

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEEHAWKEN, NEW JERSEY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2019
8:30 A.M. EASTERN TIME

PRESENT: Carlos Cordeiro, Dan Flynn, Carlos Bocanegra, Lisa Carnoy, Mike Cullina, Don Garber, Sunil Gulati, Lori Lindsey, Richard Moeller, John Motta, Tim Turney, Dr. Peter Zopfi

BY PHONE: Cindy Parlow Cone, Chris Ahrens

REGRETS: Alec Papadakis

IN ATTENDANCE: Jay Berhalter, Neil Buethe, Brian Remedi, Pinky Raina, Lydia Wahlke, Leah Holt, Greg Fike, Helen Syreggelas, Earnie Stewart, Asher Mendelsohn, Tonya Wallach, Náthan Goldberg, Jill Ellis, Paul Tenorio, Jonathan Tannenwald, Steve Rumery

Carlos Cordeiro called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Helen Syreggelas took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Board meetings of May 25, 2019 and July 1, 2019 (telephone conference), and the executive session minutes from May 25, 2019, July 1, 2019 (telephone conference), July 16, 2019 (telephone conference), July 22, 2019 (telephone conference), and August 11, 2019 (telephone conference). The minutes were **APPROVED**.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Cordeiro read a proclamation establishing the Jill Ellis Scholarship, U.S. Soccer's first ever endowed scholarship to support coaching education with the focus of providing opportunities to women in all walks of life and growing the ranks of women in coaching. Jill Ellis thanked U.S. Soccer and the Board for the creation of the scholarship and for its support throughout the years. Mr. Cordeiro welcomed Lori Lindsey to her first in-person Board meeting.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Richard Moeller provided an update on the Budget and Finance Committee. He informed the Board that the Committee created a schedule for approval for the review and approval of the FY2021 budget.

Patti Hart provided an update on the Commercial Committee. She informed the Board that the Committee had its first meeting with her as the chairperson to help educate the Committee on the commercial activities of the Federation. The Committee also approved a process for reviewing significant commercial agreements.

Lisa Carnoy provided an update on the activities of the Risk, Audit, and Compliance Committee. She informed the Board that the Committee reviewed the insurance benefits, the conflicts process, and the hiring of a new auditor.



SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Jay Berhalter apprised the Board on financial reports for the Federation through July 2019. Dan Flynn thanks Pinky Raina and Mr. Berhalter for their efforts to close out monthly financials in a more efficient manner.

Mr. Stewart provided the technical update to the Board. He reviewed the recent performances of the Men's and Women's National Teams. Asher Mendelsohn provided an update on the extended national teams' programs and the referee programs. The Board discussed how to move the national team programs forward. The Board discussed the centralized referee program, including background checks for referees.

Brian Remedi updated the Board on the Innovate to Grow grant program to assist U.S. Soccer Organization Members in growing the sport of soccer. He informed the Board that U.S. Soccer hired a full-time administrator for the grant program. The Board discussed the Innovate to Grow program, including how to encourage Organization Members to apply for grants.

Mr. Remedi informed the Board about the Federation's fundraising efforts around the FIFA Women's World Cup and updated the Board on Jill Ellis' continuing ambassador role through August 2020.

Mr. Remedi also provided a brief update on recent Youth Task Force activities.

Jay Berhalter reviewed the commercial activities related to Stack Sports, the 2019 Women's World Cup, and U.S. Open Cup with the Board. He also provided an update on the progress of the National Data Center player registration project.

FIFA UPDATE

Mr. Cordeiro provided an update on FIFA activities and the decision to keep the 2022 Men's World Cup at 32 teams. He also informed the Board that President Infantino had recently visited the United States around the MLS All-Star game. Sunil Gulati updated the Board on issues pending for FIFA. Sunil Gulati updated the Board on FIFA's five-point plan for the women's game.

CONCACAF UPDATE

Mr. Cordeiro updated the Board on the Concacaf Nations League and the upcoming Concacaf Council meeting.

SAFESPORT UPDATE

Ms. Wahlke informed the Board that the U.S. Center for SafeSport had released age-specific training for youth participants. She also updated the Board on the selection of the same case management system employed by the Center to handle cases for U.S. Soccer. The implementation period for the case management system will likely extend into 2020.

2020 BYLAW AND POLICY AMENDMENTS

Ms. Wahlke presented a proposed amendment to Bylaw 703, which would add an athlete to serve with the arbitrator selected under the Bylaw 703 process.

VP ELECTION PROCESS

Ms. Wahlke provided the Board with the timeline and process for the election of the Vice President in 2020.

PRO LEAGUE REVIEW

Mr. Fike updated the Board on the progress of the pro league review process and informed the Board that further updates would be provided.



MASS SOCCER PROPOSED POLICY 601 AMENDMENTS

Mr. Fike reviewed the policy amendments proposed by MASS Soccer related to professional player registration. The Board discussed the policy amendments. It was agreed that Mr. Motta, Mr. Moeller, and Mr. Fike would review the proposal with MASS Soccer and update the Board at its next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Cordeiro confirmed that the next meeting would be in Chicago on December 6 and 7, 2019.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

