



# Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

## **MSYSA Nominating Committee Report**

**Paul Tinnion (Chair), Dana Pope, Deanna Gorde, Jeremy Lacreuse, Mike Madrid**

Below is a list of candidates nominated by November 1, 2023 for positions on the MSYSA Board of Directors. Each candidate accepted their respective nomination and was asked to complete a questionnaire detailing their relevant experiences and goals for MSYSA. The Nominating Committee has reviewed the information submitted (provided on subsequent pages) and has verified the qualifications of each candidate (outlined below).

### **MSYSA President:** Mike Poulos

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA President.*

### **MSYSA Treasurer:** Adam Dixon

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Treasurer.*

### **MSYSA Recreational Director:** Doug Prim

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Recreational Director.*

### **MSYSA District Commissioner:** Mike Egnotovitch (Metro Central)

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro Central District Commissioner.*

### **MSYSA District Commissioner:** Anthony Spica (Metro East)

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro East District Commissioner.*

### **MSYSA District Commissioner:** Wendy Zielen (Metro Southwest)

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro Southwest District Commissioner.*

### **MSYSA District Commissioner:** Brian Scherzer (North)

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA North District Commissioner.*

### **MSYSA District Commissioner:** Steve DeVries (West)

*Based on the information available to us, the 2023 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA West District Commissioner.*

Respectfully,

Paul Tinnion  
MSYSA Nominating Committee Chairperson



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**Name:** Mike Poulos

**Nominated For:** MSYSA President



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2020 – Present	President	MSYSA
2013 - 2020	Treasurer	MSYSA
2012 - 2013	Secretary	MSYSA
2004 - 2012	Metro S/W District Commissioner	MSYSA
2004 - 2012	President	WSSL
2002 - 2004	Vice President	WSSL
1998 – 1999	President	Livonia Y Soccer Club

### Other Soccer Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2010 – 2012	Board Representative to the Saginaw 2012 Region II Tournament	MSYSA
2009 - 2012	Poaching Committee Chairperson	MSYSA
1995 - 1997	Coach	Livonia Y Soccer Club

### Professional / Other Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
1985 - 1986	Executive Officer, 1/24, 4 <sup>th</sup> Marine Div	United States Marine Corps

### Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

One goal for 2024 is the development and implementation of a strategic plan with the objective of identifying initiatives to improve MSYSA's service to its member organizations.

In the advance of that goal, MSYSA held a strategic planning meeting on November 11, 2023. The meeting was held at the MSYSA office, and was facilitated by Jim Cosgrove, former US Soccer CEO. Forty-three individuals participated in the meeting including club representatives as well as MSYSA board members and staff. The discussions focused on the survey results compiled earlier this year. That survey generated four themes; 1. Grassroots, 2. Member Services/ Participant Safety/ Governance, 3. Brand Development and Marketing, and 4. Coaching Education and Referees. The recommendations and comments for the four themes by those attending have been collected. At the time this is written, the MSYSA staff is reviewing the recommendations and comments resulting from that meeting to provide an initial estimate of resources needed, and a likely timeframe



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for completion. Once the final strategic goals have been chosen, our goal will be to ensure those goals get the focus and support required.

While the strategic plan provides the focus needed for future improvement initiatives, there are two ongoing goals that continue in 2024.

- The referee shortage has improved; however, shortages remain. MSYSA will continue to work with the MRC to improve referee recruitment and retention. Note: The strategic plan may address the referee shortage.
- Overall player participation is near normal levels, but recreation player participation remains below pre-Covid levels. An increased focus on coach training and support is one avenue to increase player participation.

Note: the strategic plan may address recreational player participation.

***This nominee states that he does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does he have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.***



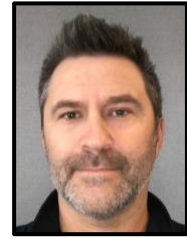
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**Name:** Adam Dixon

**Nominated For:** MSYSA Treasurer



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2019 – Present	Treasurer	MSYSA

### Other Soccer Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2014 – 2022	Soccer Coach	Michigan Rush / Plymouth Soccer / WSSL

### Professional / Other Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2019 – 2020	Soccer Coach	US Soccer - Grassroots 11v11 course
2017 – Present	Commercial Manager	Adient (Ford business unit)
2014 – 2022	Hockey Coach/Manager	SafeSport Trained; USA Hockey Level 3 Cert.

### Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

Professionally, I studied business strategy and obtained my MBA in 1999 from McMaster University in Ontario. Currently, I am employed in the automotive industry. I work with many customers as a Manager of Global Design and Cost Reduction with a Ford Business unit. My employment and background includes developing business cases/proposals and financial analysis.

With the Board and staff, I'll advocate for continuous improvement across all programs, events, and tournaments. I will also work for more accountability among all Michigan State Youth Soccer Association independent contractors and employees. Our service to all will include continued communication and transparency. My goal is to help grow the game in all age groups and competition levels across Michigan as well.

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**Name:** Doug Prim

**Nominated For:** MSYSA Recreational Director



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2022-Present	Recreational Director	MSYSA
2017-2022	West District Commissioner	MSYSA
2012-2021	President	Great Lakes Co-Ed Soccer League
2009-2012	Vice-President	Great Lakes Co-Ed Soccer League
2006-2009	Co-Treasurer	Great Lakes Co-Ed Soccer League
2003-2012	Director/President	Laketon Youth SC/Reeths Puffer SC

### Other Soccer Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2021-Present	Referee Mentor/Instructor	Michigan Referee Committee
2010-2019	Referee Assignor	USSF
2004-Present	Referee	US Soccer
1998-2016	Recreation Coach	Laketon Youth SC/Reeths Puffer SC

### Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name

### Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

If re-elected I would like to continue to grow grassroots soccer in Michigan. With an increase in focus from US Youth Soccer I feel that MSYSA is poised to take the lead in growing the beautiful game.

I will continue to encourage and work with our leagues and clubs to help them grow and make the game more accessible to all of the kids in our state.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the recreation director, and please consider allowing me to continue to represent you as your recreation director.

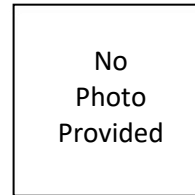
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**Name:** Mike Egotovich

**Nominated For:** MSYSA Metro Central District Commissioner

### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2019 – Present	Central District Commissioner	MSYSA
2018 – Present	Administrator	South Oakland County Soccer / DCFC South Oakland
2017 – 2018	Acting Vice President	South Oakland County Soccer
2014 – 2018	Registrar	South Oakland County Soccer

### Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2014 – 2016	Recreational Soccer Coach	South Oakland County Soccer

### Professional / Other Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2019 – 2020	President	Huntington Woods Men's Club
2018 – 2019	Member	City of Huntington Woods Long-Term Budget Advisory Committee
2016 – 2021	Board Member	Huntington Woods Men's Club
2016 – 2018	Auction Chair / Gift Chair	Huntington Woods Men's Club Annual Service Auction
2014 – 2018	Member	City of Huntington Woods Emergency Advisory Committee

### Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

Like many youth sports volunteers, my first involvement with kids soccer began at the community level when I volunteered to coach my youngest daughter's team nine years ago. It was incredibly fun and rewarding and made me realize I wanted to do more to help my local soccer club. I soon volunteered to join our club's board and became the registrar, and I have now been involved with the administrative side of this organization for over eight years.

As a board member for my club, I became heavily involved in coordinating inter-club recreation soccer friendlies among the community clubs in Metro Central. I have worked very hard to help strengthen and support these inter-club collaborations so that rec teams from all the clubs along the Woodward Avenue corridor can play fun and competitive soccer.



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When I was given the opportunity to become Metro Central District Commissioner, I accepted the role. I was eager to both share my knowledge and experience with the board, and I also remain eager to learn more about the youth soccer landscape in Michigan whenever I can. Now finishing my fifth year on the board, I truly enjoy working with MSYSA and its staff as well as providing support for the soccer clubs in the Metro Central district. I am always willing to listen to and learn from everyone I meet -- the more informed I am, the better I can help youth soccer in Michigan.

I will continue to do my best to meet and personally get to know all the leaders of the soccer clubs in the Metro Central District so that I can help them be heard by MSYSA. With my background in a mid-sized, community-based soccer club, I also want to make sure that the voices of smaller organizations continue to be heard at the state level – grassroots soccer is the foundation on which all other youth soccer programs are built upon and we need to make sure these programs continue to succeed. We are all in this for the kids, and I want to do whatever I can to help them all have a positive experience on the soccer field, regardless of the level at which they play.

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**Name:** Anthony Spica

**Nominated For:** MSYSA Metro East District Commissioner



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2020 – Present	Metro East District Comm.	MSYSA
2014 – Present	Director of Coaching	Michigan Youth Soccer League
2013 – 2014	Director of Operations	Legacy FC
2002 – 2013	Director of Coaching, President	Fraser Youth Soccer Club

### Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
1995 – Present	Coach	Various Clubs including USL, Fraser Youth Soccer Club, Legacy, Legends

### Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served (from – to)</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Organization Name</i>

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*\*The candidate did not provide updated background information to the Nominating Committee. The information above was taken from past Nominating Committee Reports\**





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**Name:** Wendy Zielen

**Nominated For:** MSYSA Metro Southwest District Commissioner



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2021 – Present	Metro Southwest District Comm.	MSYSA
2015 – 2021	Chair	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2013 – 2015	Chair	MSYSA Nominating Committee
2010 – 2015	President	Michigan Premier Soccer Academy
2007 – 2015	Secretary	Western Suburban Soccer League
2006 – 2008	Co-Chair	MSYSA Nominating Committee
2005 – 2009	Treasurer	Western Suburban Soccer League
2004 – 2010	President	Soccer Blast

### Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2006 – 2007	Referee, Grade 8	US Soccer Federation
2005 – 2007	Coach, D License	Soccer Blast
2004 – 2008	Administrator	Soccer Blast
2003 – 2009	Delegate	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2003 – 2005	Coach, E License	BAYSA & Soccer Blast
2001 – 2006	Team Manager	Various youth & adult leagues
2000 – 2003	Administrator	BAYSA

### Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2003 – 2009	Dedicated soccer mom of premier players from Classic to Division 1	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program

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**Name:** Brian Scherzer

**Nominated For:** North District Commissioner



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2016-Present	Commissioner	MidMichigan Youth Soccer League
2016-2021	Recreational Director	Michigan State Youth Soccer Assoc
2015-2016 2021-2022	North District Commissioner	Michigan State Youth Soccer Assoc
2014-2016	Vice President	MidMichigan Youth Soccer League
2014-2016	President	Bay Area Soccer Association
2012-2016	Registrar	Bay Area Soccer Association
2011-2016	Travel/Recreation Director,	Bay Area Soccer Association
2012-2014	Registrar, Vice President	Bay Area Soccer Association

### Other Soccer Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name
2014-current	USSF Grade 8 Referee	MSYSA
2014-2022	Select Coach	BASA, Freeland, Auburn United Soccer Club
2006-2014	Recreational Coach 40+ teams	BASA
2016- Present	Head Coach Bay City Western	Bay City Public Schools
2016-2020	Head Coach Bay City Central	Bay City Public Schools
2021-Present	Head Coach Bay City John Glenn	Bangor Public Schools
2019-Present	Team Manager	Auburn Untied Soccer Club

### Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

Years Served ( <i>from – to</i> )	Position or Title	Organization Name



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### **Vision & Goals for MSYSA:**

If I am elected I would like to work with all of the clubs and leagues in the North District to help them grow the sport and find ways to effectively work together. I would like to see us grow both the recreational and travel sides of the sport and get our numbers strong. Working together, and using resources provided by our outstanding staff at MSYSA, we can make a better product for all of us.

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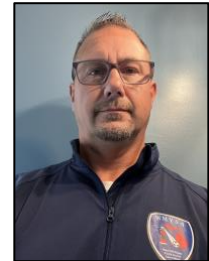
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**Name:** Steve DeVries

**Nominated For:** MSYSA West District Commissioner



### Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2020 – Present	President	West Michigan Youth Soccer Association
2017 – 2020	Disciplinary Chair	West Michigan Youth Soccer Association
2011 – 2015	Vice President	Sting Soccer Club

### Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2022-current	Academy Director	WMYSA
2016 – 2021 & 1995 – 2008	Referee	US Soccer Federation
2004 – 2016	Coach	Sting Soccer Club, Kalamazoo Kingdom, AYSO
1993 – 2013	Coach	Vicksburg High School

### Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2023	Offensive Coordinator	West Middle School Football
2016 – 2017 & 2019	Coach	Vicksburg Lacrosse Club
2010 – 2017	Coach	Kalamazoo Optimist Hockey Assn.
2007 – 2009	Den Leader	Boy Scouts of America

### Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

I have a strong passion for sports and people. Over the last 30 years I have seen soccer in West Michigan grow from a vision to be a premier region to a reality. Was blessed to be part of this in having great coaches and mentors that developed and shaped me into a well-rounded player, coach, referee, and advocate for soccer. If given the opportunity to represent MSYSA for another term, my vision and goal remains to continue to build on what was presented to me through organized sports, specifically soccer.

Organized sports is a vital part of youth develop. The structure and leadership skills gained builds confidence in our youth. In West Michigan and greater Michigan the sport has opportunities to grow further through closer regional engagement, expanded player development ,and referee training and retainment. While we do compete against other clubs and teams we share the passion to build skillsets on and off the field for our youth. Let’s continue to build a culture of unified alignment to grow the sport drives our passion.

***This nominee states that he does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does he have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.***