

**MINUTES**  
**UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
**JUNE 15, 2008**  
**8:00 A.M. PT**

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**PRESENT:** Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Carlos Cordeiro, Daniel Flynn, Jim Hamilton, Francisco Marcos, Brooks McCormick, Jon McCullough, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Fabian Núñez, Peter Vermes.

**BY PHONE:** Amanda Cromwell, Don Garber, Kevin Payne.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Timothy Pinto, Richard Matthys, Gregory Fike, Asher Mendelsohn, Brad Hays.

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

Asher Mendelsohn took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes for the February 15, 2008 Board meeting in Hawaii and the minutes for the March 4 & 11 and April 22, 2008 Board conference calls. There were two minor amendments to the April 22, 2008 minutes. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Gulati updated the Board on the U.S. Men's National Team Friendly match with Argentina in Giants Stadium, the Men's National Team game in England, and the upcoming Olympic games. He also discussed the status of the U.S. Soccer Hall of Fame and the U.S. Soccer Foundation. He informed the Board about recent statements by FIFA and CONCACAF officials regarding the location of upcoming Men's World Cups. There were also discussions at a recent FIFA Congress regarding promotion/relegation and limiting the number of foreign players starting on domestic professional teams.

**SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT**

Dan Flynn updated the Board on U.S. Soccer's international outreach program. He also informed the Board about the marketing efforts and presentation of the game against Argentina. Part of U.S. Soccer's marketing effort is the new U.S. Soccer bar program created by Jay Berhalter and Mike Gressle. As an official U.S. Soccer Bar, the venue agrees to show all televised U.S. Soccer games and receives access to marketing materials that U.S. Soccer creates. Mr. Flynn also told the Board about the plan to introduce a fee based fan club in 2009.



### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Gulati informed the board that Donna Shalala agreed to be a candidate for the open Independent Director Board position. It was **MOVED** that the Board recommend Ms. Shalala's election as an Independent Director. The motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

### **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

President Gulati updated the Board on the draft of the revised professional league standards. He informed the board that there were still some additional changes to be made and that any Board member with questions or comments should contact Tim Pinto.

### **CONFLICTS POLICY**

Mr. Pinto informed the Board that the task force reviewing the conflicts policy had a few final issues to discuss and that there should be a recommendation to the Board regarding the conflicts policy soon.

### **CALIFORNIA SOCCER ASSOCIATION — SOUTH**

Mr. Pinto updated the Board on the progress of the panel appointed to review the application by California Youth Soccer Association — South to replace the California Soccer Association — South as the adult state association in southern California. The panel appointed by the Board to review the matter was waiting for a response from the adult State Association to discuss next steps including a hearing. He informed the Board that the panel was expecting at least one additional application from another organization to replace the existing state association.

### **BEAR STEARNS UPDATE**

Mr. Flynn advised the Board about U.S. Soccer's current conservative investment strategy, which was approved by the Board in 2005. After review of the investments with Bear Stearns, it was recommended that the funds currently invested with Bear Stearns be transferred to Morgan Stanley. It was **MOVED** to transfer funds invested with Bear Stearns to Morgan Stanley. The motion **PASSED**.

### **REFEREE BACKGROUND CHECKS**

Mr. Flynn updated the Board on U.S. Soccer's and MLS' efforts to have background checks for professional level referees.

### **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Mr. Flynn presented the technical committee's review of development for women's soccer in the United States. He presented the technical committee's concept for U.S. Soccer to expand U.S. National Team camps for women's youth national teams. The Board discussed the merits of the concept and its impact on the development of women's soccer players. It was indicated that the technical committee would report back to the Board on this subject at the November 2008 Board meeting.

Mr. Flynn also updated the Board on the previous season and the current status of the U.S. Soccer Development Academy program. President Gulati discussed the positive results of the U.S. Soccer Development Academy in Rockford, Illinois.



It was agreed that the technical committee would review the issue of small sided games and USYS's proposal for coaching education and would report back to the Board at the November 2008 meeting.

### **2009 AGM UPDATE**

Asher Mendelsohn reminded the Board that the 2009 AGM would be at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort from March 12 through 14. James Hamilton requested that the adult regional meetings and the Board meeting at the AGM not be scheduled at the same time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Mendelsohn informed the Board that U.S. Soccer hoped to have the AGM in New Orleans in February 2010. Larry Monaco requested that the meeting be scheduled on one of the first two weekends in February because the 2010 USYS Workshop was scheduled for the last weekend in February. The Board **APPROVED** having the 2010 AGM in New Orleans by unanimous consent.

### **AMENDMENT TO POLICY 241-1**

Greg Fike presented an amendment to Policy 241-1 proposed by the Appeals Committee that requires a hearing to be offered before discipline is imposed for the punishment to be recognized by U.S. Soccer. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 241-1. The motion **PASSED**.

### **GRIEVANCE UPDATE**

Mr. Pinto informed the Board that a grievance had been filed by a member club of SAY against North Dakota Youth Soccer and Minnesota Youth Soccer. An arbitrator had been appointed and the hearing was scheduled for late July.

### **REFEREE DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

Mr. Flynn reviewed the current status and responsibilities of the referee department. He updated the Board on four, new, full-time employees that had been hired for the referee department. He also updated the board on the referee departments' expanded role in training referees and providing referees with tools like video review of MLS games available on the U.S. Soccer website. Mr. Flynn presented a request to increase referee fees to the Board for the first time in 20 years based on the increase in referee-related expenses for U.S. Soccer. The Referee Committee reviewed and recommended the proposed fee increase. He also proposed exploration of the concept of allowing multi-year registration for referees. The Board discussed the proposals. It was **MOVED** to approve the proposed increase in referee fees. The motion **PASSED**. Larry Monaco and Mike McDaniel voted against the motion. It was **MOVED** to approve the concept of multi-year registration for referees. The motion **PASSED**.

### **OPEN CUP POLICY**

President Gulati presented an amendment to the Open Cup Policy that would prevent asylees and refugees from being counted as refugees, which was proposed by the Open Cup Committee. It was **MOVED** to approve the amendment. The motion **PASSED**.



### **COACHING COMPENSATION**

President Gulati informed the Board that Amanda Cromwell was acting as an assistant coach for one of the youth national teams. He requested that the Board approve her compensation since she is a member of the Board. It was **MOVED** that the Board grant permission for Ms. Cromwell's to receive the standard per diem compensation from U.S. Soccer for her work as an assistant coach. The motion **PASSED**. Ms. Cromwell abstained from voting on the motion.

### **U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION ISSUES**

Brad Hays updated the Board on the U.S. Soccer Foundation's recent activities including the Foundation Grant Program.

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

### **GOOD OF THE GAME**

Brooks McCormick commented that the Werner Fricker Memorial at the Home Depot Center was very well done. Jon McCullough informed the Board that Julie Foudy would be nominated by the USOC to be an athlete representative on the IOC, and that a paralympic athlete would be nominated for an ESPY award. Dr. Contiguglia stated that he believed that the Development Academy was having a halo effect of improving coaching throughout youth soccer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

