

To: Open Cup Committee

From: David Applegate

Date: January 10, 2022

Re: Minutes from Open Cup Committee Meeting 1/10/2022

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The Open Cup Committee met via Zoom on January 10, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. ET and lasted approximately 1 hour, 45 minutes.

1) Roll Call

Committee members present: Arthur Mattson (chair), Todd Durbin, Kevin Hensley, Stu Holden, Brett Luy, Shonna Schroedl

Others Present: David Applegate, Paul Marstaller, Mia Ciardiello, Neil Buethe (first 15 minutes), Greg Fike (present except for 15 minutes at 2 p.m.)

2) Approval of December 21, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Minutes of December 21, 2021, were approved without edit.

3) 2022 Tournament Pairings Methodology

The pairings methodology for the 2022 tournament was approved after a staff presentation. The methodology was based on the same approved for the 2020 tournament.

4) Waiver of Schedule Requirements per Open Cup Policy 202(b)(2) and (3)

Rochester NY FC and St. Louis from MLS NEXT Pro; and Central Valley Fuego FC, Charlotte Independence and Northern Colorado Hailstorm FC from USL League Two all require a waiver to participate based on the Schedule Requirements per Open Cup Policy 202(b)(2) or (3). The waiver was approved for these teams. It was noted by the committee that any 'late entries' would be considered on a case-by-case basis with all precedents to be considered.

5) Team Entry Updates

The committee reviewed the participation of Las Vegas Lights (USL Championship), a club affiliated with Los Angeles FC (MLS), related to Section 202(e) of the Open Cup policies. The committee approved Las Vegas Lights to participate.

6) Review of Ineligible Teams for 2022

The committee reviewed the list of teams ineligible to participate due to Section 202(e) of the Policies. This list will be published with the 2022 U.S. Open Cup handbook.

7) Proposed Open Cup Policy changes:

After discussion, the following policy changes were approved by the Committee. Please see attachment to these minutes for the revised text as approved.

- a. Edits to allow for efficient name change of tournament
- b. Section 104(a) – Adjudication and Discipline Panel, change of number and makeup
- c. Section 203(b)(2) – Roster submission deadline, increased from two weeks to three weeks.
- d. Attachment A – Stadium Requirements: Stadium clock, and EMS vehicle required on site
- e. Section 303(a) and (c) – Number of normal substitutes, an increase to 5 + 1 for 2022 and allowing the implementation of Concussion Substitution trials.

8) Concussion Substitutions

The committee approved the U.S. Open Cup's participation in the using 'Protocol B' from the trial approved by IFAB.

9) Discussion of Covid-related protocols for tournament proper

Committee members and staff presented preliminary information regarding pandemic-related protocols. Staff will work with the participating leagues regarding protocols and set a future meeting after league protocols advance further.

10) Any other business

No other business was discussed.

11) Next meeting

The committee discussed a pandemic-related protocols meeting to be set at a future date, and also will work to set a time for a meeting at the 2022 AGM in Atlanta.

12) Adjournment

With no other business, the meeting ended at approximately 2:48 p.m. ET.