaminsky
P - SRA:	Bill Davey
P - SYRA:	Andrew Fletcher/Gordie Wetmore
P - SDI:	Larry Weigant
P - SDA	Marc Tiemann
P - SD Assignment	Jeff Bingman
A - State Youth Rep:	Jon Freemon
A - State Adult Rep	Alonzo Cadena
P - Web Master	Cory Kramer

Other Members:

A - Association Representative	Vacant
P - Coaching Rep:	Jason Paepke
P - KSYSA President	Ron Schneider
A- KSA President	Alan Blinzler

The Chairman reported that 7 voting members were present which means a quorum was present to officially conduct SRC business.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** MOTION: Cory Kramer (Jeff Bingman) to approve the agenda.

Cory Kramer requested an additional item to be added to the Agenda. This item was hair adornments and safety. This is in response to a KSHAA decision to allow beads in hair to avert potential discrimination claims.

No additional discussion. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY with this additional item.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** MOTION: Larry Weigant (Marc Tiemann) to accept the minutes of SRC Meeting 2021-2, December 14, 2021. The minutes were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY and posted to the web site as required by the Rules of Procedure.

**SYRA Replacement:** Andrew Fletcher has notified the SRA of his plans to step down from the SYRA role at the conclusion of Regionals for 2022. Ron Schneider, President KSYSA, confirmed to the SRC that KSYSA has selected Gordie Wetmore to fill this position with the advice of the SRA).

Motion to approve Gordie Wetmore for the position of SYRA as nominated by KSYSA made by Jeff Bingman (Cory Kramer). No further discussion. The Committee UNANIMOUSLY approved Gordie Wetmore for the SYRA position.

The SRC noted its appreciation for the dedication and results generated by Andrew Fletcher during his time as the SYRA.

## **REPORTS:**

**SRA Report:** Bill Davey (SRA) provided the following:



**KANSAS REFEREE PROGRAM**  
**Ian W. "Bill" Davey - State Referee Administrator**  
**22517 West 71<sup>st</sup> Terrace**  
**Shawnee, Kansas 66227**  
**316-350-5048**

### **SRA REPORT**

**As of 06/2022**

#### **NEW FROM USSF**

**USSF has again revamped the Referee Department Staff. This seems to be a constant ongoing practice, hiring interns for 4-6 months, then changing personnel.**

**We have a new Director of Referee Administration, Kelly Murphy. Kelly, at least has worked in the Referee Department for the past couple of years. Rick Eddy will retain his duties as Director of Referee Development. USSF has changed the upload process, creating their own batch upload procedure. This change actually moved the "official" record from the game officials platform to the USSF platform. This has created many issues for the State SRC Platforms. The edit and cross reference audits run around a 30% error rate, mostly because of changed email addresses. They are still bent on the idea of doing ALL referee training in their Learning Center and working toward that goal,**

#### **REGISTRATIONS**

**We are finally beginning to breakout of the "Covid Mode", which is generating more interest for becoming a new Referee. We trained almost 1100 new Referees for the 2022 Registration year. But fell substantially short of our Recertification goal. I can attribute some of this loss to two years of covid effects and fewer games. We were in the 50% range on recerts.**

#### **FINANCIAL OUTLOOK**

**The program is financially healthy, including a good reserve, even though we took a very big hit to our income stream, over the past two years. We should be able to support any good proposal for increasing our retention or recruitment efforts, as well as a solid proposal for a developmental event(s). A key, in my opinion, to retention, as well as improved performance on the field, is a positive State Wide Mentor program, for all facets of the level of play, from the small sided recreational game, all the way up to the Professional level of play. In this year's proposed Budget, as in last year's, there are funds for mentor training, and mentor support of Statewide Events.**

## **EDUCATION/CLINIC CONFIGURATIONS**

**We are bound, by policy, to train all new referees, by utilizing the US Soccer's Learning Center. This adds to the administration of the individual record. How we handle recerts is left up to us, and that conversation will be handled, in detail , during our July meeting. What we did worked pretty well this past year, but due to the Covid policy, the process was bumpy, but workable. For the 2022 Registration year, the process will be completely different, as we return to normalcy. What we did last year will not be administratively workable for the 2023 registration year, if the proposed process is adopted.**

## **WEB PAGE/GAME OFFICIALS**

**The Web Master will be providing a written report. However, we must utilize the assigning capabilities within the Game Officials platform. It is imperative that we use the platform for more game assignments, in particular the youth and adult State Cup Tournaments. US Soccer uses this platform for the selection process involved in their National Referee Selections. For the 2022 State Cup, there was some miscommunication which prevented the schedule to be input to our assigning system. This issue will be rectified for the 2023 events.**

## **ASSIGNMENT**

**Only one word on assignment. We have to utilize Game Officials for all State Cup games, Youth and Adult, not just for games that will be assessed, but all games on the schedule. If we do not, then we are depriving our Referees of the opportunity to build the game assignment portfolios, required by US Soccer for future prestigious assignments, provided by the US Soccer LAC assignment process.**

**The Development Academy is now defunct, and replaced with an Elite League, mostly managed by the MLS folks. I assume, that any games in Kansas and the KC Metro area will still be assigned by the USSF National Assignment process, but I have not seen anything in writing to verify that method of assigning. Loosing the DA will result in fewer games of a high level to meet the demands of developing Referees on their upward movement skill set**

## **REFEREE EVENT SELF NOMINATION**

**This issue deals with the expense expectations on behalf of the referees asking for reimbursement for travel to US Soccer events. This will be discussed in detail at the meeting and a new policy will be written and adopted.**

**Respectively Submitted,**

**Ian W. "Bill" Davey  
Kansas  
State Referee Administrator**

<b>KANSAS REFEREE DETAILED REGISTRATION DEMOGRAPHICS</b>												
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>OUTDOOR</b>	1277	1403	1388	1543	1659	1550	1506	1608	1744	1858	2219	2333
<b>INDOOR</b>	75	100	118	115	113	108	98	100	159	133	20	0
<b>FUTSAL</b>											146	129
<b>ASSIGNOR</b>	32	28	32	31	27	30	28	31	36	46	43	46
<b>ASSESSOR</b>	17	19	18	18	28	21	20	22	23	25	18	17
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	27	26	26	26	29	32	30	27	34	31	31	34
<b>TOTAL REGISTRATIONS</b>	1428	1576	1582	1733	1856	1741	1682	1788	1996	2093	2477	2559
	<b>2017</b>		<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>					
<b>OUTDOOR</b>	2262		2371	2139	2034	same	2075					
<b>INDOOR</b>	0		0	0	0	as 2020	0					
<b>FUTSAL</b>	148		250	236	170	x	205					
<b>ASSIGNOR</b>	32		22	20	28	x	30					
<b>ASSESSOR</b>	14		23	21	14	x	14					
<b>IINSTRUCTOR</b>	26	+8 Inter ns	27	29	27	x	24					
<b>TOTAL REGISTRATIONS</b>	2482		2693	2445	2273		2348					
							1065 New					

The following additional discussions took place regarding the SRA Report:

- The number of newly certified Referees in 2022 (1,065) is a record number for Kansas.
- It is noted that recertifying Referees were down at less than 50%. The SRA contributes this to the effects of Covid in 2020 and 2021.
- Bill also noted that if the SRC or any of the technical directors utilize Kanas Referees in game clips for training, we need to have the permission of the Referees before we use these clips. Ron Schneider (an attorney) will work with Bill to create a legal release form.
- Bill also provided an update (current as of July 7, 2022) on USSF/Game Officials and Stack software.
  - The Game Officials platform costs the SRC \$15/month, \$.50 per game assigned and \$.50 for each assessment.
  - The new Stack software offering would cost the SRC \$30 per month and \$1.00 per game. We are considering moving to this new platform.
  - The SRA and SDA see this as a tool that could be used for the Mentoring program.
    - We can select from 19 performance options

- Forms can be completed via smart phone at the field
- Forms would be emailed to every member of the crew
- Information would be uploaded to a database for analysis
- This option will be further evaluated by the SDA and SRA and potentially piloted in the Fall season of 2022
- The drawback of this solution is that we will have to go through the US Soccer system to complete and submit coaching reports (assessments) for upgrades and maintenance.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Davey (SRA) reported that our finances remain positive even though we did experience decreased revenues in 2021-2022. We have 2 accounts (Operational and Reserve) and both accounts should support proposed program investments in 2022-2023.

**STATE YOUTH REFEREE ADMINISTRATOR:** Andrew Fletcher was unable to attend. He provided the following report:



**KANSAS REFEREE PROGRAM**  
**Andrew Fletcher - State Youth Referee Administrator**  
**agfletcher1229@gmail.com**  
**816-820-1703**

1. State of the Referee Program

Recruiting and retention continue to be difficult. The number of new referees certifying, although seeing improvement, is not meeting demand as, at the same time, the number of games has increased, and so covering all the games remains a major problem.

This issue needs to be looked at from the perspective of the referee program, and from the leagues / tournaments and clubs.

The referee program continues to find 'out of the box' solutions, such as on-line recertification, and working with clubs, however we are seeing limited success. So can the leagues and tournaments help with the situation?

Limit the number of tournaments played on a weekend.

- No league games on the same weekend as a tournament.
- Reduce the number of teams playing in a tournament.
- Coordination of all leagues from Heartland to NPL, ECNL etc to help with scheduling.
- Change the coverage so some games only have one certified official, and then utilize club assistant referees. This is used in many other states.

2. Referee Coaching (Mentoring)

Due to the support of KSYSA, and many of our local leagues, Kansas has a healthy referee coaching (mentoring) program. Our coaching program concentrates on the Grassroots referees, and focuses on two basic concepts: hustle and call fouls.

The program has been expanded to include a second tier which allows for more advanced coaching of our more experienced officials in the local leagues.

### 3. Summer Events

The State Cup was very smooth - the schedule was changed slightly and the Presidents Cup and Jr State Cup events were played in Wichita, while the State Cup tournament was played over 3 weeks in Kansas City. The officiating was of a high standard and we received compliments regarding our coaching program which was a huge success thanks to the efforts of Marc Tiemann and Gordie Wetmore. Thanks also to Jeff Bingman for his hard work with the logistics.

Kansas had an excellent summer in regards to the National tournaments. Logan Clark was selected to attend the National Presidents Cup event in North Carolina, while Brendan Sweetman, Anthony Sobolovsky and Velemir Stefanovic were selected to attend the NCS Championships in Orlando.

### KSYSA Staffing

We continue to get welcome support from KSYSA. They recently created a full-time referee position at their office which will be filled by Gordie Wetmore. This will be a huge plus for the referee program at every level. As you all know I have resigned my position as SYRA. The last 20 years or so have been an absolute delight, however it is time to take a break. Gordie will be assuming many of the SYRA responsibilities while working out of the KSYSA office.

For the good of the game

Andrew Fletcher  
SYRA

The following additional discussions took place regarding the SYRA Report:

- The SRA requested that the new SYRA (Gordie Wetmore) initiate email blasts to the KSYSA population that new ELC courses have been posted to the Kansas Referee website.
  - Confirmed that clinics for Wichita, Topeka, Kansas City, and Lawrence have been or will be posted by July 12, 2022.
- It was noted that the SRC will NOT dictate the number of matches or tournaments. We will strive to build the Referee pool. If there are more matches than available Referees that will be the challenge for the Leagues and/or the Tournament hosting organizations.
- Wichita will be encouraged to re-engage in the Mentoring Program. Gordie and Marc and Larry will investigate to get Wichita resources assigned to this key program.
- The SRC leadership acknowledged Andrew's contributions to the Referee community during his tenure as SYRA. We acknowledge that he will be missed.

**STATE DIRECTOR OF INSTRUCTION:** Larry Weigant provided the following reports:

**STATE DIRECTOR of INSTRUCTION REPORT JUNE 2022**

Clinics offered and completed from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022:

<b>ELC Clinics</b>	<b>Jul-Dec</b>	<b>Jan-Jun</b>	<b>Rec ELC</b>	<b>Jul-Dec</b>	<b>Jan-Jun</b>	<b>Recert</b>	<b>Jul - Jun</b>
Kansas City	12	14	Kansas City	2	4	State wide	12
Wichita	1	3	Wichita				
Topeka	2	2	Topeka	2	1		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>12</b>

**Misc. Clinics**

New Instructor (Phil Gomez, Luis Tribaldo and Devin Blazek were certified as new Instructors in this class) Adult Spanish KC (8-12 new officials. This clinic was to support a new league).

Advanced Referee Clinic (via Zoom) – Conducted by Jon Freemon, National Referee. See Youth Representative Report for additional details).

Larry Weigant  
Kansas State Director of Instruction

**Education Committee Report June 2022**

Preparations have begun for the new Recert Online Clinic for 2023. The Clinic’s theme will be ‘Fouls and Misconduct’ with emphasis on Misconduct. This will connect to this year’s Recert Clinic on ‘Foul Recognition’. Christine is working on the Presentation. The goal is for Recert Clinics to start in October.

A proposal has been submitted to SRC to add one hour, for a total of 5 hours, to help new referees to take a test. This exercise would help train referees to find answers for tests in the Law. There were many complaints by referees about the difficulty of taking a 30 -40 question test and getting the answers. This exercise would not be a required test.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Larry Weigant  
Kansas State Director of Instruction

The following additional discussion occurred regarding the SDI’s Report:

- The Futsal classes taught during the past year were reported in the December 14<sup>th</sup> Report by the SDI.
- There was a question regarding offering the following types of Clinics:
  - Spanish – This is available. Larry has 2 fluent Spanish speakers as Instructors (Magana and Tribaldo).
  - Female only – This will not be offered.
- It was reiterated that the standing members of the Education Committee include:
  - Larry Weigant (SDI)
  - Marc Tiemann (SDA)
  - Gordie Wetmore (SYRA)

**STATE DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT:** Marc Tiemann submitted the following report:



## 2022 Coaching Activity

### Coaching Engagement – 2022 (as of June 28)

- Regional Referee Maintenance assessments – 16, Upgrade - 1
- Regional Referee Maintenance or Upgrade requests cancelled for lack of coaches - 12. We have a dire need to get the new crop of Referee Coaches certified as indicated by the number of cancelled assessments.
- National Referee Upgrade assessments - 18

### New First Time Referee Coach course

- Nebraska is hosting a course August 4-7 and asked us to send candidates. Unfortunately, only Rich Kaminsky meets the criteria set forth by US Soccer of being an assessor for three years. We are still working on also sending Devin Blazek and Marc Tiemann..
- Ryan Cook, Phil Gomez and Luis Tribaldo will be able to assess as soon as their shadowing is completed.



## 2022 Coaching Activity

### Status of developing referees

- A number of young grassroots referees are pursuing the regional badge but will have to wait until 2023 to meet all requirements (game count at adult level).
- The required game count to upgrade to Regional Referee has been lowered by US Soccer this past spring to 25 games as referee and 15 as AR at the adult amateur level. Previously this was at 50 games as referee and 25 as AR.
- Zachary Richter, a former Regional Referee from Illinois is moving to the area in June and will then begin the upgrade process right away.



## 2022 Peer Mentor/Coaching Program

- **Activity-games mentored**

President Cup- not all data reported, will report when submitted  
Boys State Cup- not all data reported, will report when submitted  
Heartland-390 (up from 375)  
Wichita- not reported  
Metro- 23 (up from 6)  
Leavenworth- 67 (previously 51)  
Sunflower- 113

- **Recruitment of new mentors**

- Recruiting new mentors is still a priority as is getting Regional Referees to commit more time to the program. A mentoring “blitz” session, bringing out senior referees on a certain date to mentor was successful. Gordie Wetmore led this effort and we will have more of these sessions going forward.

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The following additional discussion occurred after the presentation of the SDA Report:

Phil Gomez and Ryan Cook have completed their “shadow” assessment requirement and are now available to be assigned for assessments.

**STATE DIRECTOR OF ASSIGNMENT:** Jeff Bingman provided the following report of certified Assignors for 2022/2023:

2022/2023 State Director of Assignment Report  
Below are Certified USSF Assignors in Kansas for 2022:

AUTEN, BRYAN W	BARTEL, JOSHUA	BECKER, EDWARD
BINGMAN, JEFF	CHAO, RAY	CUTLER, CARTER
DAVEY, IAN	DURAR, ABDU A	FEEBACK, TRAVIS
FLETCHER, ANDREW	GOMEZ, PHILLIP	HOUGLAND, BLAINE
KAMINSKY, RICHARD	KRAMER, CHRISTINE	KRAMER, CORY
LAWLER-WHITE, TRACY	LIPARI, ANTHONY	MAGANA, JORGE U
MANZI, TROY	MERCER, MATTHEW	NORDSTROM, JAMES
RICHARDSON, NICOLAS	ROBISON, CARRI	SAVAGE, HUW
SCHMITZ, DOUG	SMITH, DANIEL	STERMER, LAURA
SUEPER, TYLER	WEBER, CARRIE	WESSELS, JOSEPH

The following additional discussion occurred after the presentation of the SDAssignment Report:

- The list of certified Referees for 2022 is now available via Game Officials for all Assignors. The report includes 2001 certified officials.
- If assignors assign non-certified officials, they will be liable for this decision as will the League, the Referee and the Referee administration.
- Referees bear responsibility for ensuring that they are currently certified before requesting and/or accepting assignments in Kansas.

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** Jon Freemon was unable to attend, but submitted the following report:

**Youth Representative Report Kansas SRC Meeting, July 2022**

**Youth Representative Update:**

**Advanced Recert Clinic – January 2022 – Zoom**

Presented during the Advanced Referee Clinic via Zoom. The clinic was approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes. Topics included handball, Referee/AR teamwork, and DOGSO/Stopping a promising attack. Conversation, engagement, and participation were strong.

**State Cup Referee Training – May 30, 2022 – Scheel’s OP Soccer Complex**

I believe this was the first State Cup referee meeting since the pandemic started. Gordie Wetmore organized three regional referees to share 4th official knowledge and experience. My portion of the session included some audio from MLS matches to show examples of communication between referee to referee and referee to players. We also covered interpretation of considerations for DOGSO and stopping a promising attack.

**ADULT REPRESENTATIVE:** Alonzo Cadena did not attend and did not submit a written report.

**WEBMASTER:** Cory Kramer submitted the following report:

**Webmaster Report 7/6/22 by Cory Kramer**

We need to instill in our assignors and leagues to direct people wanting to become referees for the first time to start out at [www.kansasreferee.org](http://www.kansasreferee.org) rather than going straight to GO. Many people bypass [kansasreferee.org](http://kansasreferee.org) and then do not know what they need to do after signing up for a clinic. If someone asks what pre-course work needs to be done, please direct them to read the First Time Referee page on [www.kansasreferee.org](http://www.kansasreferee.org).

Updates:

1. We are currently still not accepting credit cards for registrations (Bill can update on the process). This would really help streamline the process for recertifications and we may be able to recertify more people.
2. Recert classes are over, and we recertified just over 1000 referees. Many checks were supposedly lost in the mail and had to be resent. Several people did everything online but did not pay so did not get recertified. Christine and I followed up with everyone by email and text message to try to get them to finish the process.
3. Website has been updated with the new LOTG.
4. Links to the US Soccer Learning Center has been updated with the 2023 class.
5. Assignment pages under the website need to be updated. They are far out of date.
6. News section could use some new articles.
7. GO has been updated and classes can now be put up for Entry Level Classes.

The following additional discussion occurred after the presentation of the Web Master’s Report:

- Credit Card online payment update: Bill reported that Game Officials has selected a new vendor as of July 1, 2022. Game Officials will send Kansas SRA the vendor information so we can resubmit our application. SRA will notify SRC when this has been completed. The plan is to support credit card processing online for the 2022-23 clinic schedule.

**CHAIRPERSON:** Chairman submitted



the following written report:



**Rich Kaminsky - Chairperson**  
[Richkaminsky37@aol.com](mailto:Richkaminsky37@aol.com)

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT – July 7, 2022 (SRC Meeting 2022-1)**

**Requirements of Position:** Responsible for working collaboratively in the support of the SRC missions and coordinating the programs servicing both the adult and youth associations. Plans and implements SRC meeting and ensures compliance with the National Referee Program in the State:

**Budget:** No specific budget assigned except for SRC Meetings.

**Activities in support of Requirements of Position:**

1. **Collaboration with KSYSA and leagues across the state in implementing the Referee Coach Program:** The SDA oversees the Referee Coaching program that has been implemented in multiple leagues (Heartland, Leavenworth, Metro United, and Topeka for Spring 2022).
  - a. Rich Kaminsky (SRC Chairman) has been tasked with the continuing implementation and administration of this KSYSA funded activity.
  - b. KSYSA has created a new position (Director of Referee Development, staffed by Gordie Wetmore) who will assist in the Statewide mentoring program. The summary of expenses for the Spring 2022 season are summarized below

Spring2022	March	April	May	TOTALS
<b>Mentor</b>	\$1,776.00	\$3,649.20	\$2,932.65	<b>\$8,357.85</b>
<b>Assigning</b>	\$60.00	\$180.00	\$75.00	<b>\$315.00</b>
<b>Admin</b>	\$30.90	\$37.50	\$135.00	<b>\$203.40</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	\$34.95	\$37.55	\$0.00	<b>\$72.50</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,901.85</b>	<b>\$3,904.25</b>	<b>\$3,142.65</b>	<b>\$8,948.75</b>

2. **Referee Recruitment:**

- a. Kansas continues to struggle with Referee retention, which affects recruitment. The SYRA’s suggested program to take Referee training to the Premier teams’ practices has not yet been implemented. This is a major action item for the KSYSA Director of Referee Development. I will be working with Gordie to outline and implement this program in the Fall.

3. **Education:**

- a. Will propose tiered recertification classes for 2023 to more accurately reflect the needs of the different tiers of Referees and to more closely follow the Referee Coaching process which recognizes the differences between the 1-3 year officials versus those who have been certified for more than 3 years.

b. I will work with the SDI to put together a team to create multiple offerings.

4. **Administration:**

- a. Coordinated with the State Director of Assignment on the mandatory Assignors' education class for 2022.
- b. Coordinated with the State Director of Assessment on mandatory Assessors' education class for 2022.
- c. Coordinated with KSYSA Executive Director, SRA and SYRA on the role and responsibilities of the KSYSA Director of Referee Development.
- d. Updated the SRC Rules of Procedure. The most current proposed version will be presented for approval at the July 7, 2022 SRC meeting.
- e. SRC Meeting Minutes completed and forwarded to Committee members for review.
- f. KRDC Meeting Minutes and other documents prepared.
- g. Continuing to recruit for SRC Succession Plan. Potential new people will be invited to the next SRC Meeting to gain exposure and provide insights into how we can continue to build our program in a more positive direction.

This information respectfully submitted:

Rich Kaminsky  
Chairman, SRC

There was no additional discussion following the Chairman's Report.

**COACHING REPRESENTATIVE:** Jason Paepke provided the following information:

Jason reported that in his conversations with coaches, their general comments are that the level of officiating is improving (noted that coaches do not hesitate to point out outliers).

Most coaches just want the Referee to understand the game, get it right and do a good job for the kids.

Jason will work with the KSYSA Director of Referee Development to increase communications with the coaching population.

**PRESIDENT - ADULT:** Alan was unable to attend this meeting. He provided the following comments to the SRC:

1. A reminder that there are strict time limits for the submitting of reports for Referee Abuse and Assault. Our last incident just made the timeline. Please stress the importance of getting reports submitted within the guidelines.

**PRESIDENT - YOUTH:** Ron Schneider attended this meeting. He provided the following information:

1. Both the officials and the mentors had a stellar showing at all phases of NCS play. Folks advanced. During the regular spring season improvement was seen but numbers are still a challenge.
2. We thank Andrew for years of going above and beyond in his efforts.
3. KSYSA is thrilled to have Gordie step in. We have faith his energy and ideas will drive us even higher.
4. Our plan is to maintain existing programs. With the addition of Gordie to our staff we are showing a commitment how important the ref side is.

5. We would encourage leadership to continue the trend to use tech to make it easier for refs to access the system. Also that additional ways to make them feel appreciated be explored and adopted. A high number of officials are young so we need to tailor things to play to that reality

He said that the KSYSA investments in the Referee program would continue. He also challenged the Referee community to reinstate online payments to make it easier for the new Referees to get certified or recertified.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Education Committee: Update on Recertification program for 2022 registrations including the number who have completed the online classes. Lessons learned from 2022.

In 2022 the SRC contracted with the Kramer's to manage the recertification process. This was our first year of conducting the clinics totally online.

Cory shared that the primary reasons that Referees did not recertify were:

- Failure to successfully complete the test.
  - Noted that the pool of questions was from the US Soccer 2022 recertification test (total of 101 questions). Under the direction of the SDI 40 questions were selected from this test for our 2022 recertification test. The questions focused on the topic of the year, Fouls and Misconduct.
  - It is noted that the team that assembled the test did NOT pick the hardest questions. They picked questions that were related to the topic of the year, Fouls and Misconduct.
  - It was also noted that the Kramer's provided support above and beyond what was anticipated.
    - They created a study sheet to assist those who were having difficulty achieving the required minimum score of 80.
    - They conducted multiple Zoom sessions to help the students understand how the application of the Laws of the Game could be used to correctly respond to each question.
    - The SRC thanks them for these extra above and beyond efforts.
- Failure to pay the required fees for recertification
  - They gave some examples of people waiting for them to come to the fields to get their checks. This cannot be tolerated. The Referees have a responsibility to make sure that they are properly certified before they accept assignments. See the comments under the SD Assignment report.

Lessons learned indicate that there were challenges with the online delivery. The decision to continue to work within this delivery model were confirmed by the SRC.

2. Referee Recruiting/Retention – Update on plans to take certification to the clubs during their training sessions (follow-up from discussions at the last SRC Meeting).

Discussion: Do we have enough officials? How does the pool size of the Referees affect the Assignors?

- Uncertified Referees allowing themselves to be assigned
- Many matches require Club AR's (impacts satisfaction of the teams and the fans). Affect to the Referee organization's reputation.

- To cover matches many Referees have been over assigned (asked to do 4, 5, 6 or more matches in a single day). This affects performance on the field which is not good for the Referee or the entire soccer community.
- The KSYSA Director of Referee Development will take the multi-level certification concept to the clubs for the fall season. In this concept, Instructors will go to the fields where clubs practice and deliver field training (AR signals, mechanics, etc.) to the players. Those who are interested in pursuing becoming a certified official can then enroll for an Entry Level Clinic, complete the US Soccer Learning Center online training, pay their fee and then will become certified Referees.
  - This provides credit for attending and participating in the field exercise training during their practice and recognizes the candidate's effort as a player (familiarity with basic components of the Laws, etc.)
- We also discussed demographics to help increase the number of Referees:
  - Example: Global FC brings teams to the complex. They spend the day at the complex. Can we certify some of these players and allow them to officiate before or after their scheduled matches? Global FC has introduced this to some of their teams and we have certified multiple new Referees.
  - Can we do this in other communities like Kansas City, Kansas? This will be explored.

Motion by Bill Davey (Larry Weigant) to appoint a committee to evaluate Regional Referee required game assignments for Youth matches and to also evaluate and propose a Referee Development program to identify future candidates for assignments at the next level in League and candidates for Junior State Cup, President's Cup and State Cup Referees. The committee will consist of the SYRA, SDA, State Director of Assigning, the SRC Chairman and the Kansas Referees who were selected for the National Championship for 2022. The committee will:

- Review and make recommendations to the current game requirements for Regional Referees
- Review the current identification program for future candidates for State tournaments and share the process for future use.
- The review and recommendations will be presented at the next SRC meeting (2022-2)

### 3. Mentoring Program updates:

See Stack discussion under the SRA Reports. Mentoring program considered successful in Spring 2022 and SDA will be reviewing options to improve the delivery and administration of the program for the Fall season.

4. Fastrack updates: See discussion under New Business for Expenses for self-nominating officials.
5. Succession planning update: Please provide names of candidates to engage in the mission of the SRC so we can continue to build a bench of qualified, knowledgeable and competent people. Some of the recent names include:
  - a. Sean Overton
  - b. Bryan Auten
  - c. Troy Manzi
  - d. Mike McNally
  - e. Devin Blazek

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. SRC Rules of Procedure update presentation, discussion and approval.**

Major update was to allow members who have resigned to be named as ex-officio (non-voting) members for a period of 2 years after their resignation. This move will allow the SRC to utilize the skills and knowledge of these resigning members to continue to build the capabilities of the SRC.

Motion: Larry Weigant (Gordie Wetmore) to accept and adopt immediately the updated SRC Rules of Procedure (SRC Rules of Procedure Version 9, July 2022). No additional discussion. Motion passed UNANIMOUSLY.

The new SRC Rules of Procedure have been posted on the Kansas Referee website under Administration.

### **2. Approval of budget for 2022-2023.**

The proposed budget was sent to the members of the SRC in June by Bill Davey, SRA. Motion by Cory Kramer (Jeff Bingman) to approve the budget for 2022-2023.

The following discussion on the motion occurred:

- There was a discussion between the SDA and the SDI on budget allocation for fitness testing equipment. Bill shared that while the Fitness testing was managed by the SDA, this line item does fall under education. The parties agreed that they would acquire the necessary equipment and expense under the budget as proposed.
- The SRC members were reminded that proposals for expenditures were required before funds would be released. This allows the SRC to execute its responsibilities with proper documentation. The SRA reminded everyone that proposals should include benefits that apply to the entire state's population of Referees not just for the benefit of a single league.

No further discussion. Motion passed UNANIMOUSLY.

### **3. Expenses for self-nominating Referees to special events.**

Background: US Soccer sends out applications for tournaments to a large group of certified officials. Referees are responding to these applications on their own. Once accepted for a tournament, many of these self-applying Referees then request stipends/reimbursement from the Kansas SRC. This is a non-sustainable process. To respond, the SRA will review and amend the current Policy to more clearly state that *"if the SRC selects officials for required events, we will reimburse with stipends and/or expenses. If the Referee self nominates and does not have the official selection from the SRC, reimbursement with stipends and/or expenses MAY OR MAY NOT BE PAID.*

The SRA will prepare this amended Policy letter and submit it to the SRC for approval before the next scheduled SRC meeting.

#### 4. **Entry Level Clinics:**

The proposal is to add an additional hour to the ELC (13 year-old and above) to make the Kansas ELC clinic 5 hours versus the current 4 hours to go over how to successfully take tests. The justification for this change was based on the fact that the US Soccer online program does not have a required test for knowledge as a part of the completion criteria and the experiences noted above in the 2022 online recertification process where many students had trouble with the US Soccer test which required multiple additional sessions to assist the recertifying officials in completing their requirements.

The SDI will work with the Education Committee to finalize the content of this additional hour. The SRC thanks the SDI for alerting us to this change. This is a technical implementation that does not require a vote from the SRC.

#### 5. **Multi-Tiered Recertification Clinics:**

A tiered recertification Clinic process would include the following:

1. Recertification will remain 100% online
2. There would be 3 Recertification class offerings (each would have its own presentation and test)
  - a. **Level 1 Recertification for Grassroots Referees:** This offering would be designed for the Referees who are in their first 3 years of officiating. We would make this a more basic offering (one step up from the ELC videos) and the test questions would focus on understanding fouls, restarts, and signals (like Phase 1 mentoring)
  - b. **Level 2 Intermediate Recertification for Grassroots Referees:** For Referees who are adults or have been officiating for more than 3 years. This would be a more advanced offering (like the recertification from 2022). We could use the types of clips that Gordie shared from State Cup, and make the test focus more on advanced decisions (cautions, send-offs, etc.)
  - c. Level 3 would be the Advanced Referee Clinic. Nothing would change here. This in person class would be for an invited number of students including the Regional Referees and those who have indicated that they want to upgrade to Regional in the immediate future.

The idea would be to present the materials like what we do for ELC's (12-year-olds or 13 and older) as the class they sign up for. My thought is once the Referee signs up for the class, we administer it the same way we do now.... Load Session Tracker, they access the presentation which was designed for them and take the test which was designed for them).

The work would be in creating multiple presentations. The proposal includes appointing a team (Troy Manzi, Sean Overton, Ryan Cook, etc.) to develop the class presentations under the management of the SDI. The focus is to have a more focused product which would better serve our Referees, mesh cleanly with the Mentoring Program and reduce the extra efforts we needed to expend to complete the Recertification Process in 2022.

- a. Once the student makes his decision, they will be enrolled in that class and will follow the instructions under LOAD SESSION TRACKER.
  - i. The Basic Recertification class would have its own presentation and videos.
  - ii. The videos would focus on foul recognition and the Referee and the AR Thought Process
  - iii. The Test would be an expansion of the test used in the Recreational Referee Class.
- b. The Intermediate Recertification would have its own presentation and videos also.
  - i. The videos would show situations where we can explore options and focus on what can the officiating team better to manage the situation.

c. The test would be like the one used for 2022.

The proposal was tabled with the instructions to build out the multi-tiered options complete with presentations and tests in the next 90 days and present the results to the SRC for review and approval. Because the recertification process will not start until late October or early November this plan of action was agreed to.

**6. Hair adornments:**

KSHAA has announced a policy of allowing certain hair adornments as legal (with preconditions). The SRC understands that this could create uncertainties for USSF League play. In order to respond to the change and provide our Leagues with our policy, which has to be consistent with USSF, the SRA will request a position from USSF on the KSHAA policy and USSF comments. This information will be shared with KSYSA and KSA when it is received.

**“FOR THE GOOD OF SOCCER” –**

No additional comments were made.

**Next Meeting Date:** Will be scheduled for December 2022.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Cory Kramer (Marc Tiemann). Approved UNANIMOUSLY. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rich Kaminsky, Chairman