

The 2018-2019 Executive Director's annual report – Dave Guthrie

It is my pleasure to report on the condition and developments of 2018/19 for Indiana Soccer.



Membership: The Indiana Soccer Association membership for 2018-2019 is as follows:

- Youth players 58,164 [373 out of state players]
- Adult players 3,043

Total registered players **61,207**

There was an increase of 851 registered youth players over the previous year and an increase in of 363 registered adult players of the previous year. There was an overall increase of 1,214 total registered players over the previous year.

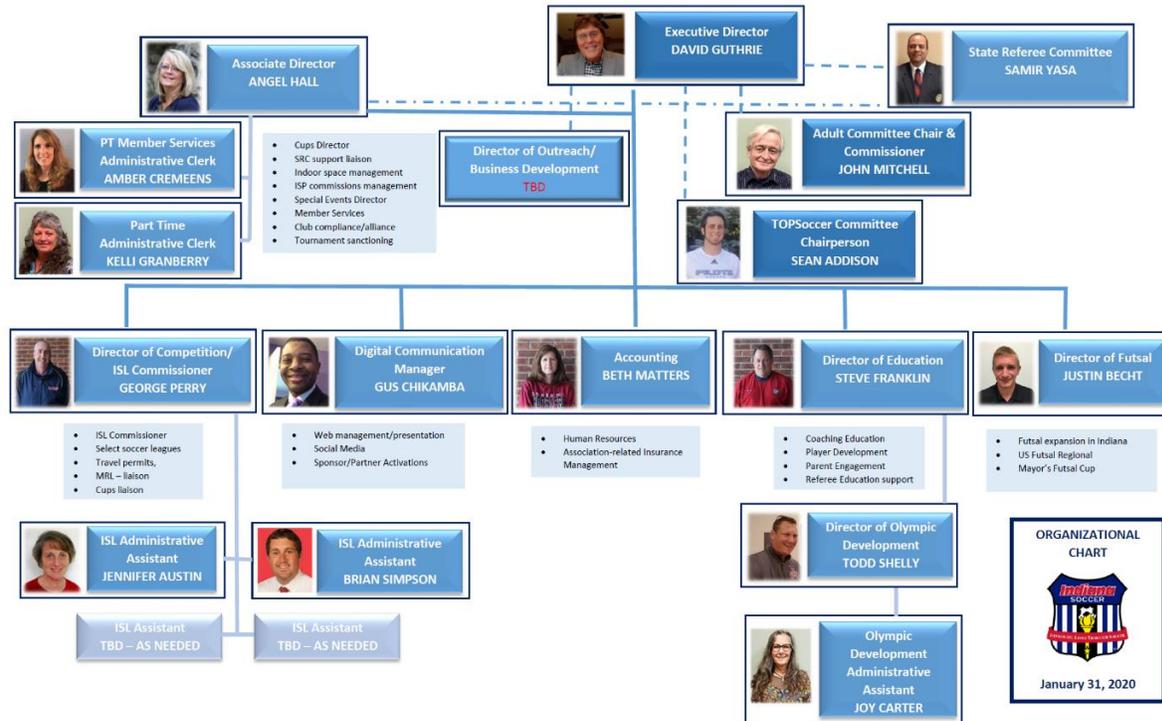
New Members:

- Brownstown Youth Soccer
- Frankfort Youth Soccer
- St. Anthony Youth Soccer
- Wabash United Futbol Club
- Jefferson County Soccer Association - reinstatement
- Porter County FC
- Hebron Soccer Club – reinstatement –
- Muscatatuck Travel Soccer [fka Jennings County Youth Soccer] - reinstatement

Adult participation:

This past year, Indiana Soccer, in conjunction with The United States Adult Soccer Association and the US Soccer Federation is launching an initiative that will bridge youth players into the adult ranks when they age out of the youth game. This initiative will provide every registered youth player an adult player pass at no cost, when that youth player ages out of the youth game. Details of this initiative are forthcoming.

Your State Office Staff: The organization chart below provides your staff detail. You will note in the org chart below, that there are changes to the organizational structure from a year ago. The changes are a result of your association’s commitment to continually seek ways to expand and improve service delivery and to increase player participation.



TOPSoccer:

Each year, more players with special needs are provided a playing opportunity, thanks to warm welcome provided by several of the Indiana Soccer member clubs. However, there are a significant number of people with special needs that would benefit from a playing opportunity, but none is available. Please allow me to strongly encourage you to offer a TOPSoccer program if one is not currently part of your offering.

This summer, during US Youth Soccer’s Regional National Championship Series event, which is being hosted at Grand Park the fourth week in June, a regional TOPSoccer event is scheduled. Two years ago Indiana hosted this event which set a new high water mark for TOPSoccer. Please allow me to invite you to attend, volunteer etc. for this event. You will walk away convinced that offering a TOPSoccer program in your club is imperative. You can learn more about TOPSoccer by visiting:

[http://www.soccerindiana.org/assets/58/6/topsoccer_presentation - use.pdf](http://www.soccerindiana.org/assets/58/6/topsoccer_presentation_use.pdf) or

<https://www.soccerindiana.org/search/?keyword=topsoccer>

If you are willing to explore developing a TOPSoccer program in your club, please contact Sean or Joy. These wonderful people stand ready to assist your effort to serve this special population. Sean can be reached at sean@soccerindiana.org and Joy can be reached at joy@soccerindiana.org.

Board Retreat 2019

This past year the board held a retreat. The focus of the retreat was to reevaluate the organizations purpose and direction. One of the tangible results of this retreat were edited purpose vision and mission statements as well as clarification of our core values. These revised statements are:

Purpose: Improve Lives Through Soccer

Vision: Where Soccer is Accessible to All

Mission: To remain a premier service organization by providing leadership, organizing play, educating community stakeholders and developing youth and adults through soccer.

Core Values: Diversity & Inclusion
Integrity & Respect
Fair & Safe Play
Leadership & Service

The board retreat, which was facilitated by Ryan Vaughn the CEO of the Indiana Sports Corp, resulted in the board's commitment to provide a long-term commitment to a robust and well-funded outreach initiative. I am confident that a collaborative effort among Indiana Soccer, its member clubs and the communities they serve will be highly successful. You will be hearing some of the initial details of this initiative during our annual meeting time together. Please allow me to request that you identify an outreach champion with whom your State Association can work to make sure that every child within your service reach is provided an opportunity to participate in our game. It is recommended that you have your champion attend this year's AGM to learn first-hand how they can activate this initiative in your community.

e-sports are a notable part of our culture. Unfortunately, there are companies that profit from promoting violence and sex through gaming. We can complain about this misuse of this technology, or we can bridle the gaming-world and leverage the benefits available when used appropriately. This past year, I began investigating the pros and cons of gaming and understand that there are many benefits that can result in gaming if approached and purposefully used to benefit the gamer. The video game of FIFA can be a valuable developmental tool and can occupy a significant part, if not all of a gamer's gaming time. There is strong anecdotal evidence as well as empirical evidence to suggest that a person that plays FIFA develops a comprehensive understanding of the game at a much more rapid rate than one who is limited to traditional soccer training. It is not surprising to learn that the gamer sees the whole field and becomes spatially aware of the location of his teammates etc. This comprehensive understanding can be observed on the pitch as the player's physical and technical abilities develop.

A FIFA e-league pilot is currently underway. Please allow me to encourage you to investigate the development possibilities of this e-league i.e., Cognitive development, relationship development beyond the traditional training participant's teammates; a productive way to invest one's gaming time, a way to remain connected in the offseason, a component of a club's outreach initiative etc.

Dr. Craig A. Moorman, will be present during our time together at this year's Annual meeting.



Dr. Moorman is a pediatrician in Franklin, Indiana and is affiliated with [Johnson Memorial Hospital](#). Since 1980 Dr. Moorman has had a thriving pediatric practice in Franklin Indiana. From 1989 to the present Dr. Moorman has served as the Johnson County Health Officer. He received his medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 39 years.

Dr. Moorman is active within his own community having served as President for Franklin Rotary, Board member, Johnson County Historical Society, Johnson County Medical Society. He is a major proponent for community-based activities for children and combining both physical and mental activities. He likes to spend some of his downtime video gaming. Dr. Moorman will be available to discuss the many developmental attributes of e-sports.

Cups, ISL, Coaching Education, 5 Star initiative, Finance etc. all have their respective reports so I will not be redundant by including information on these areas in my report. I look forward to our time together at this year's annual meeting and awards banquet.

Sincerely,

Dave Guthrie, Indiana Soccer's Executive Director