

## **Grand Valley Soccer Association (GVSA) Board of Directors Meeting**

Date: February 9, 2026

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: Midwest United Offices (3445 36th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512)

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### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:24 PM by Kevin Balcer.

- A. **Board Members Present:** Jane Ashby, Kevin Balcer, Bre Brendsel, Chris Denham, Sara Ingraham, Andrew Johnson, Kellie McPherson, JoAnn VanSlooten
- B. **Administrator Present:** Sue Crabtree
- C. **Board Members Absent:** Marc Decker
- D. **Guests:** Dave

### **II. Minutes of Previous Meeting (January 2026)**

- A. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 2026 Board Meeting, with minor revisions. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **III. Officer's Reports**

- A. Ethics Officer
  - 1. The Ethics Officer proposed an addition to the Respect Campaign page on the GVSA website. The proposed update would include a direct link to the GVSA Sideline Expectations Video to further reinforce behavioral expectations for players, coaches, and spectators.
- B. GVSOA Representative
  - 1. Dave was in attendance to share about the new GVSOA updates.
  - 2. A new coin will be distributed to all officials. The purpose of the coin is to allow assignors and evaluators access to referees they have not previously been able to observe.
  - 3. Forty referees from West Michigan have been approved to officiate at State Cup this year.
  - 4. Three additional referee training courses are scheduled for the end of March.

5. Seven referee classes were offered this winter for new officials, consisting of 3–5 hours of online training and a required 2-hour in-person session.
6. A new rule change affecting goalkeepers was reviewed. Goalkeepers may now hold the ball for up to eight seconds, with referees visibly counting down the final five seconds. If the time limit is exceeded, a corner kick will be awarded to the opposing team.

C. Director of Coaching

1. The Director of Coaching reported that the recent coaching course in Muskegon was successful, with approximately 15 coaches in attendance.
2. A coaching course in Holland is scheduled for March, with additional courses planned for the spring and summer.

D. Treasurer

1. The Treasurer reported that the Profit and Loss statement remains consistent with prior reports.
2. An update was provided on the GVSA Certificate of Deposit (CD), which is currently earning 3.5%. Without treasurer action, the CD would have automatically renewed at 1.5%. The Board discussed the CD timeline, interest rates, and potential adjustments moving forward.

**I. Administrator's Report**

- A. The electronic voting platform Nemo Vote will be used for Board Member position elections at the GVSA AGM.
- B. A new club based in Belding has contacted GVSA expressing interest in joining GVSA. The club projects approximately 150–200 potential players for the Fall 2026 season.

**II. Old Business**

A. AGM Officer Reports

1. Officer presentations for the March 14 AGM were discussed.

B. Coaching transfer rule - MSPSP Teams

1. Sue Crabtree presented a proposed amendment to Section B (Coaches, Referees, and Managers) of the Coaching Transfer Rule.
2. It was clarified that, for MSPSP teams, GVSA will not enforce this rule for coaches transferring between GVSA and MSPSP, in either direction.

C. New website update

1. Table

D. Soccer Parenting

1. Soccer Parenting has agreed to add a dropdown menu to the video, allowing parents to select the club that they are affiliated with.

E. Scholarship

1. Kevin Balcer presented the final details regarding the GVSA Scholarship Program.

**III. New Business**

A. 30-year celebration

1. The Board discussed preliminary planning for a 30-year anniversary celebration of GVSA, to be held next year.

B. Board Nominations

1. The Nominating Committee will review and vet all Board nominations to ensure that candidates meet the established eligibility requirements.

**IV. Club Member Comment** (Clubs are asked to submit any agenda items not listed above in advance)

A. No comments were submitted

**V. Executive Session**

A. None

**VI. Adjournment**

A. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM

B. The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2026 at 7 PM, held at the Developing Dreams (625 Kenmoor Ave. SE, #102, Grand Rapids, MI 49546)