



Buffalo & Western New York

Junior Soccer League

League Information Meeting Recap

August 10, 2020

Roll Call of Member Representatives

Treasurer's Report: Neal Smith reported that at the present time the League is on track to lose \$23,000.00 for the year. Revenue is \$0.00 but staff, insurance, etc. remain. The League did receive a small PPP loan of approximately \$4,500.

Recognition and Reports of Related Organizations

District Commissioner-NYSWYSA	Buffalo Referee Unit
Upstate Women's League	Epic Center
Buffalo District Soccer League	Other

League Reports

1. 2020 Odenbach Tournament Review: The long term viability of the event is again up in the air. Even if the 2020 season had not been cancelled, new requirements from the Town of West Seneca with respect to the use of the fields and a 40% rental fee increase would have made it difficult to hold the event. Further discussions will be held by the Board and at the AGM in October 2020.

2. 2020 Alignment Process Review: Michele Letina reported on the committee process used this year to place the teams into divisions. Based upon the success of this year's process, it will be used again in 2021 with only minor adjustments.

3. 2021 Preliminary Potential Procedure Changes-Team Registration: Michele Letina reported that there will be only a minor change to the process this year. Instead of the Team Data Form being completed during the registration period, the league will send one spreadsheet form to each club's Travel Director who will then complete the form with the needed information and submit it to the League in advance of the development of the alignments and scheduling.

4. 2021 Team Naming Convention: Clubs are reminded that when registering their teams at NYSWYSA Roster Pro they are to follow the League's Team Naming Convention as outlined at the website. Teams that are not named in conformance with the convention risk not being placed.

5. 2021 Play Season Potential Changes: See the notes below

6. 2021 Fee Structure: The 2021 fee structure is not set as of today. It will be dependent on item #7 below and a review of other League operational costs. The goal is to have it set by the 2020 AGM in October 2020. There should not be any surprises or “sticker shock”.

ciation 2021-2023: The plan is to have a new agreement approved at the next Board Meeting on September 21, 2020

Corporate Governance Matters

1. Upcoming Elections for President, Treasurer and Trustee: The two years terms are up for election at the next AGM. The Trustee position is the one being filled currently by Marty Ott. Anyone who is interested in possibly serving as Board member should contact both Chuck Marino and Ken Voght by e-mail. Current Board members should also express their intent to Chuck and Ken also.

2. NYS Workers Comp Issues Settled: Neal Smith reported that this matter has been settled in the League’s favor. The original nearly \$40,000 penalty was reduced to approximately \$630.00.

3. IRS Matter: Bob Lichtenthal and Neal Smith reported that an IRS matter that had been settled (or so we thought) during 2012-2013 relating to a 2010 issue resurfaced this spring. Correspondence with the IRS has this matter on track to being resolved again in favor of the League.

4. Updated Club Representative Contact Information: Clubs are reminded to review who has been designated with the League as official voting representatives for the upcoming AGM. If a club is unsure of who is currently designated they should contact League Administrator Michele Letina.

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting Monday, October 5, 2020 7:30 PM

2021 Play Season Potential Changes

1. 2021 Play Schedule (separate sheet): The 2021 Playing dates have been finalized and will be posted shortly-copies have been distributed tonight at the meeting.
2. Field Issues: Clubs are reminded that they can only enter teams for which they have enough fields, especially at the U10 age group. Please make proper plans now to avoid scheduling issues in the spring.
3. Number of Teams – limits on number per club or age group based upon field availability: See Number 2 above!

4. Youngest Birth Year to Play-2012 or 2013: **To eliminate a number of issues with respect to the physical differences that can result from true U8 players that may only be 7 y/o chronologically playing against true U10 players that may be closer to 11 y/o chronologically, the League will take the following two actions. First, players born during 2013 will be eligible to play on B&WNYJSL teams. Secondly, the League will offer a U8 age group in 2021. The U8 age group will follow USYSA Rule 303 (see below).**
5. Oldest Birth Year to Play-2001 or 2002: **At the other end of the spectrum, a determination has been made to grant one additional year of eligibility for those U19 players that lost the 2020 season by allowing a U20 (2001 birth year) age group for 2021. Based on informal surveys and a discussion among those in attendance at the meeting, the League will not offer a U20 age group in 2021. These players have an option to play in the BDSL and Upstate Women's League, respectively.**
6. U8 Divisions to Follow USYSA Guidelines for Rosters, Players on Field and Game Length: **USYSA Rule 303 lays out the playing rules as follows: there will be 4 quarters of 10 minutes each, play will be 4v4 with no goalkeepers and a #3 ball. Fields will be 25 yds. wide by 35 yds. long. The League is still discussing additional guidelines such as goal size, offsides, etc. which will be spelled out in the near future. It will be up to each club to determine where to place their 2013 players, either on a 2013 team that will play 4v4 or on a 2012 or 2011 team that will play 7v7 at the 2011 age group.**
7. If 2001's play-revamp groups offered to delete U17 and U19, replace with U18 and U20: **Moot point-see number 5 above.**
8. Potential elimination of the 2002's (U19) and cap at U18 with U19's going to the Adult Leagues: **Held for future discussion.**