

**MICHIGAN STATE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, August 31, 2026**

The Board of Director's Meeting of the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA) was called to order on Monday, August 31, 2026, by President Denise Moote at 6:31 PM, via 'Zoom'.

**Board Members Present:** Denise Moote, Dave Turrill, Oscar Castaneda, Doug Prim, Ron Grobbel, Wendy Zielen, Anthony Spica, Alyssa Harrold, Bre Brendsel, Susan Jaske, and Mike Poulos

**Board Members Excused:** Tina Ramirez, Connie Campbell, Gerhard Mengal, Mike Egnotovich

**Administrators Present:** Julie Pearson

**Others Present:** Tom Faro, Elizabeth Satterley, and Mark Zathey

This is a **Non-Reporting** Meeting.

The minutes for the MSYSA Board of Directors Meeting held on July 27, 2026, will be filed for audit.

**President's Report:** Denise Moote

At the USYS AGM, the proposed bylaw amendments aligning USYS under US Soccer (over a 2-year period), passed. The initial focus for USYS/US Soccer is alignment, format, and support related to ODP, NCS, and President's Cup.

State Associations will continue to pay registration fees to USYS for the next 2 years. USYS has approx. 15M in reserves, with 33% of those reserves expected to be returned to State Associations in 2027. The goal for States is to use these funds to support US Soccer initiatives and growing the game locally.

Tina Rincon was re-elected USYS Chair & Geoff Weller (Nebraska) was elected Midwest Regional Representative.

Nominations for MSYSA Board positions are due no later than 11/1. Proposed bylaw changes are due 10/15.

The Fall State Cup Quarterfinals & Semifinals will take place 10/2-10/4 and the Finals will take place 10/16-18.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Turrill

Dave relayed year-to-date (YTD) total revenue for the month ending July 31, 2026, was \$3,055,356 with YTD expenses totaling \$2,705,488 resulting in a YTD surplus of \$358,873. Boys/Girls State Cup fared well, as did DA & Junior State Cup when compared to the prior fiscal year. On the expense side, ODP, Membership, and Insurance costs were less than expected.

Also, the Board may need to act at the September Meeting to increase operating reserves. MSYSA's standard practice is to maintain six (6) months of operating reserves for potential use in the event of a catastrophic or unexpected event.

**Staff/Executive Director's Report:** Tom Faro

Written report submitted.

**Staff/Technical Director:** Mark Zathey

Thanked Julie Pearson for assisting on the ODP/Talent ID certification process with US Soccer.

US Soccer has rolled out a Talent Reporter role to identify top talent. Current ODP coaches can apply.

The ODP Winter training dates at TOCA (Wixom) will be announced soon.

US Soccer 'D' license in Grand Rapids commences on 9/13.

## **New Business:**

**Motion:** (Doug Prim) To approve funding (FY 27-01) from net assets for FY 27 strategic initiatives in the amount of \$139,000.

**Second:** (Wendy Zielen)

**Discussion:** The four (4) strategic focus areas include Grassroots Soccer, Member Services, Brand Development (Marketing), and Coaching/Referees.

**Motion:** Approved.

**Motion:** (Ron Grobbel) To approve the MSYSA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule through 2027.

**Second:** (Wendy Zielen)

**Discussion:** No meetings are schedule for June 2027 or December 2027.

**Motion:** Approved.

**Motion:** (Bre Brendsel): To provisionally approve Real Lansing FC as a direct member with MSYSA, subject to approval by the members at the 2027 AGM.

**Second:** (Doug Prim)

**Discussion:** Real Lansing FC is being assigned to the MSYSA West District.

**Motion:** Approved, 1 abstention.

**Motion:** (Anthony Spica) To provisionally approve Blackhawks SC as a direct member with MSYSA, subject to approval by the members at the 2027 AGM.

**Second:** (Wendy Zielen)

**Discussion:** Troy YSL expressed concerns (via email) regarding the Blackhawks and competition for players in the area. However, the Blackhawks meet all requirements for direct membership with MSYSA.

Motion: Approved.

## **For the Good of the Game:**

Wendy Zielen expressed hope that our affiliated clubs and leagues will see participation growth following the recent World Cup.

Tom Faro believes USYS falling under U.S. Soccer has the potential to strengthen and improve the sport.

The next regular meeting of the MSYSA Board of Directors (Reporting Meeting) is on **Monday, September 28, 2026**, at 6:30 PM via 'Zoom' (No meeting in June).

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.



---

Connie Campbell, Recording Secretary  
Michigan State Youth Soccer Association, Inc.