

**Minutes of the DC Stoddert Board
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, December 1, 2004**

I. Fields

II. Travel Director's Report

III. Referees

A referee clinic has been scheduled for January 7th and 8th to train a new group of referees. Further efforts will be made to reach out to the entire pool of trained refs to make sure that are strongly encouraged to sign up to ref a number of games every week.

IV. Open

The schedule for registration process was discussed and approved unanimously. It calls for broadcast e-mails to remind people to register before February 1st in order to avoid a late fee. Late fees will be imposed as of February 1st and "last chance to register" postcards will be mailed to all players who had been registered in the last year but who had not registered as of February 15th.

Registration will close on March 1st, with the individual commissioners for each division having the discretion to permit registrations after March 1st if they view that as appropriate for their league.

The first game of the season will be on April 2nd.

V. Treasurer's Report and Approval of the 2005 Budget

Bob Hartheimer presented the budget for 2005. He described the process by which the budget was prepared, which stemmed from looking at actual expenditures in 2004 coupled with estimates from each of the major areas of the league — expected registration levels and fee levels, estimated costs for uniforms, fields, trophies, coaches salaries and administrative costs. He noted that a group of the Executive Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee had met for a long meeting to review every line item in the budget to ensure that it is accurate and that we had cut back on a number of projected expenditures in order to achieve a balanced budget.

After some discussion of the budget, the Board approved its adoption unanimously.

VI. Awards

The Board then opened up for the annual general meeting.

Graeme Bush began the process of presenting the annual awards.

1. Volunteer of the Year

Graeme first introduced the league's founder, John Koskinen for some remarks about the future of soccer in DC. John is currently the executive director of the US Soccer Foundation and had previously served as the Deputy Mayor of the District of Columbia. Following John's remarks, the John Koskinen volunteer of the year award was presented to Bonnie LePard and David Sarley.

2. Tyler Rusch FIFA Referee of the Year Award

Gotz Schreiber then introduced Tyler Rusch's parents and gave a tribute to Tyler Rusch and why the league had chosen to name its FIFA referee of the year award in memory of Tyler. Thom Heath then presented the Tyler Rusch FIFA referee of the year award to Walter Anderson.

3. Junior Referee of the Year Awards

Thom Heath then presented the Jessi Miller Girls Junior Referee of the Year award to Ellen Zarabozo and the Boys Junior Referee of the Year award to Shaquille Phillips.

4. Coach of the Year

Graeme Bush and Len Oliver then presented the Len Oliver Coach of the Year Award to Shippen Howe.

5. Travel Coach

Sona Walla was presented with the Travel Coach of the Year Award, a new award this year. The selection recognizes the extraordinary efforts Sona has made with every team he has coached and to assist other travel coaches in their efforts as well.

VII. Farewell and Thanks to Graeme Bush

Tom Gross and many others then spoke in gratitude of the years of dedicated and able leadership that Graeme Bush has brought to the league as his service as Chairman of DC Stoddert Soccer comes to a close. Many in the room noted how much they had enjoyed working with Graeme, how far the club had come under his leadership and how much everyone appreciated the countless hours that

Graeme had put in to keep the club running smoothly and growing and to ensure that the thousands of Stoddert kids had the chance to play soccer each week.

An engraved decanter was presented to Graeme.

Following Graeme's remarks, there was a celebration in honor of all the awardees.