

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
NOVEMBER 20, 2011
8:00 A.M. ET

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Jeff Agoos, Bill Bosgraaf, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Carlos Cordeiro, Mike Edwards, Daniel Flynn, Danielle Fotopoulos, Don Garber, Richard Groff, Burton Haimes, Jon McCullough, Fabian Núñez, Bob Palmeiro, Kevin Payne, John Sutter.

REGRETS: Donna Shalala.

IN ATTENDANCE: Melissa Biniewicz, Gregory Fike, Eric Gleason, Lisa Levine, Brian Remedi

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Melissa Biniewicz took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 4, 2011 meeting in Foxborough and the executive session minutes for the same meeting. The minutes for the meeting were **APPROVED**.

REPORT OF THE MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM HEAD COACH

Juergen Klinsmann presented to the Board his plan for the men's national team through 2014.

LOCATION FOR 2013 AGM

President Gulati updated the Board on the search for the location for the 2013 AGM.

TASK FORCE OF FEES FOR PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS

Mike Edwards introduced an amendment to Policy 214-2 to reinstate the fees for professional players registering with amateur teams, and to clean up Policies 601-2 and 601-8. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendments. The motion **PASSED**.

TASK FORCE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL GAMES FEES

President Gulati updated the Board on some of the feedback he received regarding a proposed policy to amend the distribution of international games fees to State Associations. The Board discussed the proposal and decided that the task force should continue to review the policy with additional members.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BY NAASA

Greg Fike informed the Board of the Rules Committee's recommendation that North American Adult Soccer Association be provisionally accepted as an Other Affiliate member of U.S. Soccer. It was **MOVED** to accept NAASA as a provisional member. Richard Groff noted to the Board that the NAASA bylaws state that AYSO is the only corporate member, that AYSO appoints the Board and that NAASA does not appear to have a structure that allows teams and leagues to participate in its governance. The motion **PASSED**.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO POLICY 411-1

President Gulati introduced an amendment to Policy 411-1 that would clarify the Secretary General's authority to sign agreements on behalf of the U.S. Soccer Federation. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 411-1. The motion **PASSED**.

FY2013 BUDGET

Carlos Cordeiro, Dan Flynn and Eric Gleason presented the proposed budget for FY 2013, which included a projected deficit of \$6.5 million. It was **MOVED** to adopt the proposed budget. The Board discussed the proposed budget. The motion **PASSED**.

PROPOSAL FOR NEW INDEPENDENT AUDIT FIRM

Mr. Gleason presented a proposal to change audit firms from Blackman Kallick to BDO because U.S. Soccer has utilized Blackman Kallick for over five years. It was **MOVED** to approve BDO as U.S. Soccer's audit firm for 2012. The motion **PASSED**.

RATIFICATION OF 2012 FIFA REFEREE AND ASSISTANT REFEREE PANEL

President Gulati updated the Board on the need to ratify the 2012 FIFA Referee and Assistant Referee Panel, which had already been approved by email by the Board. It was **MOVED** to ratify the decision to approve the 2012 FIFA Referee and Assistant Referee Panel. The motion **PASSED**.

BYLAW AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED FOR THE 2012 AGM

Mr. Fike informed the Board that the proposed Bylaw amendments for the 2012 National Council meeting were included with their Board materials.

2012 AGM NATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

President Gulati informed the Board that there would be two positions up for election at the 2012 National Council meeting, the position of Vice President currently held by Mike Edwards and the Independent Director position currently held by Donna Shalala.

LIFE MEMBER NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 AGM

Mr. Edwards updated the Board on the Life Member task force and the five nominations that had been received for the 2012 AGM.

APPLICATION TO REPLACE WISCONSIN ADULT STATE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Fike updated the Board on the application U.S. Soccer received from WYSA, Inc. to replace Wisconsin Soccer Association as the state association for adult soccer in Wisconsin. President Gulati recommended that the application be referred to a hearing panel for review. President



Gulati requested that the Board approve a panel of Kevin Payne, Paul Burke and Peter Vermes (or another athlete recommended by Jon McCullough if Mr. Vermes was not available). The Board **APPROVED** the panel by unanimous consent.

APPLICATION TO REPLACE TENNESSEE ADULT STATE ASSOCIATION

Mr. Fike updated the Board on the application U.S. Soccer received to replace Tennessee State Soccer Association as the state association for adult soccer in Tennessee. President Gulati recommended that the application be referred to a hearing panel for review. President Gulati requested that the Board approve a panel of Dr. Bob Contiguglia, Tim Holt and Alison Kocoras. The Board **APPROVED** the panel by unanimous consent.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO POLICY 214-2

Richard Groff introduced an amendment to Policy 214-2 that would require State Associations that are not affiliated with a National Association to pay a \$10,000 per year membership fee. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment. John Sutter expressed concerns that the Board could not pass a membership fee increase and that the wording of the amendment might require all State Association to pay the \$10,000 annual fee. Mr. Groff agreed to withdraw the proposed amendment at this time, so that he could discuss the amendment with Mr. Sutter.

UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mr. Fike informed the Board that the U.S. Futsal Federation submitted an application to become a member of U.S. Soccer as a National Member. The next step will be to have the Rules Committee review the application. It was **MOVED** to refer the application to the Rules Committee. The motion **PASSED**.

PROFESSIONAL REFEREE ORGANIZATION

Mr. Flynn and Mr. Edwards updated the Board on the progress of creating an independent professional referee organization with MLS to administer professional level referees in the United States.

PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES' ANNUAL REPORTS

President Gulati introduced the Professional League Task Force and reported on the process of requesting reports from all current Professional League members on an annual basis.

Mr. Flynn updated the Board on the report submitted by MLS. It was **MOVED** to accept the report of MLS and reaffirm MLS as a Division I Men's Outdoor League, Professional Member of U.S. Soccer. The motion **PASSED**. President Gulati, Mr. Garber and Mr. Payne abstained from voting on this motion.

Mr. Flynn updated the Board on the reports submitted by USL PRO. It was **MOVED** to accept the report of USL PRO and reaffirm USL PRO as a Division III Men's Outdoor League, Professional Member of U.S. Soccer. The motion **PASSED**. President Gulati, Mr. Garber and Mr. Payne abstained from voting on this motion.

(At this point, the Board went into Executive Session. The minutes for this session are contained in a separate document.)



GOOD OF THE GAME

Mr. Sutter informed the Board that U.S. Youth Soccer added two independent directors to its Board; that it joined the ChildObesity180 movement; that it started to try out baseline testing for concussion management; and that it is examining the initiative for federal risk management legislation. Mr. Groff informed the Board that U.S. Adult Soccer moved its headquarters to Toyota Park in Bridgeview, Illinois; it will be holding its National Championships at Toyota Park in July 2013; and it hired a new executive director, Duncan Riddle. Jon McCullough congratulated the U.S. Paralympic soccer team for qualifying for the summer games in London.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

