

PRESIDENT'S 2019 REPORT

5-Star Program. At last year's AGM we announced the launch of one of Indiana Soccer's most important service initiatives. The areas of the 5-Star initiative are:

- Governance: The way an organization manages its affairs, stewardship
- Alignment: Shared purpose, mission, and visions
- Marketing & Communication: Creating demand and exchanging information
- Risk Management: The identification and mitigation of threats
- Education: The transfer of knowledge

Over the past 12 months, several clubs have worked to achieve one or more stars available through this initiative. One of the components of the governance star is a web-based library in which member clubs can store their critical documents in a secure, proprietary location available to only those with the club's access credential. The exercise of collecting and storing governance and related documents has revealed in many cases that important documents have either been lost or misplaced. If you have not started this process, we urge you to contact Angel Hall angel@soccerindiana.org and get to work earning your stars.

Safe Sport Act. This federal legislation requires additional administrative attention and performance from clubs. Your state association has tools to assist each member club comply with this important government mandate. The primary objective of the Safe Sport Act is to protect minors from sexual predators. Shockingly, statistics suggest that one in four female athletes have been abused by the time they are 18; one in six boys report sexual abuse. Education and background checks are effective tools to protect minors from sexual predators. ISA staff will assist you in developing and implementing an effective education and check program. There is no additional cost to clubs to use these tools. It is recommended that all adults associated with the club participate in the education. Angel Hall has an effective, sustainable and auditable method

of providing the appropriate education for parents, coaches, and administrators. The auditable method allows the club to demonstrate compliance should that become an issue. Background check access and processing is provided through your state association. It is imperative that each member club establish a GOTSoccer account for each adult serving as a coach, manager, administrator or volunteer.

Registration update. Registrations increased by 851 players during the past seasonal year.

	Fall	Spring	Total
2016	37,625	19,832	57,457
2017	37,928	19,385	57,313
2018	38,874	19,290	58,164
2019	36,061		

USYS’s New CEO. US Youth Soccer’s Board of Director recently announced hiring Skip Gilbert as the new CEO of US Youth Soccer. An experienced executive, Mr. Gilbert has served in leadership roles with a number of sports organizations, most recently with the US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) as its Managing Director of Operations, Marketing, and Development. In this role, Mr. Gilbert oversaw USADA’s Olympic Testing and Client Services operations, while also supporting marketing and development efforts for the organization’s TrueSport division. He has extensive executive management experience from his involvement with the USADA, the United States Tennis Association, USA Triathlon, USA Swimming, US Soccer, and as chairman of the National Governing Bodies Council (NGBC). He has a soccer background, having played for the Tampa Bay Rowdies of the NASL, US Olympic Development Team, and trained with Sheffield United and clubs in Holland and Hong Kong. He is a licensed coach.

ODP. ISA introduced district training to help mitigate expense and travel demands for entry level ODP participants. This expanded effort resulted in over 400 players participating in district sites in Richmond, Evansville, Jeffersonville, Zionsville, Fort Wayne, Merrillville, Elkhart, South Bend and Granger. ODP participation was higher in 2019 than it has been in the last five years. Notable successes of this year include:

- 12 players invited to play on Midwest Regional teams
- 1 player invited to National Team Camp
- 26 new officials received on-field training in January during ODP games at the first Tri State Cup, hosted by Indiana Soccer.

ISA Board Strategic Planning Retreat. ISA’s board held a day-long strategic planning retreat on August 7, 2019. The retreat was facilitated by Ryan Vaughn, president of The Indiana Sports Corp. Mr. Vaughn, used the morning session to lead the board through a review of the Association’s Vision, Mission, Purpose and Core Values statements. A robust discussion developed these revised purpose, mission, and vision statements, and identification of core values.

- Purpose statement – “Indiana Soccer’s purpose is to improve lives through soccer.”
- Mission Statement – “Indiana Soccer’s mission is to remain a premier service organization by providing leadership, organizing play, educating community stakeholders and developing youth and adults through soccer.”
 - Vision Statement – “Indiana Soccer’s vision is to make soccer accessible to all.”
- Core Values
 - Diversity and inclusion
 - Integrity and respect
 - Fair and safe play
 - Leadership and Service

The second half of the retreat focused on strategic priorities. The Board recognized the high value of the collaborative arrangement between the state association and the member clubs as well as collaborative activity among member clubs. It was additionally recognized that there

are several outside organizations whose purpose, mission, vision and core values align with Indiana Soccer and could assist the association and its member clubs reach a significant number of people not currently being served by Indiana Soccer and its member clubs.

The board, following the retreat, tasked the staff to develop a plan to reach unserved and underserved communities and populations in Indiana. A portion of our time together at the AGM will be devoted to discussion of the plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Brown, President

Indiana Soccer Association, Inc.