

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
MARCH 10, 2006
LAS VEGAS, NV
8:00 A.M. PACIFIC TIME

PRESENT: Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Sunil Gulati, William Goaziou, Marypat Bell, Scott Blackmun, Bill Bosgraaf, Angelo Bratsis, Mike Burns, Paul Caligiuri, Chris Christoffersen, Amanda Cromwell, Mike Edwards, Werner Fricker, Jr., Don Garber, Ivan Gazidis, Evelyn Gill, Richard Groff, Burton Haimen, Linda Hamilton, Larry Harmon, Tim Holt, John Kerr, Jr., Marge Madriago, Francisco Marcos, Brooks McCormick, Mike McDaniel, David Messersmith, Bob Palmeiro, Kevin Payne, Nelson Rodriguez, Darl Rose, Alan Rothenberg, Bill Sage, Jim Sheldon, Juergen Sommer, Bruno Trapikas, Peter Vermes, Matt Weibe.

VIA PHONE: John Harkes.

APOLOGIES: Bob Gansler.

IN ATTENDANCE: Daniel T. Flynn, Jay Berhalter, Richard Matthys, Timothy Pinto, Gregory Fike, Forrest Eber, Asher Mendelsohn, Brad Hays (U.S. Soccer Foundation), Mike Malamut (Parliamentarian), Debra K. Resling (Reporter).

President Contiguglia called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

A moment of silence was observed for Doug Hamilton, general manager for the Los Angeles Galaxy, who tragically died of a heart attack.

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

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the November 12, 2005 Board meeting in Frisco, TX. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Contiguglia reported to the Board on both the Men's and Women's National Teams. He noted that collective bargaining agreements had been reached with both the Men's and Women's National Teams. He thanked Sunil Gulati, Bill Goaziou, and the U.S. Soccer staff for their hard work on the collective bargaining agreements. He also discussed the Men's National Team's visit to Ramstein Air Base in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Mr. Flynn reported on the wind-up procedure for the Women's World Cup. Mr. Flynn updated the Board on the status of plans for the World Cup in Germany and the progress of the Soccer Hall of Fame.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Goaziou reported that USSF is on target to end FY 2006 positively.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Flynn informed the Board that CONCACAF had approved the expansion of MLS to Toronto.



NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pinto presented the proposal by USYS to amend USSF Conflict of Interest Policy and add it to the USSF Policy Manual as Policy 101-1. He also presented the Rules Committee recommendation that the proposed amendments be revised by USYS before they are adopted by the Board. It was **MOVED** to send the proposed amendment back to the Rules Committee for revision. The motion to refer the proposed amendment to the Conflict of Interest Policy **PASSED**.

FUTSAL ISSUES

Mr. Pinto updated the Board on two issues involving the U.S. Futsal Federation. First, Mr. Pinto informed the Board that U.S. Futsal had been sending out cease and desist letters to USSF affiliated organizations that were using the word Futsal. Second, Mr. Pinto notified the Board that U.S. Futsal was refusing to recognize USSF certified referees that had not completed the U.S. Futsal referee course. He told the Board that he had written correspondence with U.S. Futsal and it refused to comply with USSF's request to stop sending cease and desist letters and to recognize USSF referees. Mr. Pinto also notified the Board that FIFA had sent USSF a letter requesting that U.S. Futsal abandon its trademark on the word Futsal. The Board discussed the issue and determined that USSF should contact U.S. Futsal to determine if they were willing to comply with the FIFA letter.

NJSA GRIEVANCE

Dr. Contiguglia updated the Board on the grievance that had been appealed by the New Jersey Soccer Association. Evelyn Gill recused herself from discussion regarding this topic. The Board debated the appeal and it was **MOVED** to postpone a decision on the appeal until the next Board meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION UPDATE

Brad Hays updated the Board on the success of the Soccer United Recovery Fund for the areas devastated by hurricanes in the past year. The Foundation had raised about \$170,000 for the fund. He also informed the Board about the Passback Program for the donation of equipment from MLS to youth soccer. The Foundation hopes that over 100,000 pieces of equipment will be donated by MLS this year.

USOC LETTER REGARDING GOVERNANCE

Mr. Pinto informed the Board that he had received a letter from Jeff Benz, attorney for the USOC, evaluating the proposals to change the USSF Board. Essentially, the letter stated that the USOC guidelines recommended a seven to twelve person Board and that the USYS I and Haimes I proposals met that criteria. The Board discussed the implications of the letter.

GOOD OF THE GAME

The Board Members congratulated and thanked Dr. Contiguglia on his service as president of USSF. Alan Rothenberg stated that he was proud to be a part of U.S. Soccer for the last 16 years. Linda Hamilton wished the Women's National Team good luck at the Algarve Cup. Bob Palmeiro also wished the Women's National Team good luck at the Algarve Cup. Darl Rose welcomed everyone to Las Vegas. Angelo Bratsis offered best wishes to the MNT and the referees going to Germany for the World Cup. Chris Christoffersen offered his condolences to the family of Doug Hamilton. Don Garber thanked the Board for all that they have done for the sport of soccer. Sunil Gulati updated the Board on the fact that the re-launch of a Women's professional soccer league was hoped for sometime in 2007 or 2008. Dr. Contiguglia thanked the Board for the many accomplishments that had taken place during his service as President. He also wished Mr. Gulati good luck in serving as President of USSF in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

