



SOCCER RHODE ISLAND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2025

AT: THE Knights of Columbus, 70 Pettaconsett Ave, Cranston, RI 02920

- I) ATTENDANCE OF VOTING BOARD MEMBERS:** President: Steve Marmas. Treasurer: Larry Sprague, Secretary: Pat Votolato. Vice President of Recreation: Scott McDermott, Vice President: of ODP: Russ Costa, Vice President: Oscar DeLemos, Vice President of Competitive: Doug Reed.

ATTENDANCE OF NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS: State Administrator: Bob Enright. East Commissioner: Dennis Matos. North Commissioner: Amy Cardone, Representing the RI Referee Association: Juan Montavovan, South Commissioner: Shannon Cuthill.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Vilayanh

ASSOCIATION ATTENDANCE: Bayside FG, Barrington, Bristol, BGYSA, CLCF, Coventry, Cumberland, East Greenwich, Higher Level, Middletown, North providence, Ocean State/North Kingstown, Pawtucket, Portsmouth, Project Goal, Providence Sharks, Rams FC, RI Future Stars, RI Surf. Scorpions, Smithfield, South County, Warwick Fire Fighters, West Warwick.

ASSOCIATIONS NOT PRESENT: Central Falls, Chariho, Jamestown, East providence, G.O.A.L.S., Lincoln, Mach1, Narragansett, North Smithfield, RI Strikers FC, Scituate, Westerly Tiverton and Warren.

SPECIAL GUESTS: New England Revolution: Kyle Lyndsey, **RIFC:** Travis Watkins, Alex Strafer and David Peart. **DMK Sports:** Don Falcone **US Youth Soccer President** Tina Rincon: **Executive Director of Ocean State 26** Liz Tanner:

- II) THIS MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT: 7:08 PM**

III) PRESIDENT'S REPORT: STEVE MARMAS

- 1) **Steve introduced: Kayle Lyndsey** from the New England Revolution and a game played of heads and tails and Ocean State/North Kingstown won the toss and received four tickets to a game.
- 2) **Steve introduced Travis Watkins:** Senior Ticket Sales for RIFC.
 - a) September 6, 2025, children's night, let Travis or Alex know if you want tickets.
 - b) Juan Montavan of the RI Referees the first raffle of ¼ zip.
 - c) Nick Healey won the second raffle of the new white jersey.

- 3) **Steve introduced Don Falcone of DMK Sports:**
 - a) Don showed some samples of custom uniforms that are done by DMK Sports,
 - b) You can email DMK Sports at Donjr@dmksports.com for information on uniforms, coaches gear, polos for your board and other soccer related equipment.
- 4) **Steve introduced: Executive Director of Ocean State 26 Liz Tanner:**
 - a) They are a non-profit organization which will be looking at applications for what you would like them to do for your Association/Clubs.
 - b) There will be a base camp in Rhode Island, tentatively at Bryant College. More information will be forthcoming.
- 5) **Steve introduced: US Youth Soccer President: Tina Rincon**
 - a) Grass Roots Symposium presentations in Kansas City in September.
 - b) Spoke about a game format.
 - c) Spoke about supporting Top Soccer
 - d) Directors are as follows: Joe Dragon Director of Membership, Chris Bently Director of Education and Jason Elliot the Director of Events.
 - e) Two big changes to the Tournaments:
 - I) Eight qualifiers which are divided into regions. The Tournament will be in Conn or Mass, and the Nationals will be in Kansas
 - II) National Championships: Eliminated Regionals and going straight to Nationals. July 13 to the 23. 2026 (ten days).
 - f) What's happening at US Youth Soccer: A 2025 working group has been started which was a six-month long conversation. Marketing support, more Coaching Education, partnership with USYS.
 - g) **Next year changing back to Youth year for players in 2026.**
 - h) The question was asked if a printed report was to be sent out. The response was yes.

IV) VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: OSCAR:

Thanked Doug for all the work he has done for SRI.

V) MEMBERSHIP RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT: BOB/OSCAR:

- 1) **The Board voted to grant Provisional Member ship to G.O.A.L.S at the July 22, 2025, Board meeting and MST BE RATIFIED BY THE COUNCIL. Due to G.O.A.L.S. not in attendance, the approval of granting Provisional Member to them is table for ratification by the Council until the next Council meeting.**

VI) SECRETARY REPORT; PAT V:

A MOTION IS NEEDED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES. **A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2025.** No discussion took place. **THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON AND PASSED** to accept the minutes as presented by a voice vote without dissent.

VII) COMMUNICATIONS: BOB: none at this time.

VIII) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A) COMPETITIVE REPORT: DOUG REED:

- 1) US YOUTH SOCCER EASTERN PRESIDENT'S CUP REVIEW:**
- 2) EASTERN REGION 1 CHAMPIONSHIPS REVIEW:** The RI Surf Teams moved onto Nationals.
- 3) STATE CUP REVIEW:** 93 teams this year. Age groups have been reduced.
- 4) Tina from US Youth Soccer helped for the competitive report and Doug thanked her.**

5) COACHING EDUCATION: CHRISTINA:

- 1) Working on a "C" license for the fall.
- 2) 2 "D" licenses held this year.
- 3) Nine Grass Roots courses were held this year with more to come.
- 4) Looking into getting a goalkeeping course for this year.

B_ SPECIAL PROGRAMS: (TOP SOCCER) Vacant currently.

C_ RECREATION: SCOTT McDERMOTT:

- 1) The U8/10 went well with 165 teams playing.

D_ OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: Russ Costa /Christina:

A COPY OF THE WRITTEN REPORT IS WITH THE FILE COPY OF THESE MINUTES AND INCLUDED IN ALL ASSOCIATION/CLUB PACKETS.

E) YOUTH SRA REPORT MARK FERREIRA: Has resigned from this position, his last report to the Board was as follows:

- 1) A good job done the Referees sent to Regionals and we had a Referee selected for Nationals. Julianna Roa in Orlando Florida.
- 2) Recruitment is underway right now Mark Oliver has sent it out to the Association/Clubs.
- 3) Four different towns are asking for training for their Referees Cumberland, Barrington, Smithfield Lincoln and Warwick.
- 4) New Referees Mentor courses coming out A Mentor course and a

Juan Montavan the SRA spoke:

- 1) Mentor plus course. 465 New Certifications with ninety more coming through.
- 2) Piolet Referee session in Pawtucket. Face-to-face interaction is important.
- 3) A grant happened and enough information was not being presented to the YSRA or the Referee Committee. It was announced that SRI already has this money and that was not true.
- 4) Also looking for Middle School Referees.

The question was asked as to why Associations/Clubs were unaware of the two grants not being received, The Referee grant and a Top Soccer Grant.

This was made aware to the Associations/ Clubs via an email sent out by Stefanie Calaii **of which she had no right to do.**

Steve Marmas. responded saying no money was received. Bob is in the process of applying for the grant next year.

Steve responded as saying the grants are two separate grants. The Top Soccer grant can be applied for each year.

IX) DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS:

NORTH: Amy Cardone:

Pawtucket and Cumberland have not heard anything about these meetings.

Cumberland kicked off their 35th year and at Diamond Hill Park with a lot of things going on.

SOUTH: Shannon Cuthill: October 2025 meeting date/time and place will be announced.

At my meetings we bribed them with hot pizza.

The last meeting was talking about Referees. Discussion was held about A Jamboree outside of Superliga.

EAST: Dennis Matos: September 15, 2025 place TBD

Steve M. said these meetings were not very well attended.

Emails are sent out and some Associations/Clubs are not responding.

Coventry made:

A MOTION WAS MADE IN WHICH NOTIFICATION OF THE DISTRICT MEETING IS TO BE SENT OUT SIXTY DAYS WITH A MINIMUM OF THIRTY DAYS NOTICE TO THE ASSOATIONS IN ADVANCE AS LONG AS THE EMAIL ADDRESSES ARE CORRECT AND THAT A \$150.00 FINE BE ASSESSED TO THAT ASSOCIATION/CLUB WHO IS NOT IN ATTENDENCE AND SECONDED, Discussion took place. All Associations/clubs are to email Bob Enright with the correct contact information for the Associations/Club who is to attend these meetings so communication can be made After discussion, **THE MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN AT THIS TIME.**

CENTRAL: Jim Vilayanh: ABSENT
PREMIER: Vacant

X) FINANCIAL REPORT LARRY SPRAGUE:
A COPY OF THE FINANCIALS (PROFIT AND LOSS) STATEMENT IS IN ALL ASSOCIATION/CLUBS PACKETS.

- 1)** The August 9, SRI held a 25th Anniversary event for SRI with 49 participants of which nineteen hundred people were contacted via email and only 49 responded to attend. *It is important for all Associations/ Clubs to please update your contact information, so the proper individuals can be notified of meetings and upcoming events.*
- 2)** September 13, 2025 an event is being held with RIFC for U10 team games on the field at a cost of \$200.00 per team and as of right now there is three spots open. If this works out this can be done for every home game in the future for different age groups too.
- 3)** The budget is based on a proposed land purchase and with a budget proposed without the land purchase.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET WITH POSSIBLE LAND PURCHASE AND SECONDED. Discussion took place. **THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON WITH A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS DONE WITH 57 YES AND 26 NO.' IN WHICH THE MOTION PASSED.**

A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED to do research into properties so we can start the finances for said property WITH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: Olga Fernandes of Pawtucket, Jen Cabral of North Providence, Mike Prew of CLCF, Doyle Byrd of Warwick Fire Fighters, Amy Cardone of BGYS, Ryan Cardone of Scorpions, Jamee Gilmore of Barrington, Angelique Stiglic of East Greenwich and Christine Messier of West Warwick. *Please send Bob Enright your contact information for everyone on this Committee,*

XI) NEW BUSINESS:
ELECTIONS:

PRESIDENT: Steve Marmas is not seeking-election:

A nomination was made for Larry Sprague to be President, and he accepted, and the Council voted to accept Larry Sprague as the new President of SRI.

SECRETARY: Pat is seeking re-election with no nominations from the floor. **Pat will continue to serve as the Secretary.**

VP of Competitive: With Doug Reed not seeking re-election **Vice President of Competitive is vacant. Please reach out to the Board if you or if you know anyone who would be interested in filling this position.**

VP of ODP: Russ is seeking re-election and with no nominations from the floor **Russ will continue as the VP of ODP.**

VP of Membership: Angelique Stiglic volunteered to be nominated for this position and the Council accepted her to be the new VP of Membership.

VP of Top Soccer: Kelly Grasano did reach out to be the new representative for Top Soccer Program. Steve V. nominated her, and it was seconded by Russ. **With Kelly not present here tonight we will reach out to her to see if she is still willing to accept the nomination.**

TREASURER: With Larry Sprague as the new President the Treasurer's position is vacant and Brian Kleczek of South County volunteered for the Position, of Treasurer and the Council ratified the appointment of Brian Kleczek as the new Treasurer of SRI.

XII) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1) POLICY AND PROCEDURES

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES AS PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL OF AUGUST 25, 2025 WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE GRAMMER AND SPELLING BE CORRECTED AND SECONDED After discussion the Motion was **VOTED ON AND PASSED BY A VOICE VOTE WITHOUT DISSENT.**

GOOD OF THE GAME/MISCELLENOUS ITEMS:

- 1) **All Associations need to email Bob with the Contact person for each of their Associations/Clubs, so information can be sent out to them in a timely manner.**

XIII) ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10: 25 pm

The Soccer Rhode Island Secretary, Pat Votolato respectfully submits the six typed meeting minute pages for approval by the Council at the next scheduled meeting.