

Oregon Adult Soccer Association, Incorporated

A Brief history

(Note: this is a history of the corporate entity, not anything relating to soccer)

U.S. Soccer was originally known as the United States of America Foot Ball Association. It formed on April 5, 1913 and on August 15 of that year became one of the earliest member organizations of FIFA. The governing body of the sport in the US did not have the word soccer in its name until 1945, when it became the United States Soccer Football Association. It did not drop the word football from its name until 1974, when it became the United States Soccer Federation.

Although soccer has been played and administered in Oregon since about 1900, at some point an association called the Oregon Soccer Football Association emerged, it was divided into Northern & Southern "Districts", we have no records of the southern district, but Ronald Croft was the "manager" of the Northern district, at some point the Northern District of OSFA became The Greater Portland Soccer District, and OSFA became the more formal, statewide organization.

The history of a formal Association overseeing soccer in Oregon seems to have been triggered by the formation and affiliation (technically the first affiliated league in Oregon) of Northwest United Women's Soccer in 1974, the official corporate history begins at least by December 31, 1975 when the Oregon Soccer Football Association (OSFA) applied to become an Oregon Corporation, Players could play in the Rose City or Portland leagues (men) or the Northwest United Women's Soccer League.

In March of 1979 the OSFA applied to the IRS for 501(c)(3) status. Ronald Croft was the first President; David Wittenburg is Secretary, George Jenkins is Treasurer Player dues were \$1.00 per year + a .25¢ "assessment in support of development fund". Ted Zylinske is the Registrar of the Rose City league. Referees and fields were major issues.

On May 13, 1980 OSFA officially became incorporated and became Oregon Soccer Football Association, Inc.

In June of 1980 the IRS officially granted non-profit status.

In October of 1982 OSFA hosted the Regional meeting of the United States Senior Soccer Association. Ted Zylinske becomes Registrar of OSFA as well as the Rose City league.

In 1983 Compton McKenzie and Ronald Croft are Oregon's delegates to the "Senior Division" of United States Soccer Federation's annual meeting in St. Louis, MO. The Rose City and Portland

leagues nominally merge to form the Greater Portland Soccer District, Ted Zylinske is the Registrar of both GPSD & OFSA, and the Metropolitan Soccer League joins.

1985 sees the first international soccer for women. Referees and fields were major issues.

In 1987 Ms. Gerry Simpson becomes President, Nancy Grove Secretary and George Jenkins remains Treasurer. Player fees are \$10 .Former Portland Timber Mick Hoban produces a report on the state of soccer in Oregon and suggestions for the future. The Tualatin Hills Coed League joins.

In 1989 Norm Myhr is elected President and Dave Youmans replaces the retiring George Jenkins as Treasurer. Player fees are \$15. OSFA moves into its current office. 1,369 players register. The United States Senior Soccer Association changes its name to The United States Amateur Soccer Association (USASA).

1990 Roger Hamilton becomes President when Norm Myhr resigns. Jevan Williams becomes Secretary when Nancy Grove does not seek reelection. The first staff person, Lorena Garza-Shaw is hired to work in the office. Eastside Coed joins. Referees and fields were major issues.

In 1990 a committee chaired by Patrick Bowman was charged with thinking about how player registration should be handled. This leads to the current player registration system which is a complete change from how most state soccer associations handle things.

1991 Oregon reacts to USASA's 1989 name change by becoming the Oregon Amateur Soccer Association (OASA). Almost 2,000 players register.

1992 Player dues are \$25 and include various insurance, including, for the first time, an accident policy for players. Referees and fields were major issues.

1993 Player dues drop to \$20 as USASA is unable to obtain player accident insurance. The Southern Oregon Adult Soccer League becomes the first league outside the Portland area to affiliate.

1994, Player fees go back up to \$25 as USASA finds accident insurance again,

June 29, 1995 Registrar of GPSD & OASA, the doer of everything for both organizations, Ted Zylinske dies, leaving a huge void. OASA launches it first website.

In 1996, Central Oregon's Cascade Area Soccer Association affiliates with OASA. Leagues from the coast, southern Oregon, Eugene and Salem follow over the next several years. Oregon hosts the USASA's National Cups finals.

1997 OASA hosts the first Region IV Veteran's Cup, which will become the USASA Veteran's Cup in 1998

In 1998 John Van Allen replaces Dave Youmans as OASA's Treasurer. Over 3,000 players register. OASA begins accepting credit cards. Digital photo cards replace the old Polaroid. Referees and fields were major issues.

In 1999 The Oregon Amateur Soccer Association, Inc. changes its name to the Oregon Adult Soccer Association, Inc. becoming the first "amateur" association to use adult in the name, beating the USASA by three years. New logo is unveiled designed by: www.jfisherlogomotives.com/. OASA hosts the US Soccer Festival (players include Landon Donovan, Oguchi Onyewu, Kyle Beckerman, DeMarcus Beasley, Lindsey Tarpley & Hope Solo)

2000 OASA hires its first, full time, salaried employee, Office Manager Jill Bothwell. The Rose City & Portland leagues fully merge into the Greater Portland Soccer District. OASA launches its first website in conjunction with Oregonlive.com. Player cards go up to \$30.

2001 USASA changed from team based to player based registration (OASA changed in 1990). Over 4,000 players register.

2002 OASA eliminates team fees. Player fee increases to \$35. Ted Zyelinske & Clive Charles are inducted into the Regional Soccer Hall of Fame. OASA takes its website "in house" and www.oregonadultsoccer.com is born. The United States Amateur Soccer Association becomes the United State Adult Soccer Association.

2003 The OASA board holds a "summit" in lieu of one of its meetings. The direction of soccer in Oregon is the agenda.

2004 Nancy Walsh is the first Oregon woman inducted into the Regional Soccer Hall of Fame.

2005 was the first year with more than 5,000 players registered, Oregon is one of the few states that can claim to have enough referees, although quality can still be an issue, fields remain a major issue limiting growth.

2006 OASA holds its first adult coaching license course.

2007 player registration topped 6,000 for the first time.

2010 we have two full-time staff, and several part time, 14 affiliated leagues around the state. One of very few soccer organizations to have seen growth during the recession. Nearing 7,000 registered players, player fee is \$35.