

**SOCCER RHODE ISLAND GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 25TH, 2010**

- 1) **This meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.**
- 2) **All SRI voting Board Members were present. All non-voting SRI Board Members were present except for North Commissioner Dennis Flynn and Disciplinary Chair Bill Heffernan. Member Association/Clubs not present:** Blackwatch, Capital, Jamestown, Lincoln, Scituate and Westerly.
- 3) **Agenda Change to allow from under New Business, the proposed Policy change of banning arm and wrist casts to be discussed now.**

Present to explain the rationale of the proposal to ban arm and wrist casts was John Mark from Bayside along with Dylan Mello.

 - a) John spoke in regards to Dylan suffering a second concussion due to being struck with an arm cast in the head while at the National Championship Series in Maine while playing in a competition for a Bayside team.
 - b) Dylan spoke about how his lifestyle has changed.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO BAN ARM AND WRIST CASTS AND SECONDED. The motion was discussed. **THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON AND FAILED.** By a roll call vote. (37 in favor of the motion, 52 not in favor and 3 abstentions).
- 4) **President's Report: Steve Votolato:**
 - a) Steve opened his report by saying a Happy New Year to all.
 - b) The New Association /Club Presidents were announced.
 - c) Mike Noonan of Bruno has accepted the head coaching position at Clemson University.
 - d) Right now SRI is looking forward to a lot of good things.
 - i) New President's first term is ending.
 - ii) SRI wants to know what we can do to make things better for your Association/Club.
 - iii) We are looking into State wide fundraising.
 - iv) There will be a team calling service available soon. (For those games that have to be cancelled etc.)
 - v) We will be talking about database upgrading to make things easier for all.
 - vi) More improvements with the SRI website where info can go directly to the players.
 - vii) The District meetings have been poorly attended. Of those meetings where Associations/Clubs did attend a lot of information was discussed being good and bad.
 - viii) SRI is looking into eliminating one of the General Council meetings and have five District meetings in the month that would be eliminated.
- 5) **Membership Report: Dean**
 - a) **Risk Management:**
 - i) Background checks have been completed for 2009.
 - ii) 2641 of them were processed with 2 being denied.
 - iii) For 2010 there have been 1629 processed with one being denied and ten members pending.
 - iv) A very important announcement:

Any Coach, who is present in the United States on a visa, cannot at this time get a background check processed. The recommendation, is that the Coach or Administrator must at all times have another individual from the Association/Club in which he/she has had a valid background check done with him/her at all times.
 - v) Goal safety is a major concern. **Goals must be securely anchored at all practices, scrimmages and games.**

b) Membership Issues:

- i) Anyone interested in becoming a member of SRI must get in touch with Dean.
- ii) Starting requirements are to have a completed application, Constitution and By-laws.
- iii) As of right now there are two organizations that are looking into becoming new members of SRI.

6) MEETING MINUTES IF OCTOBER 19, 2009

MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2009 AND SECONDED. With no corrections the motion was voted on and PASSED by a voice vote without dissent.

7) Communications: NONE

8) Committee Reports:

a) Competitive: Paul

- i) A Meeting was held with the town Associations along with Premier which only ten Associations attended. These meetings are not just for the president's. The Competitive Directors and Recreational Directors should also attend. Valuable information does come out of these meetings.
- ii) All competitive deadlines for entry and dates were included in all Association packets; they will be posted on the SRI website and are with the file copy of these minutes.
- iii) The President's Cup competition needs a host for May 22nd & 23rd. Please notify Paul if interested.

b) Coaching Education: Oscar

- i) Coaching courses have been scheduled over the past couple of months.
- ii) A thank you was said to Tiverton for hosting.
- iii) The "D" and "E" licenses were done in December. The Modules are being done now.
- iv) There is going to be a "D" license re-testing for those who want a National "D" license.
- v) Another "E" License course will be conducted in March.
- vi) Another "D" License will be done over the summer.
- vii) A proposed time slotting for the Coach's Expo on March 27th was passed out to all those present and is with the file cop of these minutes.
- viii) There is a Coaching Educational Symposium scheduled for March 6th. Speakers will be present. Xara will do lunch at the Riviera Restaurant in East Providence. Oscar passed around a pad for those Associations/Clubs to put there names and email addresses so that they can be notified by email of the event.
- viii) A Coach's Membership is being formed. A coach who has completed a course is automatically a member. More details on this will be forthcoming.

c) Special Programs: Jim

i) Top Soccer:

- 1) A Recommendation to all that TOP Soccer month is March.
- 2) At the Coach's Expo there will be a booth with videos and literature to promote the Top Soccer program.

ii) Soccer Across America:

This is an Association assistance program.

d) Recreational Report: Joe

- i) A typed report was included in all Association/Club packets and is with the file copy of these minutes.
- ii) The 2010 SRI Festivals for the U8 & U10 are June 5th & 6th.
- iii) Thee Kohl' Cup is scheduled for November 6th & 7th in Pawtucket.

e) Public Relations Report: Steve Marmas

- i) The 2010 Coach's Expo is on March 27th at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick.
- ii) The 2011 Coach's Expo will be held at Wide World of Sports in North Smithfield.
- iii) SRI is willing to send out a blast email for their members in regards to those Members who are hosting Tournaments.

f) Youth SRA: In Tim King's absence Steve Mauricio spoke:

- i) Last re-certification will be held at the Crowne Plaza at the Coach's Expo.
- ii) If another re-certification is required it will be at the Association's expense.
- iii) On a monthly basis, Referee clinics are on going.
- iv) Check for information on the RISRC.Net website.

g) District Commissioners Reports:

North: Dennis Steve stated "A meeting is scheduled for February".

South: Randy A meeting will be scheduled after the workshop.

East: Steve Mauricio A Thank You was said to those who attended.

Central: Matt Four and one-half met. Thank You to Johnston for traveling over 100 miles for the meeting. The Regional Fundraising that was mentioned by Steve earlier is the way to go. More profit can be made and bigger discounts for purchases.

Premier: Mike Held a meeting in November which was missing one cub.

h) State Administrator: Barbara

Rosters and passes for spring soccer are due in the SRI office the first week of March.

9) Treasurer's Report: Chuck

a) A copy of the financials is with the file copy of these minutes and was included in all Association/Club packets.

b) After reviewing the financials the following motion was made.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO FILE THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED AND SECONDED.

c) A Treasurer's workshop will be presented at the Coach's Expo, please let you Association/Club Treasurer know.

10) Unfinished Business:

- a) **Elections** will be coming up at the AGM in March: The positions are President (Steve Votolato is seeking re-election), Secretary (Pat Votolato is seeking reelection), Competitive (Paul Hosxie is seeking reelection), Olympic Developmental Program (ODP) Phyllis Fish is not seeking election, Special Programs (Jim is seeking reelection), Membership, Dean Hostetler is not seeking reelection.

Steve V. named Chuck as the Chairperson for the Election Committee. Anyone interested in any of the positions up for election are to let Chuck know.

b) Recommendation of the Database Committee:

- i) A slide show presentation was done of the Got Soccer database system.
- ii) A meeting will be set up for all Association/Registrars with GotSoccer to go over the database options and for questions to be answered.
- iii) The Board has voted to recommend that all members of SRI go with GotSoccer. This is to be ratified by the Council.

A MOTION WAS MADE THAT IN THE EVENT THAT THIS MOTION FAILS THAT THE ASSOCIATIONS/CLUBS TAKE THE INFORMATION BACK TO THEIR ASSOCIATION/CLUBS REGISTRARS AND BOARD SO THAT IT CAN AGAIN BE BROUGHT UP FOR A VOTE AT THE MARCH AGM and SECONDED. Some discussion took place. **THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON & PASSED** by a voice vote

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT AT THIS TIME FOR ALL SRI MEMBERS TO GO WITH THE GOTSOCCER DATABASE SYSTEM & SECONDED. The motion was discussed. **THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON & FAILED** by a role call vote (37 in favor of going with Got Soccer, 49 not in favor and 5 abstentions).

11) GOOD of the GAME:

Larry congratulated Scituate for there grant from the Champlain foundation for field improvement.

12) Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the following motion was made.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN AT 9:25 PM AND SECONDED.

The SRI Secretary, Pat Votolato respectfully submits the four typed pages of the January 25th 2010 Council meeting minutes for approval at the March AGM.