



Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

MSYSA Nominating Committee Report

Paul Tinnion (Chair), Dana Pope, Deanna Gorde, Jeremy Lacreuse, Mike Madrid

Below is a list of candidates nominated by November 1, 2024, for positions on the MSYSA Board of Directors. Each candidate accepted their respective nomination and was asked to complete a questionnaire detailing their relevant experiences and goals for MSYSA. The Nominating Committee has reviewed the information submitted (provided on subsequent pages) and has verified the qualifications of each candidate (outlined below).

MSYSA Vice President: Denise Moote

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Vice President.

MSYSA Recording Secretary: Tina Ramirez

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Recording Secretary.

MSYSA District Commissioner: Mike Egnotovich (Metro Central)

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro Central District Commissioner.

MSYSA District Commissioner: Anthony Spica (Metro East)

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro East District Commissioner.

MSYSA District Commissioner: Wendy Zielen (Metro Southwest)

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA Metro Southwest District Commissioner.

MSYSA District Commissioner: Brian Scherzer (North)

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA North District Commissioner.

MSYSA District Commissioner: Bre Brendsel (West)

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSYSA West District Commissioner.

MSPSP Chairperson: Oscar Castaneda

Based on the information available to us, the 2024 MSYSA Nominating Committee finds the candidate in good standing and meeting the qualifications for the position of MSPSP Chairperson.

Respectfully,

Paul Tinnion
MSYSA Nominating Committee Chairperson



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Name: Denise Moote

Nominated For: MSYSA Vice President



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2021 – Present	Vice President	MSYSA
2013 – 2021	Metro SW District Comm.	MSYSA
2009 – 2020	Administrator	Western Suburban Soccer League
2006 – 2019	Scorekeeper	Western Suburban Soccer League
2011 – 2013	Poaching & Illegal Recruitment Committee Chair	MSYSA
2011 – 2013	Discipline & Appeals Panel	MSYSA
2005 – 2009	Treasurer	Western Suburban Soccer League
2002 – 2007	President/Treasurer/Secretary	Plymouth Soccer Club

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2000 – 2007	Coach (D License)	Plymouth Soccer Club

Professional / Other Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
25+ years	Small Business Administration and Bookkeeping Services	Plymouth Area

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

As MSYSA Vice President I will promote and support the programs of MSYSA. I plan to work closely with President Mike Poulos, Executive Director Tom Faro, and the MSYSA staff to become familiar with the day-to-day operations of MSYSA. I will be engaged at every level with the MSYSA Board of Directors. I plan to be a hands-on Vice President and be available for whatever is needed within MSYSA as MSYSA continues to provide positive leadership and continuing education opportunities, and other items while promoting fair play in and for all aspects of soccer in Michigan.

This nominee states that she does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does she have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.



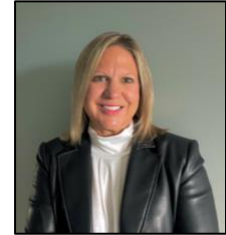
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Name: Tina Ramirez

Nominated For: MSYSA Recording Secretary



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2019 – Present	Recording Secretary	MSYSA

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2015 – 2024	Team Manager	Michigan Jaguars

Professional / Other Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2020-Present	Program Manager	Mahle Powertrain
2007-2019	Engineer/Program Manager	General Motors

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

It is important that the Board of Directors meet on a monthly basis to discuss important matters and resolve them in a timely fashion. As Recording Secretary, I will encourage all Board members to attend all meetings so that we can meet quorum. I encourage attendance so that their voices can be heard, and we can ensure that the Board is working for all of its members.

On a personal note, I have a son that plays soccer, and I was the manager for his team for 9 years. I am able to see the various aspects of the game; the administrative side of the game and the leadership necessary to manager a successful team as well as the excitement of watching from the sidelines. I am able to experience the joy of winning, the learning that comes along with losing and the behind the scenes work that goes into keeping the team organized.

I believe my personal experiences makes me a well-rounded Board member. I enjoy collaborating with others that love the game of soccer as much as I do and working together for the betterment our membership.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Recording Secretary and, if elected, I would continue to do my best in that role.

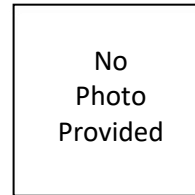
This nominee states that she does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does she have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.



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Name: Mike Egnotovich

Nominated For: MSYSA Metro Central District Commissioner

Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2019 – Present	Central District Commissioner	MSYSA
2018 – Present	Administrator	South Oakland County Soccer / DCFC South Oakland
2017 – 2018	Acting Vice President	South Oakland County Soccer
2014 – 2018	Registrar	South Oakland County Soccer

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2014 – 2016	Recreational Soccer Coach	South Oakland County Soccer

Professional / Other Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2019 – 2020	President	Huntington Woods Men's Club
2018 – 2019	Member	City of Huntington Woods Long-Term Budget Advisory Committee
2016 – 2021	Board Member	Huntington Woods Men's Club
2016 – 2018	Auction Chair / Gift Chair	Huntington Woods Men's Club Annual Service Auction
2014 – 2018	Member	City of Huntington Woods Emergency Advisory Committee

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

Like many individuals who volunteer with youth sports, my first involvement began at the community level when I volunteered to coach my youngest daughter's rec soccer team 10 years ago. That was such an incredibly fun and rewarding experience and it made me realize I wanted to do more to help my local soccer club and support its athletic programs for kids. I was invited to join our community club's board, holding several positions over the years. I have now been involved on the administrative side of my community club for over nine years.

As a board member for my club, I became heavily involved in coordinating recreation soccer friendly matches among the community clubs in the Metro Central district. I have worked very hard to help strengthen and support these inter-club collaborations so that rec soccer teams from all the clubs along the Woodward Avenue corridor can play fun and competitive soccer together.



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When I was given the opportunity to become Metro Central District Commissioner, I was happy to accept the role. I felt I was ready to share my knowledge and experience with the state board, but I was also eager to learn even more about the youth soccer landscape in Michigan. Now finishing my fifth year in this role, I truly enjoy working with MSYSA and its staff as well as providing support for the soccer clubs in the Metro Central district. I try to listen to and learn from everyone I meet, with the belief that the more informed I am, the better I can serve the youth soccer community in Michigan.

I will continue to do my best to meet and get to know the leaders and staff of the soccer clubs in the Metro Central District so that I have a sense of their needs and how I can best represent them at the state level. With my background volunteering with and working for a mid-sized, community-based soccer club, I will also do my best to make sure that the voices of smaller clubs continue to be heard at the state level – grassroots soccer is the foundation upon which youth soccer is built and we all need to make sure these programs continue to succeed. We are all in this for the kids, and I want to do whatever I can to help them all have a positive experience on the soccer field, regardless of the level at which they play.

This nominee states that he does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does he have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.



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Name: Anthony Spica

Nominated For: MSYSA Metro East District Commissioner



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2020 – Present	Metro East District Comm.	MSYSA
2014 – Present	Director of Coaching	Michigan Youth Soccer League
2013 – 2014	Director of Operations	Legacy FC
2002 – 2013	Director of Coaching, President	Fraser Youth Soccer Club

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
1995 – Present	Coach	Various Clubs including USL, Fraser Youth Soccer Club, Legacy, Legends

The candidate did not provide updated background information to the Nominating Committee. The information above was taken from past Nominating Committee Reports



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Name: Wendy Zielen

Nominated For: MSYSA Metro Southwest District Commissioner



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2021 – Present	Metro Southwest District Comm.	MSYSA
2015 – 2021	Chair	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2013 – 2015	Chair	MSYSA Nominating Committee
2010 – 2015	President	Michigan Premier Soccer Academy
2007 – 2015	Secretary	Western Suburban Soccer League
2006 – 2008	Co-Chair	MSYSA Nominating Committee
2005 – 2009	Treasurer	Western Suburban Soccer League
2004 – 2010	President	Soccer Blast

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2006 – 2007	Referee, Grade 8	US Soccer Federation
2005 – 2007	Coach, D License	Soccer Blast
2004 – 2008	Administrator	Soccer Blast
2003 – 2009	Delegate	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2003 – 2005	Coach, E License	BAYSA & Soccer Blast
2001 – 2006	Team Manager	Various youth & adult leagues
2000 – 2003	Administrator	BAYSA

Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2003 – 2009	Dedicated soccer mom of premier players from Classic to Division 1	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program

The candidate did not provide updated background information to the Nominating Committee. The information above was taken from past Nominating Committee Reports



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Name: Brian Scherzer

Nominated For: North District Commissioner



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2016 – Present	Commissioner	Mid-Michigan Youth Soccer League
2015 – 2016 & 2021 – Present	North District Commissioner	MSYSA
2016 – 2021	Recreational Director	MSYSA
2014 – 2016	Vice President	Mid-Michigan Youth Soccer League
2014 – 2016	President	Bay Area Soccer Association
2012 – 2016	Registrar	Bay Area Soccer Association
2011 – 2016	Travel / Rec Director	Bay Area Soccer Association
2012 – 2014	Registrar / Vice President	Bay Area Soccer Association

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2014-current	USSF Grade 8 Referee	MSYSA
2014-2022	Select Coach	BASA, Freeland, Auburn United Soccer Club
2006-2014	Recreational Coach 40+ teams	BASA
2016- 2023	Head Coach Bay City Western	Bay City Public Schools
2016-2020	Head Coach Bay City Central	Bay City Public Schools
2021-Present	Head Coach Bay City John Glenn	Bangor Public Schools
2019-2023	Team Manager	Auburn Untied Soccer Club
Present	Head Coach Premier U13 Head Coach Select U12	Midland Soccer Club
2023 – Present	Top Soccer Buddy - Spring	Midand Soccer Club

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

If I am elected I would like to work with all of the clubs and leagues in the North District to help them grow the sport and find ways to effectively work together. I would like to see us grow both the recreational and travel sides of the sport and get our numbers strong. Working together, and using resources provided by our outstanding staff at MSYSA, we can make a better product for all of us.

This nominee states that he does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does he have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.



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Name: Bre Brendsel

Nominated For: MSYSA West District Commissioner



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2018 – Present	Director/Secretary	Grand Valley Soccer Association

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2011 – Present	Executive Director; Head Coach	Rapids FC
2010 – 2011	Head Coach	AYSO

Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2011 – 2015	Board Member	GIFT – non-profit advocacy group

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

Dear Presidents and Delegates:

I'm truly honored by the nomination for the MSYSA West District Commissioner position. Like many of you, I have been involved in the game for most of my life – first as a youth player, then as a coach, registrar, and currently as a league Board Member and club Executive Director. Over the past 13 years, I have witnessed the evolution of soccer in West Michigan into what it is today. This transformation has not occurred by chance; it has taken tremendous effort from our soccer community at all levels to reach this point.

My personal growth as a player has been the driving force behind my investment in youth soccer. I have experienced the lifelong impact of dedicated coaches, volunteers, administrators, and others who work tirelessly to positively influence our youth players. I strive to work with coaches and teams to foster a player-first mentality. Coaching the whole player – physically, emotionally, and psychologically – means helping athletes develop holistically, both on and off the field. This philosophy extends to volunteers and staff as well. By collaborating, we can create strong players, teams, clubs, and governing bodies, ultimately building a better system in which everyone can thrive.



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As a member of the Board of Directors for the Grand Valley Soccer Association, I have spent the past six years working alongside other talented leaders to enhance our soccer community and support our member clubs. Another part of my vision for West Michigan over the next year is to continue building relationships with both recreational and competitive organizations in our area, supporting the important work they are already doing within their communities. By establishing connections throughout West Michigan, we can create widespread benefits.

Thank you for your support and consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to serve as your West District Commissioner.

Sincerely,

Bre Brendsel
bbrendsel@rapidsfc.com

This nominee states that she does earn significant income (50% or more) from soccer related activities but does not have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.



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Name: Oscar Castaneda

Nominated For: MSPSP Chairperson



Previous Soccer Board Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2021 – Present	Chairperson	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2016 – 2021	Vice Chairperson	Michigan State Premier Soccer Program
2014 – 2015	Soccer Across America Chair	MSYSA
2005 – 2008	Scheduler	Capital Area Soccer League
2002 – 2005	Webmaster	Capital Area Soccer League
2000 – 2002	Member at Large	East Lansing Soccer Club
1999 – 2000	Webmaster	East Lansing Soccer Club

Other Soccer Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2014 – Present	High School JV Coach	Lansing Catholic High School
2005 – Present	High School Referee	Michigan High School Athletic Association
2001 – Present	Grassroots Referee	MI Soccer Referee Committee
2004 – 2013	Boys Coach U9 – U19	East Lansing Soccer Club
1999 – 2008	Girls Coach U12 – U19	East Lansing Soccer Club

Professional or Non-Soccer Related Experiences:

<i>Years Served</i>	<i>Position or Title</i>	<i>Club/League Name</i>
2023 – Present	Board Member	Ingham Health Plan Corporation
2018 – Present	Board Member at Large	REACH Art Studio

Vision & Goals for MSYSA:

Today I come to this body asking for one more term as the chair of MSPSP Program. I just read the goals that I put forward two years ago and I conclude that my vision is much the same as what I wrote at that time but informed with the experiences that we gained during these years. On the other hand, the landscape for youth soccer in Michigan, and in the nation, keeps changing even faster than two years ago.

In a slightly different matter, you might be aware of the Strategic Planning Process that we are executing at MSPSP, as I write this document. It has been an almost six months process to identify issues that matter to our members, to provide more clarity in our vision and mission, and develop a sound plan to move this program forward for the next years. We requested input from all our stakeholders, via questionnaires, meetings and consultants. I am sure that many of you saw those components, and many of you participated on them.



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So, if you chose to vote me for this coming term, I want to inform my process on those two components:

- To implement ideas that would come from the Strategic Plan (to be completed in the next three weeks).
 - I have a keen interest in making sure that our program maintains and improves its level of competitiveness. And also, that maintains the reputation of being a competitive program.
 - Make sure that our governance is up to date and is flexible and dynamic, with the ability to “go-to-market” quickly and stay up or ahead of what other programs across the country do.
 - Make sure that our membership experience improves in terms of easiness on working with us and our systems.
- Much of what our membership is asking is already in the works:
 - The cost of playing at our program remains as a very reasonable for what it provides. We adjusted our prices calendar to a one that helps our members to have better balanced budgets.
 - Our membership is better now than the pre pandemic levels. Now is time to focus on balanced divisions, efficient driving distances and divisions that remain competitive.
- Another item in my list is to find the soccer talent that remains untapped in Michigan. There are still many talented young athletes in Michigan that need to come to the realm of competitive organized soccer. To find them requires being very intentional in creating programs and activities that attract them. We took some initiatives during the last two years, but I will increase the efforts on that direction.
- We identified a few policies that would help us to keep improving behavior on the pitch, from parents, players and staff on the teams. We are seeing significant improvements and appreciate very much the support that we received in the last years from coaching directors, team managers, and coaches, but recognize that we still have distance to cover on this matter.
- To continue our close relationship with the State’s referee organization to increase the quality and quantity of the referees who officiate our matches. This is another area that has consistently seen increases on numbers getting also back to pre-pandemic levels, and we appreciate our partnership with the Referee Committee.

Like in previous years, if you honor me on leading this program for two more years, please remember that I am always open to opinions, ideas from all our membership, the same way that I had during the two terms that I have served on this board.

Sincerely,

Oscar Castaneda

This nominee states that he does not earn significant income from soccer related activities, nor does he have significant involvement in competing soccer organizations.