

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
WAIKOLOA, HAWAII
FEBRUARY 15, 2008
9:00 A.M. HAWAIIAN TIME

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Carlos Cordeiro, Amanda Cromwell, Daniel Flynn, Don Garber, Burton Haines, Jim Hamilton, Brooks McCormick, Jon McCullough, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Peter Vermes.

BY PHONE: Fabian Núñez, Kevin Payne.

REGRETS: Bill Goaziou.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jay Berhalter, Timothy Pinto, Richard Matthys, Gregory Fike, Kati Hope.

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Kati Hope took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the amended minutes for the August 18, 2007 Board meeting in Chicago and the minutes and executive session minutes for the November 19, 2007 Board meeting in Washington, D.C. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Gulati welcomed Amanda Cromwell and Jon McCullough who were elected to serve as directors on the Board. President Gulati updated the Board on the new national team coaches, Pia Sundhage for the Women's National Team and Wilmer Cabrera for the U-17 Men's National Team. He also updated the Board on the search for a technical director. He informed the Board that the upcoming highlights for the Women's and Men's National Teams would be Olympic Qualifying and, hopefully, the Olympics in Beijing. President Gulati also updated the Board on the CONCACAF Champions Cup and the bid for the 2018 World Cup. He also informed the Board about the Men's National Team World Cup Qualifying in 2008. President Gulati discussed the subcommittee that had been formed to review player development in women's soccer.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Dan Flynn updated the Board on the growth of the US-Mexico game over the past five years in terms of sponsor activation and media coverage across multiple platforms with U.S. Soccer's broadcast partners and website.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Unfortunately, Bill Goaziou was unable to attend the meeting. President Gulati thanked Bill Goaziou for his service as Treasurer since 1994.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Gulati proposed that Carlos Cordeiro be appointed as Treasurer when necessary to conduct U.S. Soccer business. It was **MOVED** that Mr. Cordeiro be acting Treasurer when necessary for U.S. Soccer, if the proposed bylaw amendment was passed. The motion **PASSED**.

NOMINATION OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

President Gulati updated the Board regarding the nomination of independent directors. He informed the Board that there was presently no candidate for the independent director position. President Gulati told the Board that he intended to ask the National Council for permission to extend the time to nominate and elect a new director by mail ballot.

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL SOCCER APPLICATION

Burton Haimes updated the Board on the Women's Professional League application. The Task Force that reviewed the application recommended that the league be admitted to provisional membership. It was **MOVED** to grant Women's Professional Soccer provisional membership as of February 18, 2008. The motion **PASSED**.

POLICY ON AGENTS

Greg Fike updated the Board regarding the proposed resolution prohibiting negotiation with agents for coaches that represent players on the same team. The Board discussed the proposed resolution. It was **MOVED** to adopt the resolution. The motion **PASSED**.

CONFLICTS POLICY

Mr. Monaco requested an update on the status of a new conflicts policy being discussed by the Conflicts Task Force. Mr. Pinto updated the Board on the current progress of the Conflicts Task Force.

U.S. YOUTH SOCCER COACHING EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Monaco requested an update regarding the status of the new coaching education development program that U.S. Youth Soccer proposed for 6 to 12 year olds. Mr. Flynn agreed to provide an update from the technical committee at the next in-person board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Larry Monaco presented proposed new Policy 102(3)-1 regarding small sided games for youth players to the Board of Directors. The Board discussed the proposed policy and whether it was appropriate for small sided games for youth players to be mandatory. The Board decided to defer consideration of the proposed policy and potential amendments until the next live Board meeting.



U.S. SOCCER DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY REFEREE PROGRAM

Mr. Monaco requested information regarding the U.S. Soccer Development Academy Referee Program. Mr. Flynn assured the Board that there was nothing exclusive about referee education at the Academy Showcases.

NATIONAL REFEREE BACKGROUND CHECKS

Mr. Monaco asked the Board if U.S. Soccer had been conducting background checks on high level national referees. He also proposed that U.S. Soccer conduct background checks on referees grade 4 and higher. Mr. Flynn informed the Board that while there had been discussions about national referee background checks, there had been no decision on which organization should conduct those background checks.

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Mr. Pinto updated the Board on new membership applications that had been filed for the PDL, the Super-20 League and the W-League. The Board discussed the membership applications and some Board members expressed desire for more time to review the applications before deciding on whether to grant provisional membership. The Board decided to postpone consideration of the applications until the next Board meeting.

DISCUSSION OF BYLAW PROPOSALS

President Gulati updated the Board on the Bylaw amendment regarding the position of treasurer. The Board recommended approval of the Bylaw amendment by unanimous consent. President Gulati also updated the Board on the proposal to compensate the president of U.S. Soccer. He asked that the Board recommend rejection of the Bylaw amendment if it was not withdrawn. It was **MOVED** to recommend rejection of the Bylaw amendment regarding compensation of the President of U.S. Soccer. The motion **PASSED**.

AGM SCHEDULING

Jim Hamilton expressed his concern that there were scheduling conflicts between meetings at the AGM. It was agreed that staff would work to minimize conflicts between meetings at future AGMs.

GOOD OF THE GAME

The Board expressed its sincere gratitude to Bill Goaziou for his many years of distinguished service as treasurer for U.S. Soccer. Since Mr. Goaziou could not attend the meeting, Mike McDaniel read a letter from Mr. Goaziou thanking everyone for their help and support. The Board also congratulated Women's Professional Soccer on receiving provisional membership. Paul Caligiuri and Linda Hamilton were recognized for their service on the Board as athlete representatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

