

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2001
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
8:00 AM EASTERN TIME

- PRESENT:** Dr. Robert S. Contiguglia, Sunil Gulati, William J. Goaziou, David Askinas, Marypat Bell, David Burton, Chris Cristoffersen, Amanda Cromwell, John Doyle, Mike Edwards, Bob Gansler, Burton Haines, Larry Harmon, Sandra Hunt, Marge Madriago, Francisco Marcos, Brooks McCormick, David Messersmith, Larry Monaco Jr., Mark Noonan, Bob Palmeiro, Alex Para, Charles Robinson, Darl Rose, Bruno Trapikas, Wally Watson, Peter Wilt
- VIA PHONE:** Terry Fisher, John Harkes, Mary Harvey, Kevin Payne, Cameron Rast, Alan Rothenberg
- APOLOGIES:** Brandi Chastain, Thomas Dooley, Werner Fricker, Don Garber, Jonathan Kraft, Marty Mankamyer, Jim Sheldon
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Daniel T. Flynn, Jay Berhalter, Rich Matthys, John Collins, Julie Ilacqua, Bob Albus, Tony DiCicco, David Eldridge, Brad Hayes, Tom King, Alison Kocoras, Mike Malamut, Parliamentarian.
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President Contiguglia called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Secretary General Flynn then called the roll and the President announced a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed and unanimously **APPROVED** as distributed the minutes of the October 28, 2000 Board meeting in Oneonta, New York.

TREASURER'S REPORT

U. S. Soccer Treasurer, William J. Goaziou, presented financial statements for fiscal year 2000 for which U.S. Soccer received an unqualified opinion from its auditors, Ernst & Young. Mr. Goaziou also presented the Board with copies of U.S. Soccer's financial statements for Fiscal Year 2001 as of November 30, 2001. Mr. Goaziou reported that the organization is on budget for the period.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

William Goaziou **MOVED** that the committee appointments as submitted at the October 28, 2000 Board meeting be approved. President Contiguglia reported that Jennifer Tanaka had been added Technical Committee. Mike Edwards **MOVED** that the motion be amended to add Bill

Bosgraaf to the Technical Committee. The Board **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** the committee appointments as amended.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

John Collins presented to the Board a revised conflict of interest policy which had been presented to the Board at its October meeting. William Goaziou **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be adopted. Larry Monaco, Jr. **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 2 by striking the words “financial or otherwise.” After discussion, this motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. Mr. Monaco then **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 2 by striking the word “outside” from the phrase “...granting of the USSF of unwarranted preferential treatment to any outside person.” After discussion, this motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. Mr. Monaco **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 2 by adding the words “”for financial or personal gain” after the phrase “misusing the USSF’s confidential information.” After discussion, this motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. Mr. Monaco then **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 2 by adding the words “for financial or personal gain” after the phrase “impeding the efficiency or economy of the USSF.” This motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. Mr. Monaco **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 6 by striking the word “express” from the phrase “[a]ny use of USSF assets or sources shall be accomplished only upon express authorization by the USSF.” This motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. Bruno Trapikas **MOVED** that the conflict of interest policy be amended on page 2 by striking the phrase “impeding the efficiency or economy of the USSF.” This motion to amend **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**. The Board then **APPROVED** the conflict of interest policy as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

WUSA WAIVERS

Burton Haimen presented a request from Tony DiCicco, Acting Commissioner of the Women’s United Soccer Association (“WUSA”), for certain waivers of U.S. Soccer’s Women’s Division I Outdoor Professional Standards with respect to stadia. In particular, WUSA requested a limited one-year waiver with respect to the playing surfaces at Villanova Stadium in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Boston University in Boston, Massachusetts, and waivers with respect to the width of the fields at three stadia: 1) Georgia Tech Stadium, Atlanta, Georgia; 2) Villanova Stadium, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and 3) University of San Diego Stadium, San Diego, California. It was **MOVED** by William Goaziou that the waivers be approved. The waivers were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** as proposed.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Marypat Bell reported that an application for membership was received from the State of Wyoming, and that she would have a full report on the application at the next Board meeting. Mike Edwards reported that applications for membership were received from two Rhode Island organizations seeking to become the Youth State Association for Rhode Island, and that the special committee appointed at the October 28, 2000 Board meeting had reviewed the applications and submitted a list of questions to each organization. Mike Edwards **MOVED** that, in the interest of resolving this matter expeditiously, the Executive Committee be given the

authority to approve a recommendation made by the special committee regarding the membership applications of the Rhode Island organizations. The motion **FAILED**.

REFEREE AS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS

Larry Monaco, Jr. reported that the Internal Revenue Service in Eastern New York ruled that referees working for the Long Island Junior Soccer League are employees of the League. He also reported that the League filed an appeal of this decision, and recommended that USSF support the League in its appeal.

AMENDMENT OF POLICY USSF 705-1

Larry Monaco, Jr. presented a revised version of Policy 705-1 to the Board and **MOVED** that the amended Policy be referred to the Rules Committee for review. The motion to refer the amended Policy to the Rules Committee **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY** by voice vote.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Contiguglia remarked on the commitment of the 200 attendees of the National Referee Instructor's Course. President Contiguglia asked that all board members thank referees for their work. He also thanked Sandra Hunt, board member and referee committee representative, for her contribution to refereeing. President Contiguglia remarked on the success of the national team programs, and congratulated the L.A. Galaxy for qualifying for the World Cup Championships.

Dr. Contiguglia gave a report on U.S. Soccer's finances and potential fee increases. In response, Mike Edwards then stated that:

After meeting with the representatives of the amateur and youth associations, in the interests of addressing the immediate concerns of funding for the Federation and to provide a venue through which we can have assistance in selling the strategic plan to our membership, I propose the following resolution and **MOVE** its adoption by the Board of Directors:

“On behalf of USASA, USYSA and AYSO, I move the following: Fee increase effective September 1, 2001; a 50 cents increase for adult and youth amateur players, a doubling of the fees for the professional division as included in the handout distributed in today's meeting, such fee increase contingent on the following actions:

First, appointment of a committee comprised of three representatives of each of the four councils and one national officer, with each council to provide recommendations for the president to consider. The committee to be charged with working with the Secretary General to review the complete financial operation of the Federation and recommend programs, program changes and allocation of resources and to determine how the increased fee shall be allocated.

Second, the proposed national council meeting in March be voluntary and not a business meeting.

Third, the committee reports back to the Board in time for the Board to act at its May meeting so that the increase may be adopted by a vote of the National Council at the Annual General Meeting in July with the support of the officers of USASA, USYSA and AYSO.”

President Contiguglia recommended that Mr. Edwards modify his motion with respect to the professional fees because Mr. Askinas was no longer present at the meeting and had left on the assurance that professional fees would not be addressed at the meeting. Mr. Edwards then **AMENDED** the motion to reflect that the professional fees would be increased an amount to be determined with the input of the Professional League members and the new special committee. Vice President Sunil Gulati **MOVED** to amend the motion to include that the committee consider a fee increase within the range of \$.50 to \$1.00. The amendment was **DEFEATED**. The motion as amended by Mike Edwards **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**.

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