



Meeting Minutes

Piscataway Soccer Club Board of Directors Meeting

September 21, 2023
Kerwins, 7:30pm

I. Attendance – Roll Call

Quorum Achieved at 1:30pm with 11 votes (8 votes required for Quorum of 15 current voting members)
Members of the Piscataway Soccer Club Board of Directors (16 Voting members, with full board)

	Title	Name	Present	# of Votes	Delegated to	Late Arrival	Early Departure
Elected Officers (Voting)	President	Mike Majorczak	<input type="checkbox"/>	+ Tie Breaker		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Exec Vice President	Tom Roberts	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Jim Opitz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Travel Vice President	Jeff Sundelof	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Travel Vice President	Jeffrey Salles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Recreational Vice President	Yasmeen Ash	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Recreational Vice President	Tad Powell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registrar	Ilia Myers	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Jeff Sundelof	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Treasurer	Brian Hinds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Secretary	Kathleen Martineau	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Zarah Opitz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Public Info Officer	George Roussey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appointed Positions (Voting)	Director of Coaching	Chuck Myers	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Jeff Sundelof	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Club Web Master	Jim Opitz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Member At Large – Travel	Louis Raymondi	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Jeff Sundelof	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Member At Large – Travel Head Coach	Dennis Espinosa	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Jeff Sundelof	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Member At Large – Equipment	Keith Koenig	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Late, Jeff Sundelof	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Club Historian/Statistician	Zarah Opitz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Member At Large – SYSL Rec Travel	<i>Vacant</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Red Bulls Liaison	<i>Dan Vitu</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appointed Positions (Non-Voting)	Parliamentarian	Rey Villanueva		N/A			
	Nominating Chair	Jeffrey Salles		N/A			
	Uniforms	Chuck Myers		N/A			
	Grievance Chair	Mark Caputo		N/A			
	BOE Liaison – Bldg. Usage	Mike Majorczak		N/A			
	By-Laws Chair	Mike Majorczak		N/A			
	Tournament Director	Mike Majorczak		N/A			
	Winter Training Director	Chuck Myers		N/A			
	Picnic Coordinator	Yasmeen Ash		N/A			
	PEC Chair	Jeffrey Salles		N/A			

From the PSC By-Laws 3.3 VACANCIES IN OFFICE AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY, paragraph H:

“In the event any officer is unavailable for a meeting said Officer may delegate a temporary replacement or may have any other member of the Board of Directors give their respective report and/or perform the duties of said Office.”

(Please note at BOD meetings, only voting board of directors are allowed to vote, though membership may partake in discussion prior to voting on a motion. A motion must be put forth by a Voting Board Member, and 2nd by a voting Board Member in order for a vote to take place. The President only casts tie-breaking votes. See above for listing of voting Board Members. All Board Meetings are open to the Membership

II. Review of Meeting Minutes of last meeting – August 2023

The August 2023 meeting minutes were sent out via eVote on 9/19/2023. Yes: 6 prior to revision, 4 after the revision via email;

Revision noted in minutes dated August 17, 2023 within New Business, Item 8: *A discussion lead by Tom Roberts transpired due to this motion in reference to Travel teams seeking a 2nd training session were being charge a flat \$200 without any board approval. Prior month BOD meeting during a motion to up the travel registration fee by \$200 to provide 2nd training session for all teams was not passed. Therefore, the addition of \$200 to just those was a to circumvent that vote. Teams previously seeking 2nd training session were solely responsible for that training fees, via fund raising or parent contribution. By charging teams a flat rate subsidizes other teams and this has never been done for s 2nd session. Especially without full board approval. Further discussion ensued, to not charge any travel teams \$200 for the 2nd session and make them responsible for their own fees. Eintracht \$200 per player was being removed. Tom noted that this team also should not be charged a flat \$200 fee.*

Motion to accept revision by Jeff Sundelof, 2nd by JO, 14 yes; 0 no, 1 abstain.

III. Unfinished Business from Last Meeting:

1. PSC teams' costs for Spring 2023 and current status.

April: Jeff and Chuck to collect team money statuses by 5/15/23. This will be Manchester City, Dortmund, Eintracht, Everton, and Santos.

May: Chuck to update. Tabled

June: Eintracht, Everton and Santos are good, but follow-up is needed for Manchester City and Dortmund.

August: Manchester City is good leaving Dortmund. Jeff Sun. to check on the budget for Dortmund.

September: \$1,300 received from Dortmund. Balance undetermined. Mike to follow up with Chuck. Tabled.

2. Interleague Soccer Games: My name is Matthew Ware with the Highland Park Recreation Department, and I was reaching out to start communications with your programs, to play games together in the Fall (September - November). We have 2 age ranges that are Recreation skill level (2nd and 3rd grade) 4 teams and (4th and 5th grade) 2 teams. We would like to know if you would be interested in a few games for the upcoming fall season, we are unable to play on Fridays and Saturday.

May: Tad to contact Matthew Ware. Tabled

June: Tabled

August: Tad to get Matthew Ware's contact info and contact.

September: Tad to call Matthew Ware (732) 819-0052 x317. OPEN

3. Elks Soccer Shoot: We have secured the following dates for the Piscataway Elks Soccer Shoot and District Soccer Shoot – 9/29/2023, 10/20/2023, 10/27/2023. We have the Piscataway High School football Field from 6:30 to 10pm on each of those dates.

August: FYI

September: Good to go 9/29 – posted in website. Tabled for other dates.

4. Rutgers Men's Soccer 2023 Youth Experience: We would like to do a club experience and we have a tentative date of Friday, October 13th. Jeff Salles has been in contact with Eric from Rutgers Fan Experience.

August: FYI

September: Confirmed for 10/13. CLOSED.

5. **Red Bull Game Ticket Offer:** Dan just reached out to us to try to coordinate how to best provide the opportunity for PSC parents to take advantage of what Red Bulls is offering for our families and offering us an opportunity to fundraise at our tournament. From our partnership with them, every player in Piscataway will have the opportunity to attend a Red Bulls game for free. Parents and others can also attend at a discounted rate.

Considerations:

- (1) Come up with a game day and have a "PSC go to the game night" event or
- (2) Red Bulls will provide instructions including QR Code to use and parents can use whenever (MOST likely the best option)
- (3) How to give out the information/ QR Code:
 - (i) Provide email list of our parents to Red Bulls?
 - (ii) Distribute it via Team Snap or our Bulk Email tool
 - (iii) Distribute during a Saturday Recreational session
 - (iv) Provided it during ZOOM Parent's meeting

Dan also offered a "fundraiser" opportunity for the club that we can perhaps execute during the tournament. It will entail again a QR Code for anyone to use to attend a Red Bulls game at a discounted price and PSC will get a cut from the tickets sold using that QR Code.

Considerations, provided we have a flyer/doc that describes the offer and contains the QR Code, do none, all, or some of the following:

- (1) Add it to our tournament website
- (2) Add it to the Coach's gift bag
- (3) Give them out/ have them available at HQ tent or Red Bulls tent
- (4) Distribute via email to all tournament registered coaches

August: Chuck and Ilia talked to Red Bull representative Kaitlyn and they can pass out information at the tournament as Kaitlyn will be at the tournament. Red Bull vs Chicago Fire on 9/30/23. \$27 for goal line or \$30 for midfield. Ilya to handle posting on the website and advertising at the 1st day of recreational.

September: Event will be posted in the website until 9/30. Additionally, Club Night w/ Red Bulls 10/7 – Free to every player in the club with discount for families. **CLOSED**

6. **Fall Picture Day:** Need to set up a date and pick a vendor (Tad/Yasmeen)

August: TSS Photography, same as last year.

September: Confirmed 10/7, throughout rec session, 8:30am – 2pm. **CLOSED**

7. **Brian Hinds to roll \$200,000 into a 4% CD.**

August: This was a new business item added in the August meeting.

September: Confirmed \$110,000 deposited into an 8mo CD @ 4.88%. **CLOSED**

8. **Red Bull Zoom meeting on 9/1/23 for the parents.**

September: Success. Recorded video posted on website. **CLOSED**

9. **PSC coaching staffs for Fall 2023-Spring 2024**

August: Motion to approve the coaching list by CM, 2nd by TR, 13 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstains. **PASSED**

Fall only, mixed recreational team comprising of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders for SYCL playing 11v11. **Motion to send and email to parents to see if "in or out."** By CM, 2nd by JO, 11 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstains. **PASSED**

September: Parents rejected offer to switch to travel. **CLOSED**

IV. New Business:

1. **Revise the Rec Refund Policy:** Our current policy is:

REFUND POLICY

No refunds to players who drop out for any reason after Team Formation, Except for Injury. Injury Refunds will be prorated per game up to a maximum amount of 50% of the paid registration. Coaches, team managers, and/or board members are not authorized and cannot refund or a promise a refund from the club. A Processing Fee of \$10.00 will be deducted from all refund requests.

Little Kickers no refunds after first weekend. Instructional age groups without set teams, no refunds after training starts.

REVISED REFUND POLICY:

Travel Program: No refunds to travel players who drop out for any reason after Team Formation, Except for Injury.

All Deposits are NON-REFUNDABLE once Travel Team Invitations are accepted. This applies to the following:

- 1) Travel Teams of all Levels.***
- 2) Any transfers to the Recreational Program***

Recreational K-8 Program: No Refunds once Late Fee is enforced for Registrations

Little Kickers: No Refunds after first weekend

All Programs: Injury Refunds will be prorated per game up to a maximum amount of 50% of the paid registration. Coaches, team managers, and/or board members are not authorized, and cannot refund, or promise a refund from the club. A Processing fee of \$10.00 will be deducted from all refund requests.

Motion to accept Revised Refund Policy by JO, 2nd by Jeff Sundelof, 15 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain. **PASSED**

2. **Adding Recreational Trainers for the Spring**

September: Tabled to January 2024. **OPEN**

3. **Refunds to Clubs with Cancelled Games during Fall Classic:** Only 2 clubs have inquired about refunds for cancelled games. Clark which had multiple teams and Summit which had only one team. Ilia's stats:

I pulled a few stats related to the impact the weather had on our matches:

- There were 97 games NOT played out of 438 games total (81 games on Saturday and 16 on Sunday) 78% of our games were played.
- There were 29 clubs out of 34 that were affected.

- There were 2 teams that did not get to play any of their games
 - Cranford SC 2012 Whitecaps
 - Piscataway 12 Everton

My two cents ..

U7-U8 : \$200/ 4 = \$50 - ref fees \$ 27.50 = \$22.50

U9-U10 : \$525/4 = \$131.25 - ref fees \$27.50 = \$103.75

U11-U12: \$550/4 = \$137.50 - ref fees \$57.50 = \$80

U13-U14: \$575/4 = \$143.75 - ref fees \$57.50 = \$86.25

I would say if a refund is given, it should be between \$50 and \$75 if U9 and above

I agree that it should be only if they ask and it will be handled at a club level.

 Mike wants to offer \$75 per game cancelled to only the teams/clubs that have asked for it, starting Monday night.

Tom suggested a credit for next year and teams that played no game are free next year.

Motion to accept Mike’s proposal to offer \$75 per game cancelled to only the teams/clubs that requested refunds by GR, 2nd by KK, 14 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstain. PASSED

4. **Slam Photography:** Wanting to move to this vendor for the Tournament for Team and Individual Pictures

September: **CLOSED, no vote needed**

5. **Little Kicker/Recreational Issues:** Trainers not paying attention, no whistles, not all teams were present, and very little instruction was provided to the kids.

September: Observations: Parents complained that game structure for Little Kickers was inappropriate-kids were upset that they were not touching the soccer ball. TOPSoccer went well, 1:1 Buddy/Player ratio. Trainer needs remember that these are special needs kids and must change training strategy based on kids’ varying abilities. Sunday fared better, smaller group, smoother. Dan apologized for the misunderstanding – prepared the trainers for a festival-like structure. Will discuss a different training tactic with his staff and will liken the Little Kickers program to their Mini Bulls program. **OPEN**

6. **NEW: Proposal [by Mike and Chuck] of a new policy to have Travel VPs decide whether a team will be invoiced \$200 per player*, or allow a team to fundraise for optional 2nd training session:**

The terms –

- 1) Teams that elect to have a 2nd training session can choose to be billed or to fundraise. Teams who choose to be billed will be charged \$200* per player with their registration fee. *Fees are subject to change based on changes in training fees incurred in the future.
- 2) Teams who choose to fundraise will not be billed per player.
- 3) 50% of 2nd training session dues will be paid by Nov 1; remaining 50% of 2nd training session dues will be paid by May 1
- 4) Mike will oversee the collection of all monies due.

Mike is not willing to force any board member to do the extra work to manage. If someone volunteers to take on that responsibility, happy to hand it over.

Tom's statement: Team should be required to pay what their invoice is as we have ALWAYS done. Again, this \$200 is circumventing the vote that was not passed. It should be total cost of 2nd session divided by players on team. This should not be to make anyone's job easier.

Motion to accept Mike's proposal to allow Travel VPS decide whether a team will be invoiced \$200 per player* (*subject to change based on changes in training fees incurred in the future) or allow a team to fundraise for optional 2nd training session by GR, 2nd by MM, 8 yes, 1 no, and 6 abstain. **PASSED**

7. **NEW: Grass Seed for Board of Education:** Mike to follow up to find out how much seed is needed for Conackamack and Witherspoon **OPEN**
8. **NEW: Grass Seed for Green Acres:** Dennis to follow up with John Tierney to determine grass seed for Green Acres **OPEN**
9. **NEW: Advertising:** Jeff Sundelof asked CarePoint Pharmacy to hang poster advertising PSC tryouts - in return, they have asked PSC to post advertising for their new UPS store within the pharmacy **OPEN**
10. **NEW: Fryers and Grill:** Mike noted that one of the fryers broke. Rob Harmer asked Mike to get it serviced. Mike responded not our responsibility. Mike is researching the possibility of buying 3 new fryers and a grill for PSC's own use and management. **OPEN**
11. **NEW: Volunteers:** Yasmeen to take lead in developing a system to track Volunteer sign-up via Google Sheets. Volunteers seeking hours for NHS eligibility, etc. PSC can potentially use volunteers to paint fields throughout the season. Tad offered to take point on giving volunteers job assignments.
12. **NEW: Buy Mark Batulis a thank you gift:** For going above and beyond for the Fall Classic, especially staying late to clean the fryers for prep AND shut down . **OPEN**
13. **NEW: Fall Rec Subcommittee:** *Chuck suggested a post-season Fall Rec subcommittee meeting in late October or before Thanksgiving to discuss Spring Rec registration.* **OPEN**

V. Reports of Officers:

1. President – Mike Majorczak: *Was happy to help find 2 more players for Courage from 7 to 9 players; PHS Girls JV coach wants team to play for PSC in the spring, still trying to get enough commitment to form a team*
2. Tournament Director – Mike Majorczak: *Will be working during free time to finish the Tournament Report*
3. Executive VP – Tom Roberts: *Absent; no report*
4. Director of Coaching – Chuck Myers: *emailed report, see Appendix I*
5. Treasurer – Brian Hinds: *Already provided report earlier in meeting – successfully deposited \$110k in 8mo CD @ 4.88%*
6. Registrar – Ilia Myers: *Absent; no report*
7. TOPSoccer Coordinator – Yasmeen Ash: *Great kickoff for TOPSoccer; reported that new players were a little rocky with trainers; there were returning Buddies, including Volunteer of the Year. Requesting help with board member presence in her absence on September 30 from 8:45- 9:45am to manage sign-in. Jeff Salles volunteered to assist.*

8. Webmaster – Jim Opitz: *A lot of hours have been spent on maintaining the website, including up to 17 changes. Laments the lack of viewership, including, and especially the board members.*
9. Travel Soccer - Jeff Sundelof (added in), Chuck Myers, Jeffery Salles, Dennis Espinosa & Luis Raymondi: *Salles: Extra money for ref fees were successfully distributed to Real Madrid; a couple of teams need players – Porto(?) was problematic. All parent coaches have been awesome; Sundelof: Week 1 was successful. All games played except for Real Madrid, whose opponent was a no show. Mid NJ was contacted as teams like these have become problematic and it seems Mid NJ has lost control, ie., Jersey Stars not having player passes; Real were good sports and practiced instead. Red Bull trainers attended the Fall Classic; Gotham won 1-0; Courage somewhat resolved; Dan [Red Bulls] Great communications/recaps were provided to trainers (Chase/Max). Connection with players has been good. Sat Rec/Little Kickers – will work on it. Noted attendance to training has been inconsistent – TeamSnap has to be updated – Jeff Sundelof to send a reminder to all parents. Questions/concerns: Keith- no transition cushion for the next training session- there’s an overlap with kids from prior session hanging around and using up the following session’s training time.*
10. Recreational VPs – Yasmeen Ash and Tad Powell: *Yasmeen - Trainers need to recalibrate for Little Kickers. Practice night change requests have become problematic with their current team structure. Too many options. Brought up the idea of developing a system to track volunteers and the hours they worked. Will take a crack at building one via google sheets.*

Tad – Board members needed for Saturday to help rec coaches. They’re not yet up to speed and are still overwhelmed. Refs could be used for rec games – potentially good experience for refs in training. Currently 20 kids are in training. Tad reached out to the volunteers identified by Chuck, but they haven’t responded. Diesel fuel levels will remain low until Tad replenishes the fuel about the first week of October. Registration list for recreational and little kickers program taken by Tad.

Reminder from Mike: Coaches cannot run their own session without a license/certification.

Chuck suggested a post-season Fall Rec subcommittee meeting to discuss Spring Rec registration

11. Member at Large – Equipment Coordinator - Keith Koenig: *No new items requested as far as he’s aware. Needs to discuss tournament balls with Chuck – extra game balls can be given away*
12. Public Information Officer – George Roussey: *The next newsletter will be out in December*
13. By-Laws Committee – Mike Majorczak: *No report*
14. Parliamentarian – Rey Villanueva: *New item for Rey from Mike – Parent from Bloomfield injured during the tournament – must file a report.*
15. Club Historian – Zarah Opitz: *Interviewed one of the founders of PSC, Hugo Castro in August. Recorded interview via Zoom call. Hugo enjoyed reminiscing and dropped a lot of names. Great convo. Dan Peters, the other co-founder, passed away last year. Would like to develop a survey to distribute to board members to gather more history.*
16. Secretary – Kathleen Martineau: *Absent; no report*

VI. Concerns of Teams:

VII. Concerns of Members:

VIII. Adjournment - September

Motion to Adjourn by ZO 2nd by JO, at 10:30 pm. Vote _____ (15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).
Meeting Adjourned.

APPENDIX I

- **FYI for Tom, Gap Fee** - some referee assignors are now charging clubs that request a "gap" in their ref coverage. Example: club XYZ requests a ref crew for 2 games at 1-2pm and 3:30-4:30. The club is charged a "gap game fee" the equivalent of an actual game for the 2-3:30 gap. This fee has to be paid to the refs, at the field, right after the 1-2 game. Otherwise the refs (who are 3rd party contractors) might refuse the assignor's request to work the 2 actual games.
 - **Tournament - My thanks to all of our board members for helping prepare and then run the tournament, even in rain, wind and hale.**
 - **PSC 12 Gotham** - Congratulations to the only PSC U11+ team that took home medals from our tournament. They have come a LONG way since coach Angel's "staff" took on this team.
 - **PSC 14 Fire** - U10 girls took first place (even though the results are hidden)
 - **PSC 14 Juventus** - U10 boys took first place (even though the results are hidden)
 - **Tournament 3rd Place finishes** - PSC 10 Eintracht, PSC 11 Cosmos, and PSC 12 Everton (even though they did NOT play a single game, they finished with 0-0-4 for 4 points)
 - **SYSL problems** - their website was updated in the summer, without warning, and is now making it almost impossible for the SYSL board of directors to do anything on the website. *It is a nightmare.* League game schedules are being managed on Google spreadsheets. We have 5 PSC teams in this league
 - **MNJYSA** - on the other hand, this league is slowly getting better. They have 508 teams registered this fall, up over 40 teams from last year's fall season.

 - **REFEREE Fees** - MNJYSA and presumably SYSL are working with NJYS and other leagues trying to sync ref fees, so they are the same. Most leagues are increasing their ref fees to match EDP, to the following: (and NO, this increase was NOT in our budget...)
 - **MNJYSA Spectator Behavior (attached as Appendix II-** The league just announced, that if a spectator misbehaves (example, unruly, yelling at other parents, etc.), the league will use an escalation process that involves 3 levels (1) resolved by club, (2) resolved by the league with team possibly losing home games, (3) repeat offender or if club ignores requests from the league may result in team suspension from league activities. See attached.
 - **Red Bull Training** - still early, but so far we are getting good feedback from coaches
 - **Keeper and Footworks Training** - This season the club will cover the cost of this training (previously we had parents register with USA for Keeper training, and then reimbursed them if they attended most of the sessions.) Coaches will select 2 players each week to attend the Keepers training and the Footworks training. A [google doc](#) has been set up for coaches to enter player names.
 - **Futures Program** - we currently have 18 players registered and are talking to 6 more. The program max is 24, so we will be full. MNJYSA already has 20+ teams registered for Festivals, 9 of which are girls. First Festival is 9/30 in Cranford
 - **(On our website) Don't Coach from The Sidelines Campaign** - US Youth Soccer have launched an important campaign called *Don't Coach from the Sidelines*. NJ Youth Soccer is at the forefront of this campaign targeted at improving sideline etiquette from spectators and coaches. Please take some time to read the overview and watch the campaign video. [Click here](#).
 - **(reminder) Yellow Wristband Initiative** - Another incredibly important focus area for youth soccer is the protection and respect of referees. The Yellow Wristband Initiative is aimed at increasing awareness about the presence of minor referees. Through the initiative, minor referees can opt to receive yellow wristbands to wear on game day, identifying them as minors. The expectation is for adults to show encouragement and respect for the minors as they learn their craft, more [information](#) from NJ Youth Soccer.
 - **Captain's Armbands** - Lou ordered the armbands with the club's logo on it. They look great. I would like to hold onto these and give them out at the Coaches Appreciation meeting on December 14th. One per team.
 - **Volunteer** - XXXXXXX, a 16year old HS student, is looking for Volunteer Hours. Tad is reaching out to him to repaint rec fields 2-6.
 - **Team of the Week** - just got this started for the fall. [Coaches enter nominations here](#).
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- **A BIG THANK YOU** - to Jeff Sundelof for dedicating his soccer existence to ensuring the PSC 14 Courage doesn't collapse.
- **Recreation game schedule** - Helping Yasmeen and Tad with [Overall game directions](#), and [Specific game schedule](#).

Thanks...Chuck

APPENDIX II

Spectator Behavior

Mid New Jersey Youth Soccer Assoc. maintains a Zero Tolerance regarding abuse and/or misconduct. This extends to all players, coaches, and spectators during all scheduled MNJYSA competitions. MNJYSA requires that all participating assist in providing a safe environment for participants at and during any sanctioned event.

Issues involving players, coaches, and referees are resolved at MNJYSA or at New Jersey Youth Soccer depending on severity of event. What has not been formally addressed is spectator behavior. We have dealt with isolated events in the past by moving matches to neutral fields without parent involvement, but this puts a burden on a third party to address a club spectator problem. Going forward we are going to require clubs the responsibility to oversee their spectator conduct.

The following three level approach will go into effect at the beginning of the 2023-24 seasonal year.

MNJYSA receiving a report of misconduct or of unruly spectator behavior from either a referee report or a club League Contact will follow this guideline:

Level 1 – team spectator offense that can be resolved by club

Club will be notified and asked for an explanation of the event, including but not limited to club involvement and solution to avoid future problems with this team. Response will be required within 7 days of notification.

Level 2 – team spectator offense that could be beyond club resolution

Club will be notified that they must appear at a MNJYSA hearing with date chosen by MNJYSA. This level could cause the offending team to loss all home games for an extended period of time due to spectator behavior. If there is no response from club this issue will immediately go to Level 3.

Level 3 – not responding to Level 2 or repeat team spectator offense within 12 months or team spectator event that MNJYSA believes to have reached a level of a unsafe environment for players, coaches and referees.

Team discipline will be decided by MNJYSA up to a suspension from all league activities with notification to NJYS for their record of the event.

Please understand that our hope is to not have to use these solutions but to have the Clubs respond to the issues before it reaches this level of activity. This will all be unnecessary with your help. Remember your Club sets the culture for your teams.

Ken Schinkel, MNJYSA President