

**US ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION
National Board of Directors Meeting
Hyatt Regency Bellevue Philadelphia
January 17, 2015**

Meeting called to order 8:40 am EST

Roll call: President, John Motta; Vice President, Bill Bosgraaf; Secretary, Shonna Schroedl; Treasurer, Lori Stoneburner; Region I Director, Fritz Marth; Region II Director, Bill Davey; Region III Director Rob LaVielle; Region IV Director, Dan Trainor; At Large Director, Arthur Mattson; At Large Director, Cezar Wasecki; Region I Deputy Director, Tony Falcone; Region II Deputy Director, Nick Radu; Region III Deputy Director, Darius Ejlali; Region IV Deputy Director, Paul Scherer; Executive Director, Duncan Riddle

Guests: Richard Groff; Peggy Polley; Gerhard Menghal; Werner Fricker, Jr.; Jim Bollinger

Excused:

1. Roll Call - Shonna
2. Approval of Minutes – December 3, 2014 NBOD Minutes were approved as written.
3. Financial Report – Lori
 - a. December Financials – Lori Stoneburner updated the NBOD on the financials that were previously distributed to the NBOD.
 - b. Investment Committee – Lori Stoneburner discussed that the Investment Committee may want to consider investment planning. John Motta will reach out to the US Soccer Foundation to discuss how they sought expertise.
 - c. Regional Reporting Issues – Lori Stoneburner indicated that the Regions need to restate the 2012 and 2013 financial reporting/tax statements. All Regions must utilize the accrual basis. ~\$450,000 was under-reported from the Regions, combined. Bill Davey made a **motion** that USASA will purchase/provide QuickBooks licenses for each of the 4 Regions, function on an accrual basis and Lori Stoneburner will provide support to Regional Treasurers. Dan Trainor seconded. **Motion passed.**
 - d. Budget request for 2 Big HQ tents for our tournaments – Arthur Mattson made a **motion** that USASA purchase 2 large HQ doomed tents at a price not to exceed \$14,200 total. Dan Trainor seconded. **Motion passed.**
4. Presidents Report: (John Motta)
 - a. Report from US Soccer meeting in December – (1) discussion occurred on the concussion lawsuit that is currently underway. This could potentially become the largest class action lawsuit in the US. (2) Copa America 2016 was discussed. Currently 23 venues are under consideration. There will be 16 teams participating and will be the largest soccer event in the US since the 1994 World Cup. (3) 2016 AGM will be in San Antonio February 25-28 (4) Developmental academies will be further supported (5) waivers to professional leagues as needed regarding fields/coaching license requirements/etc, in the future these waivers will be curtailed (6) international game fees will be “looked at” again. Arthur Mattson added that the pressure to reconsider the game fees is coming from game promoters.
 - b. Report on US Adult Council National Championships – The 2015 event will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee May 29-31.

- c. Report from meeting with the United States Youth Soccer – John Motta and Duncan Riddle met with US Youth on Friday, January 16, 2015. Specifically regarding some USASA leagues who wish to register youth players. USASA may consider being an affiliate of US Youth.
 - d. Report from USASA’s National Championships 2015 Meeting – event for this summer was discussed and timing set. Confidence is high that this will be an outstanding event.
5. Executive Director’s Report
- a. Veterans Cup 2015 – National Championship series, NBOD will be staying at the Hyatt Place in Chesapeake. 20 minutes from fields. Vets Cup committee will be in the Holiday Inn near field complex. Weather back up is one hour away in Williamsburg, 6 turf fields. Communication to teams and players will be done via SportNgin. SportNgin will be building an app that all players can utilize.
 - b. Travel Policy – Duncan Riddle distributed a draft policy for NBOD/Committee travel reimbursement.
 - 1. Traveling budget for At-Large members – Cezar Wislocki discussed the difficulty of traveling for At-Large members.
 - c. Under 23 PDL and NPSL – Duncan Riddle reported on the growth of USL Pro, PDL and NPSL. MLS teams are putting their 2nd teams into USL Pro, which will likely lead to the growth of PDL to feed those teams.
 - d. Mid Year meeting Seminars – the NBOD discussed more proactive planning on types of seminars for Mid Year, which will be more attractive to attendees.
6. Insurance – Paul Scherer
- a. Insurance Report – Paul Scherer updated the insurance report that he had previously distributed to the NBOD. A correction on a player that attended an NPSL tryout in Florida, who was injured and is now a quadriplegic.
 - b. Recommendation on high losses. – 3 very large incidents this past year occurred that will affect rates in the coming years. Paul Scherer made a **motion** to set aside a reserve fund, in the amount of the insurance dividend each year, for the next 5 years. Shonna Schroedl seconded. **Motion passed.** Dan Trainor made a motion that the current reserve for medical/accident be moved to a general insurance reserve. Darius Ejlali seconded. **Motion passed 8-2.** Bill Bosgraaf and Bill Davey voted no. Paul Scherer restated that the USASA review his recommendations:
7. Strategic Plan
- a. Current Staffing – resources and budget – (Duncan Riddle)
 - b. Data base – Players and leagues - Duncan
 - c. State specific Strategic Plans/Projects for **Maryland** – one of the leagues has “adopted” another league and is helping them out, speaking to other leagues that are not affiliated; **Michigan** – working on registration systems in different leagues, working on a website issue, will run an indoor tournament in Detroit in April, designed a membership survey; **Florida** – much work on identifying unaffiliated groups, clubs drive the large tournaments – considering championship series; **Nevada** – little traction, most players registered were tournament players via Silver Mug, very little league awareness of USASA, USASA has reserved a soccer complex for Veterans Day weekend in November 5-8, 2015.
 - d. 2016 Veterans Cup/National Championships plan and budget – possible locations for 2016 include Oceanside, New Mexico, Seattle, Northern California
 - e. State surveys around small sides leagues and tournaments.

- f. Rebate for New Leagues – Alternative plan and rebates for growth – discussion on options regarding this rebate program. The consensus from the board is to continue this program, at this time.
- g. Data rebate program – recommendation to terminate this program. Paul Scherer made a **motion** that beginning in 2016 USASA will replace the Data Rebate program and provide membership growth programs and services to the State Associations, that request them. Rob LaVielle seconded. **Motion passed.** Bill Davey made a motion to adopt the SportsNgin proposal for provision of state websites, for \$20,000 re-allocated from the 2015 Data Rebate program line item. Paul Scherer seconded. **Motion passed.**
- h. Future of National Cup programs and funding
 - 1. Veterans Cup 2016
 - a. Possible host cities
 - b. Pricing
 - c. Expansion of foreign teams and targeted markets
 - 2. National Cups
 - a. USASA Amateur Cup and USASA Open Cup – Do we still need the Open Cup? (Werner Fricker Cup) Beginning in 2016 USSF will have complete management of the USSF Open Cup. Paul Scherer made a **motion** that all USASA competitions have a minimum \$500 entry fee. Lori Stoneburner seconded. **Motion failed.** Paul Scherer made a **motion** to eliminate Regional Cup competition beginning in 2016. Fritz Marth seconded. Motion failed. Fritz Marth made a motion to eliminate the USASA Open Cup (currently called the Werner Fricker Cup), beginning in 2016 and allow any USASA registered player to participate in what is currently known as the National Amateur Cup. Bill Davey seconded. **Motion passed.** Bill Bosgraaf voted no. Fritz Marth introduced a proposal for revamping the National Cups.
 - b. Funding of Cups – Look at Paul’s recommendations to start discussions - Paul Scherer made a **motion** that the USASA Regional subsidies, provided to the Regions, should be unrestricted starting in 2015. Arthur Mattson seconded. **Motion passed 6-4.** Yes votes Arthur Mattson, Lori Stoneburner, Cezar Wislocki, Rob LaVielle, Shonna Schroedl, John Motta. No votes Fritz Marth, Dan Trainor, Bill Bosgraaf, Bill Davey. The NBOD will defer the remainder of the discussion on funding of Cups, Women’s Championships and Veteran’s Cup until our face to face board in May 2015.
 - c. US Adult Council National Championship – May 29-31, 2015 in Chattanooga, TN for men. Women’s TBA.
- i. Proposal by Steve Flamhaft and Jim Bollinger – presentation regarding a fund for assisting officials harmed while officiating. The NBOD discussed the proposal and recommended that the referee committee discuss.
- j. NBOD Communication – The NBOD discussed the dissemination of information with members.
- k. April NBOD Meeting – this NBOD will be pushed until May 30, 2015 to be held in conjunction with the National Amateur Championship

- l. Comments from Membership – Richard Groff discussed several items from the past year, including State Associations that are doing well; competing organizations
- m. Grievance regarding team from California – John Motta recognized and thanked Tony Falcone for his pro bono legal work on behalf of the USASA.
- n. Executive Session – the NBOD entered into Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm EST.
Respectfully submitted,
Shonna Schroedl, USASA Secretary