



## Mid-Michigan Men's Soccer League (MMMSL) Memorandum

TO: All League Participants  
RE: League Meeting Minutes  
DATE: October 18, 2003

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Attendance: All teams were present except Mason and Owosso.  
Next League Meeting: TBD, sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas 2003

1. Disciplinary Hearing:

Mario Grimaldo (Lansing) received a 4 game suspension for a Serious Foul Play red card. See the document **DisciplinaryHearing\_101003.pdf** for a complete summary.

2. Divisions for Next Season:

- A unanimous decision was made to investigate having 3 divisions next year: Open, Over 30, and Over 40.
- Over 30 will play on Sundays. If possible the Open and Over 40 will play on Wednesdays. This will allow players to participate in two divisions if desired. It was discussed that the 30+ team would not have a limit on the number of players over 30; all USSF rules would apply (including allowing slide tackling). It was also discussed that the 40 + team would possibly be 9v9 or 8v8 playing on smaller fields, with no slide tackling (30 or 45 minutes half is to be finalized).
- **At the next league meeting each team captain will need to have conducted a formal survey of all their players and answer the following:** will you have a 30+ team, a 40+ team, no team or not enough players for either team (provide the number of players in each category that is applicable for your team). A final decision will be made at this meeting based on the information provided by the captains.
- At the next league meeting, Marcel Lenz will provide a written application to propose the addition of the open division. The intent is to add sufficient new board members to help run the open division, and it is expected that there will be 6-8 new open teams (most or all will come from the now defunct SoccerZone outdoor open league).

3. Affiliation/Non-Profit Status:

- MMMSL will consider becoming an affiliate of CASL. Dan Zolkowski will explore the idea with CASL. The expected benefits would be better liability protection and involvement in the purchase of a proposed CASL soccer complex (tentative site is SW Lansing). If MMMSL gets involved now with the soccer complex acquisition, MMMSL can be in a strong bargaining position for field scheduling.
- MMMSL must file for non-profit status in order to reduce the fields' rental fees (John Walenburg volunteered to take care of this task).

4. Tournaments for Next Season:

- The MMMSL hopes to send 2 teams to the MSA State Tournament from the Over 30 division. The proposal is to have CCFC represent the league as the 2003 champion. A

second team will go as the league All-Star team, all teams other than CCFC can provide 2 or 3 players to compose the roster.

- It was agreed that an end of season tournament should be scheduled for the league next year. The proposal is that tournament games will be played on Sunday afternoons.

5. Registration:

- The individual player registration process will remain largely unchanged next year (10 day waiting period, etc.). The MMMSL plans to require league player passes instead of driver's licenses next year. Mike Yassine said that he thinks there is a way to set up a player pass system with Kinko's – each player can go in and have their picture taken and walk out with a league player pass.
- If we go to the 30+ division, there will be no 5-player limit for players in the 30-35 year age category; the Over 30 division will be a true Over 30.

6. MMMSL League Rules:

- It was discussed that the Open and Over 30 divisions will play straight USSF rules for slide tackles. The Over 40 division may prohibit slide tackling.
- All divisions will observe the 5-minute sit-out rule for a yellow card. Enforcement will be through a gentleman's agreement.

7. Game Reports and Referees:

- Next season, the MMMSL will return to having the center referee mail the game reports for all 3 divisions. The game reports did not arrive any sooner having the home team captain send them in.
- MMMSL will request that GLASRA provide premier-level referees for all MMMSL games in all divisions. GLASRA usually generates a list of premier officials each year.

8. Cumulative Card Point System:

The existing point system will remain in effect for all divisions, with the following two changes: [1] a player receiving a straight red card for DH (deliberate hand ball to stop a goal) or DF (deliberate foul to stop a goal) will receive only 2 points; [2] next season, the referee will mail the game reports for all divisions so the language to sanction the home captain for failure to submit will be removed. NOTE: FIFA/USSF rules make a distinction between a DF (deliberate foul to stop a goal) foul and a Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play foul, and there are separate codes to note the distinction on the MMMSL game report.

Here is a full statement of the new cumulative point system:

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- 1 The MMMSL will use the following point system to track cumulative yellow and red cards:
  - 1.1 Yellow Card = 1 point
  - 1.2 Yellow Card + Red Card (2nd Yellow) = 2 points + next game suspension
  - 1.3 Red Card for deliberate hand ball to stop a goal or deliberate foul to stop a goal = 2 points + next game suspension
  - 1.4 Red Card for any offense not listed in 1.3 = 3 points + next game suspension
  - 1.5 Yellow Card + Red Card (straight Red for foul in 1.3) = 3 points + next game suspension
  - 1.6 Yellow Card + Red Card (straight Red for foul in 1.4) = 4 points + next game suspension
- 2 The MMMSL will sanction a player with one (1) additional point for failure to leave the field for five minutes after receiving a yellow card.
- 3 The suspensions for cumulative points will be as follows:

- 3.1 3 points = 1 game
  - 3.2 6 points = 2 games
  - 3.3 9 points = 3 games
  - 3.4 12 points = 8 games or remainder of season, whichever is longer
  - 4 Cumulative points do not carry over from one season to the next. However, if a player is under suspension at the end of a season, the player must serve the balance of their suspension at the beginning of the next season.
  - 5 Any fighting or other conduct deemed detrimental to the league and/or the game shall be dealt with accordingly and may include more severe penalty, or a permanent dismissal from the league. The Board of Directors or a committee appointed by the Board shall investigate the situation, report its findings and make recommendations to the members. Final discipline shall be decided by the members of teams in the same division at a special meeting, with 2/3 in attendance.
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9. Adding New Teams to the League:

The current method stated in the By-Laws will be used again in future seasons. The By-Laws state:

- New teams shall apply for admission to the Board of Directors and will be admitted only upon a majority vote of the representative teams.

However, all three divisions will be created essentially from scratch as teams reconfigure, so some kind of alternate language might be enacted for next season.

10. Non-Sanctioned Players:

There was a consensus agreement to modify the By-Laws to not allow any one to play that is not officially registered with the league (even if the team doesn't have enough players). The consensus opinion is to treat all games as a forfeit for the team with the non-sanctioned player. Strong reservations were raised about liability issues and fairness to other teams when a non-sanctioned player is allowed to play.