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        UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION
          96th Annual General Meeting
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              National Council Meeting
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               Hyatt Regency Miami
                  Miami, Florida
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                  March 3, 2012
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              9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
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     Reported by Debra K. Resling, RMR, CRR
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1 (Commencing at 8:00 a.m.)	1 Welcome to Miami. Sunil only asked
2 PRESIDENT GULATI: Folks, if you	2 me for good weather for all of you, and we're
3 could find your seats, we will be starting in a	3 delighted to have you. This is a great sports
4 couple of minutes.	4 town and a very sophisticated soccer town: You
5 If we could gather seats, we are	5 can meet any taxicab driver and he will tell you
6 ready to start.	6 not only who the U.S. players are, but who the
7 So one quick note before we get	7 international players are. So we're delighted to
8 started is there are times in life where you get	8 have you, and please come back.
9 to a field and it is not perfectly 115 by 75 and	9 Thanks, Sunil.
10 you make some adjustments; so if you happen to be	PRESIDENT GULATI: Thanks, Donna.
behind one of these pillars and you want to move	11 (Applause.)
12 a couple of yards either way, feel free to do so	PRESIDENT GULATI: If we could stand
as long as you take your keypads with you, if you	for a Moment of Silence for those members of the
14 need sight lines. Obviously, we've got the	soccer community that we've lost over the last
screens if you can't see where you would like to	15 year.
16 see.	16 (Moment of silence.)
Welcome to Miami and to the annual	17 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you.
18 meeting. I'm going to have our official welcome	We could have asked you to stay
to the City of Miami handled by one of our	standing, but we are doing a little calisthenics
20 independent Board directors, the president of the	this morning. Mike Edwards will lead you in the Pledge of Allegiance.
21 University of Miami, Dr. Donna Shalala. 22 Donna.	\mathcal{E}
	Come on, Rick, it wasn't that much, twice up and down.
23 (Applause.) 24 MS. SHALALA: Thanks, Sunil. I will	23 twice up and down. 24 (Pledge of Allegiance recited.)
25 do it from here.	25 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thanks, Mike.
25 GO IL HOIH HOLE.	25 I KESIDENI GULATI. HIdiks, Mike.

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We will then go straight to the roll call and the Credentials Committee report, which we have found a way to expedite. Mr. Kepner, our Credentials Committee chairman, is on his way.

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MR. KEPNER: Welcome to Miami. I, with Dr. Shalala, say hello to you as well. We are using a different system. It's a modern world, and we're going to depend on the use of some technology. And in the interest of time, instead of actually calling the roll call out, we're going to use technology to portray the Credential Committee's report on the screen. Five different slides. As you look at them, literally, those of you who have votes, take a look, quick look, because I'm not going to give you much time to do it. See whether or not it looks as if it's accurate.

Organizations and individuals that are not present are not shown on there, whereas normally I would have had them and might have read them out. And then also one of the things is that there are the members of the staff and members of the Credentials Committee that are around. I have announced to you before that if an organization or an individual doesn't arrive

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at the beginning that what we do is we pick up that person or that organization's card, tent. and keypads, move them over to the side. If they later show up, that's fine. If you are sitting close to where they are and they say "Where are my keypads," tell them they can go pick them up over here.

Another little point about what you will see on the screens is that there are some members of our group that occupy more than one role. For instance, Richard Groff, who is president of USASA and chairman of the Adult Council, also is a member of the Board of Directors. His name only appears in one place on the screens.

So with that, we will go ahead and present Slide 1, which is the Youth Council. This is the Credential Committee's report of the Youth Council. This is technology. We came up with this idea about 12:00 last night. Eyesight. You need your magnifying glass. Take note at the number down at the bottom, 287; that's important.

Now, literally speaking, a point that I will make: Those of you who are voting, you have the correct keypads on a weighted basis in

Page 8

front of you. So that's your real measure.

We will go on to the next slide, which is the Adult Council. Likewise, it's the number of keypads that you have on a weighted basis in front of you that is the important item.

The third slide, which is the Athletes and the Professional Councils. I do want to make a point that I have made before, but this year it has been particularly important. Both of these councils, the members have really done a superlative job in attending and in coming and being present. It helps in the whole process.

Fourth slide, which is other members, other affiliates, national associations, life members, past presidents. In this case, only Alan Rothenberg is here. Bob Contiguglia would be there as well. And then the Board of Directors.

And then the last slide shows the actual -- the multiplier effect. And you can see that 1.00 is the weight of the Youth Council; that's the council that governs everything else in terms -- because it's the most populous one. And then you have the Adult Council, 187 members, Page 9

but you have to run those 187 by a number, a multiplier, so the effect is the same with making it 287 and so on. And there you go.

So we can go ahead and shut that down, and now we have eight practice questions to make sure that you know how to use the keypads.

Now, there's a real competition this year. We're in Miami -- Little Havana -- and it seemed only appropriate to take advantage of that fact. Now, we have two teams, two forces in point of fact, facing each other. The first one is a pelican, as it happens "the" pelican that we have on our logo for this particular event. Now, the pelican was coached by Pele. Everybody knows Pele, a fantastic player, world-renowned. Team Pelican is the one, but there's an extra special little thing. Team Pelican is dancing the cha-cha-cha at the same time while the pelican (music played)...

Okay. The next competitor is a dolphin. Now, I would have used the Miami dolphin one, but I was a little bit concerned about the possible copyright infringement, so I had to search worldwide for another coach, and we all know at home, Mike Edwards is one of the best

Page 10 Page 11 1 1 coaches around. Now, one little task, and Mike general meetings. Just stay standing for a 2 2 is very good at it as is the dolphin. They're minute. 30 or more AGMs. 3 3 dancing the mambo. (Music played.) MR. DES BORDES: Thirty --^ 4 Okay. Now, in a penalty kick 4 PRESIDENT GULATI: Those that have 5 shootout, who would win? Go ahead and press "1" 5 been at 30, can still do the math. Don't ask for "yes" and "2" for "no." "1" for the Team 6 6 those questions, Hank. Thank you very much for 7 7 Pelican; "2" for the Team Dolphin. And I will 8 8 start counting down, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and stop (Applause.) 9 voting. 9 PRESIDENT GULATI: Those of you today 10 10 Aha! Team Pelican won proving that a that are at your first annual meeting -- we must have some folks at your first annual meeting --11 "Pele-can" really play soccer. 11 12 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay, thank you, 12 please stand. Thank you and welcome. 13 13 And last but certainly not least, Bob. 14 Just give me a minute to recover from 14 those of you that have represented the United 15 15 States in international competition, please that. 16 16 Our life members, folks that have stand. 17 17 been inducted into our life membership for (Applause.) 18 18 PRESIDENT GULATI: Next order of long-time service across many spectrums are with 19 us here tonight, as they always are. If I could 19 business is approval of the minutes from the 20 20 ask you to stand please in front so we can 2011. You have had those sent to you. Do we 21 acknowledge you. Our life members. 21 have any corrections, amendments to the minutes 22 22 (Applause.) from last AGM? 23 PRESIDENT GULATI: Those of you in 2.3 Seeing none, I'll entertain a motion 24 the room that have been at 30 or more annual 24 to adopt and approve the minutes. 25 25 MR. EDWARDS: So move. general meetings, stand, please. 30 or more Page 12 Page 13 1 PRESIDENT GULATI: So moved by 1 And as I was watching the video, I 2 Mr. Edwards. Seconded by Mr. Perry? 2 was watching this group in particular. I would 3 3 MR. PERRY: Second. love to have a picture of you, Kate, while those 4 PRESIDENT GULATI: Seconded by Mr. 4 videos were playing, and the pride in these 5 5 Perry. players over here, who helped us achieve many of 6 Any objections? We will accept those 6 those moments. But there's a lot of other people 7 7 by unanimous consent. Thank you. in the room that helped us achieve those moments 8 8 Before we look forward, I thought we as well. 9 would look back for just a couple of minutes with 9 But those moments were two years and 10 10 a couple of pictures, which most of you, if not one year ago. And last summer, as was the case 11 all of you, have seen. We have put them 11 with the Men's team two summers ago, the Women's 12 12 National Team stopped the country, not for days, together. They're not Pelicans and Dolphins, but 13 we've put them together, and if we could run that 13 not for weeks, but certainly for some moments, 14 14 video, and then we'll talk a little bit about it. with that goal, with the win in the semi-final 15 15 (Video shown.) and then a heart-breaking loss in the final, but 16 16 actually had watercooler talk for a few minutes. (Applause.) 17 17 PRESIDENT GULATI: So here's my view All of you know it, whether it was at school for 18 on those two moments. If those two moments don't 18 your kids, whether it was at work, at the country 19 make you very, very proud and just stop for a 19 club, wherever it might have been. And we don't 20 second, you probably have been doing this too 20 get enough of those moments, but we're starting

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more.

to get a few more. We're starting to get a few

against. Or, in fact, in January and February,

just two days ago. Eight goals, no goals

We had a different sort of moment

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those moments are.

long. If those two moments don't make you proud

and stop and pause and have your heart flutter or

whatever else, you may not have been doing this

for long enough. Because you don't know how hard

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- 1 19 wins and two losses. Men's Team is unbeaten.
- Women's Team, unbeaten. Under-23 Team, unbeaten.
- 3 Under-17 Girls Team, unbeaten. And so on.
- 4 Pretty extraordinary start to the month. And on
- 5 Wednesday, pretty extraordinary day. Women's
- 6 Team wins 5-nothing against Denmark. The
- 7 Under-23 Team beats Mexico in Dallas. And a
- 8 very, very, special result in Genoa, where we win
- 9 for the first time against Italy in 82 years.

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The first time the U.S. Men's Team has beaten a
Top Ten opponent away from home, ever. That's 9

Top Ten opponent away from home, ever. That's 99 years, in our case.

So that was a pretty good night against the top team, playing away from home. And some people here were in the room, and if you didn't share in that and accept some credit for that, you have either been doing it too long or not long enough.

not long enough.

Why should you take pride in that or feel like you are part of that? And I look to think about, whether it's the space landing or any symbolic event for America -- if you are a schoolteacher, you get far more pride from a kid who learns to read better or does math problems better or is better at civics, and clearly the

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to where we want to go.

And we want to go further. We want more of those moments. We've started a number of planning initiatives to get more of those moments. Some of you are part of those. Many of you will be part of those.

Because, the bar -- the bar of where we want that team and those teams, which is related to everyone in this room, is set very high. We don't talk about it very often. We don't talk about winning, but there's not a player we have, not a coach we have, and my guess is not a person in this room that wants to finish second at anything in life. Okay. I would take second if I were playing against Jürgen Klinsmann, I would accept that; but once I was on the field, I would want to win, like all of you.

So the internal bar is very high for on-field success, for how we run our organization professionally -- and I'm ecstatic from that perspective, how we run our organization, you haven't read our name in any issues of governance, and if we asked the USOC, they would say we are one of the best in terms of how we govern ourselves, how we manage our finances. If

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most pride many of us feel anywhere along the line is when our child does something well.

So I'm not going to try to compare the happiness of a successful science project completion by my child versus the lunar landing. But it's a little bit different, because when it's the lunar landing, when it's one of those moments, we share in it collectively. And it's not that, when we coach rec players, we are saying we need to produce the next Abby Wambach or the next Landon Donovan or whoever it might be. It's, we're helping kids along the way getting better just like if you are a teacher, you are helping kids to learn better skills.

It's not just about having fun; it's getting better, learning and being able to read more. And some of those readers are going to turn out to be English professors, and some of them are going to turn out to be construction workers, and some are going to turn out to be Nobel laureates, no doubt, in poetry. And some of them are going to be turn out to be people like that, that will give us those moments, the moments we'll all remember and the moments, frankly, that will help us take the sport further

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you ask FIFA, they would say we are one of the best -- and they have a lot of members.

And I'm very proud of all of those things as well. They're important in helping everything else we want to do, which is what happens on the field, in the development of players and the health of players and the safety of players, referees, and coaches, and finally in finding two times 11 that can go out and represent us at the very highest levels, as our athlete representatives have done.

We've got resources. We've got skills. We've got the will. And we need some people to help us, show us the way. And on the Women's side of the game, Pia Sundhage, who has played at the highest level, coached at the highest level, has been quite successful. That extra penalty kick last summer would have made it a perfect record, but hopefully, we will get another gold medal this summer. And the team is 7 and 0 this year and conceded its first goal yesterday in due time against Norway, and she's helped us shape that.

And on the Men's side, we've got an extraordinary opportunity. And again, our coach

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and I don't talk about where that bar is of where we want to go, but I know him well enough to know that it's not here; it's up here (indicating). And that we won't say where that is, because then

it will end up reporting as a press that the

Americans are too arrogant or anything else.

But all you have to do is watch that game on Wednesday night. All you have to do is see the things that America can do in any sphere, know the talent level of our players, and the leadership of the person at the helm who is helping us find that roadmap. Who has done it.

Who has won a world championship. Who has won a European championship. Who has coached at the World Cup finals. And as of a couple of nights ago, finally beat in Italy, which he hadn't been able to do before.

And before I introduce him informally, let me show you a little bit of his work from Wednesday night. If we can run that video.

(Video shown.)

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PRESIDENT GULATI: Two of our doctors were in the elevator after the game with a notably Italian gentleman, and the two doctors

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were pleased with the victory and probably gloating a little bit, to which the gentleman said, Yeah, you know, it had to end. We had a pretty good run for 82 years.

Our run is only three days right now, but we have full confidence that we will have a few of these runs and a few watercooler moments. And if you don't believe that, you have been doing it too long. Stay with us, because there's going to be more of those moments, and they're going to be better on the Men's side and the Women's side.

And part of what we need to do is understand that U.S. upper case "S" soccer is not necessarily U.S. lower case soccer. What I mean by that, there are millions of people that watch those games. There are millions of people that will watch our Women's team and hopefully our Men's team in the Olympics that don't care about this meeting or what U.S. Soccer with an upper case is, but they're part of the game in America whether they watch Premier League games or whether they watch Mexican League games or unaffiliated leagues.

More of them now are watching Major

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League now, which is good. More of them are getting in tune with our team, which is good. But U.S. lower case soccer is quite important in how we embrace that community and how we reach out to that community.

And in accomplishing the two goals that are in front of us, how do we get out to that broader community and make them part of our family and success on the field, winning at the very highest levels, connecting the dots, having ten-year-olds understand how they're connected to what Clint Dempsey did the other night. All of that is a challenge, as far as I'm concerned.

And I can't think of someone who can better help us get to those two places than the gentleman who coaches our National team -- many of you met him yesterday. I have spent a lot of time with him over the six months, and I have got an extraordinary high level of confidence in him. It's impossible not to spend a few minutes with him and not be excited about what's possible.

And with that, ladies and gentlemen, let me introduce to you the coach of the United States Men's National Team and world champion, Jürgen Klinsmann.

(Applause.)

COACH KLINSMANN: Good morning, everybody. That is a very special moment for me. This is my first AGM. So I was standing there in the corner when he called up; it was the first time here.

I have not always beaten Italy, to be honest. I had different moments in my career too with Italy. One was about six years ago when I prepared Germany for the World Cup in 2006, and it was, I think, the beginning of March. We played in Florence with Germany, and we got beaten 4-1. And after that game, the German parliament called me up and said, We want you to come Berlin and explain what's going on here.

So I would rather come here and explain what's going on.

(Applause.)

I was pretty lucky, because the German chancellor -- she's actually a good friend of mine -she stepped in and said, "Be quiet here; let the guy do his work." And I think it worked out, then at the end of the day, in the World Cup in 2006.

I'm extremely proud to have this role. I'm extremely privileged -- I feel really privileged

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that we found a way to work together and that we started that process a half a year ago to move forward the Men's National Team program.

I definitely have a little bit of a different perspective doing things because I have a different background, like all of us have different backgrounds, and do it in a different way.

But I hope that my background, where I'm coming from -- I'm living here now since 1998, after the World Cup in France moved over here, with an American wife and two children that are certainly more American than German. But my background is certainly more international in a certain way.

I played in four different countries. I coached Germany. I coached Bayern Munich. I'm traveling all over the place to learn from other coaches. So wherever there are symposiums going on, if it was December in Brazil, I'm flying down there, Tom King was with me, and I'm trying to constantly learn. So I hope that stuff that I kind of collect, you know, helps then the players of today to find different solutions in their career.

And I have a bit of a saying that my job is really to help the players to get to their next level no matter what their level is right now. So if

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I'm talking about my little boy, who's 14, I want to get him to the next level, if I can do that, because he's really -- your own son never listens to you.

But based on the players coming into the national league program, no matter where they are, we picked them up where they are, if they're playing MLS or if they're playing Mexico or if they're playing Europe, and help them get to their next personal level. That is our goal.

Now, in this quick couple of minutes, I would like to show you a few slides about what we've done so far, how we build it, and basically in about six months, and how we want to go forward, so hopefully that helps you a bit looking at the year 2012.

Is it working?

Okay. So we are now -- I mean, when I came in for the meeting in November, around the MLS Cup final, we talked about a couple of different phases, and Phase 1 was obviously to get to know the players, to understand how U.S. Soccer works. So it was a tremendous learning curve for me to understand all the complexity of your system, of different environments, and I think, you know, we've got our hands around it now, and we've started to build a

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coaching staff, we've started to build a team that is behind the team and moving things forward.

Obviously, we installed different coaches at different levels for different teams, always talking about the Men's program, obviously. And now we have, I think, really people in place that are very, very enthusiastic and very positive about their work they're doing. You know, obviously a big thing this year will be our Olympic team that plays their qualifiers at the end of March now and that gets all the support from the senior team. Everywhere Caleb needs us, we will be there and help him.

We have a very diverse coaching staff together now and our coaches and people that have different backgrounds. They have played in MLS. They have played internationally. They have played in World Cups, and they speak several languages.

That is a little bit small, it's difficult to read, but we have -- I have on my side a coach like Martin Vasquez, who is Mexican American, played for both, played for Mexico under César Luis Menotti and then came to the United States and also played for the United States; because at the time he played for Mexico, Mexico was disqualified from FIFA because of some problems at those days.

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I was extremely happy to get Andreas
Herzog on my side from Austria. I played with
Andreas at Bayern Munich many years ago, and he had
an outstanding international career, is the most
capped player in Austria, was assistant coach for the
Austrian senior team and was Under-21 coach from
Austria. Very successful work. They promised him
the head coach job, and then the federation three
times in a row decided otherwise. So I jumped in and
I pulled him out there, and I said, No, you are going
to be with us.

Andreas' role is very important, because he covers a lot of ground in Europe. So he is scouting our players in Europe. He's meeting with the coaching staffs of all the different teams in the Premier League and the Bundesliga, in Portugal, in Italy, and he keeps that communication really flowing.

I also was extremely happy to win over Chris Woods, goalkeeper coach of FC Everton, who works day in day out with Tim Howard and has done an amazing job. And he's always with us once the National Team goes into camp.

So as you can see, it's a staff that has different backgrounds, and wherever somebody has some

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weaknesses, because we all have our weaknesses, there's somebody else who has the strength for it.

As Sunil already mentioned, you know, we're trying to play as many good teams as we can. So over the last couple of months, we played Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras at home. We played away, Panama. We're going to play in Canada. We have the big privilege to play Brazil this summer. And we played the away games against two top teams in France and in Italy. France, we lost one-nil. We should have had a penalty; they had a good chance at the end of the game. In Italy, we were lucky. We won the game.

So we're trying to get those different type of games as often as we can, because those are the games where we're learning the most. If I play another 10 or 15 games a year against CONCACAF teams, I'm not getting anywhere, with all due respect to the teams.

So we need to find ways to play Brazil and Argentina and play Holland, England, Italy, or France, as often as we can, in order to learn. And it's going well, that whole process. With the help of Dan and Sunil, it's really something special for all the players that we have that opportunity.

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Spain integrates in that moment players from Valencia or from Real Madrid. It doesn't matter.

So our goal is to catch up with those guys. We're not there yet. We have a long way to go still. But we would like to keep the ball more. You know, we would like to push it up higher. We would like to play eye to eye with them. And we would like to kind of sole situations on the field with our technique and with being calm and not banging the ball up, you know, 60 yards and play "second ball" games, you know.

There will be games that we have to do that, you know, we might be in the qualifiers. We have to go to Central America, and the field is not good and the circumstances are not good, and the only way, maybe, to break them down, are long balls, you know, and sending them high. You know, having Jozy Altidore drop it off and Cobi coming in and putting it in. Those games will happen. Definitely.

But in general, we would like to develop a system, a style, that hopefully entertains you and hopefully shows the best teams in the world that we're able to play this game with them and not only to react to them. So this is our goal in the long run.

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We're working on a different style of play. There's a lot of talk out there obviously, because many of you, coaches and people that live and breathe the game, all of you have different approaches, you know, what is your ideal style of play, how would you like the national team to play.

I'm not coming in and saying it's going to be my style of play that will be developed for this national team. But it will be definitely a style of play that is based on what we see worldwide. And the benchmark in international soccer is the European Champions League. That sets the tone. And so whatever you see in the Champions League, especially when they go in knockout stages now, this is a trend that is made for the next World Cup.

So if they decide -- the Mourinhos or the Guardiolas or the Alex Fergusons or whoever, they decide we are going to switch systems, you will see that system in the next World Cup. All the national team coaches pick that up, and they think about it many, many times. And most of them -- I would say two-thirds of those coaches will go with systems that they see before that in the Champions League. The best examples, certainly, you see with Barcelona and Spain. You know, they're almost identical, even if

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So that brings with -- you have to work a different system, and as you saw, the last couple of games, you know, there was a 4-4-2, there was a 4-2-3-1, there was 4-3-3 that I tried initially. Obviously, as you know better than I do, because you're part of the game, it's always based on the players you have. When you have certain players that can play a 4-3-3, why not? If you have to -- you know, if you want to play a Barcelona style, you need the players for it. So we are definitely developing a style of play that is based on the player's strengths.

But also we challenge them to move a bit out of their comfort zone and try their roles differently than they have before. When I came on board, I talked with Tim Howard and I talked with Clint Dempsey, and they're both Premier League. They're both respected in the world of soccer. But I told them, So what's your next level? You know, and they looked at me, and they kind of were confused because they thought, Well, I'm playing the Premier League. What are you talking about?

I said, Well, your next level has to be the Champions League. So, Clint, how do you get to the Champions League? And he looked at me, and he

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said, Well, you know, only got to score more goals.

2 Yeah, exactly, that's one way.

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And another way is, you know, if you go into a game, you know, what would a Champions League coach, an Arsene Wenger, a Pep Guardiola, what would they like to see to from you?

And he was looking at me, and I told him, They want to see you move. Always, nonstop, move. You know, and, Clint, you are stopping too often. You like to have the battles in mid-field one against one, because you are a physical guy, you love the body contact. It's not getting you anywhere at the halfway line. So stop having those battles at the halfway line. Have them in the box. But in the halfway line, you have got to play one, two touches. You've got to move. You've got to move quick.

But the players are receptive, and every one of them are coming over and asking us, So what's my next thing to do?

Whoosh. So how I am doing that is I got to get

fitter. You got to move faster.

And that's how we want to build this whole program. We kind of want to pick them up where they are and get them to their next level. For that, you need a lot of work. As I mentioned, we did a clip

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So going back to the style of play, we throw at them words like being "proactive," you know, having the ball more often, and when we press, we press all together.

So, we had a tremendous learning experience with all the MLS players in the January camp with those two games against Venezuela and then in Panama really teaching them how to connect together, because obviously they were all a bit nervous coming in, and they have the feeling, Well, we're kind of the second-tier group, and Cobi you know that all, and Marcello, you know how this works: you know, like, the mental side of it. And we kind of calmed them down, and we explained to them, you know, that all it takes, it takes just your open-mindedness to implement things in training, and maybe if it's three times a day, we're going to do it three times a day.

So what we did was actually we did it three times a day. So we made sure that they were tired in the evening so they had no energy anymore to

So far obviously, as you see, results up and down. You know, in that process we get some

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lessons on our way, like we did in France, like we did in Belgium, even if in Belgium we tied the game two minutes before the end and the linesman called it offside, and he still doesn't know why he did that. So it would have looked nice if we would have won one in Belgium. But challenging better teams or so-called "better" teams can only help us on that road. But we also learned that we can kind of

really now zoom in, and we can get a job done. We can kind of be more confident now, a defensive way of playing it, and we can also win away from home. And that helps the guys.

And the nicest feeling -- and Sunil was there on Wednesday night -- was going into that locker room and looking at the guys, and it took them a couple of moments, you know. They couldn't actually believe it for a second. They said, "Shit," you know, "we won this game." And I said, I think a lot of them -- you know, a lot of you guys, we saw each other already in Boston a couple of weeks ago, and we had that discussion, you know, why do you look at certain games in a different way from a psychological side? We had the discussion, saying, you know, like you played England in 2010 in the

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group stage, and you give me the probability of beating England in the group stage, and you will probably say 40-60, you know. So that was kind of the talk we had in Boston.

And then you have the same game against England in the quarter finals, and it was quite a moment then at the meeting. And then some gentleman stepped up and says, Well, in the quarter finals, England, 20-80, maybe. And I said to him, So why? So why do you think like that? It's the same opponent. It's the same game, so why do you think, now, in the quarter final, you can beat them less than in the group stage?

And I think that's what they realized on Wednesday night. Okay, it was a friendly game. Okay. Italy was not maybe at the very top of their game. But every game is there to be played, and it has a lot to do with your mental approach to it, you know, with your belief that you can play those moments.

And I think they walked out there --Sunil, and at the dinner you saw them -- they were still sitting there; they were really proud. Okay. It's a quick momentum, you know, to this day today, already they played Premier League again or

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Bundesliga or whatever, but it was a special moment, I think, that they realized. We can actually do it.

Now, to do that on a consistent basis is a whole 'nother topic to discuss, and it takes a little bit longer, and I don't want to spend too much time -- or steal too much time from you.

You're definitely going to see that last bullet point: We need to score more goals. And I'm not happy with the fact that we don't score enough. So Cobi, you better, you know, think about coming back.

So far, over the time being, six months, we had a bit more than 40 players -- changing a bit with the dynamic of the January camp where you call in a lot of MLS guys, which we are extremely happy to work with. They did an awesome job there. Seven of the players got their first appearance with the National Team. Five of them are coming out of the MLS; another sign that MLS is getting stronger and stronger, producing better and better players. And it's really a blast for us to work with all the coaches throughout MLS and with the league, and it's going definitely in the right direction.

But as I mentioned before, we need players that step it up even further. And that's why I

mentioned the example with Tim Howard, with Clint Dempsey. We need players on an international level that go into Champions League clubs. This is our goal. And this is something that, you know, makes a big difference when you go into a World Cup, and, you know, you have players there that played on the Champions League level, and they know exactly how to react in certain games.

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So this is what we drive for. So I'm not leaving Tim Howard and Clint Dempsey and the next ones, whoever they are, alone for the next two years. I'm going to push them every time I see them to get to that level.

As I mentioned, we had mainly MLS players in the January camp. We used the same benchmarks throughout. The senior team, it's now an MLS camp, like it was in January. Or if it's the Olympic guys with Caleb, they're going to run through a lot of testing. We do a lot of evaluation. The typical ones that you see and know from coaches education are technical, technical, mental side, performance fitness. We work with specialists from the athletes' performance from the fitness side, but we also started to work with other specialists from a medical field. We worked with a brain expert out of

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Australia, which is a very interesting field. This whole mental picture becomes bigger and bigger.

And we learned -- we worked with a doctor out of Europe that covers the entire nutritional side, and, yeah, alternative medical side. He is a doctor in Asian medicine, and he's a doctor in Western medicine, and we try to kind of reach out there to see, you know, what else we can add to our program to make it special but also to make it better. And it's pretty interesting.

And Sunil can tell you some stories there, when he joins our dinners and -- am I allowed to say that? And he orders a diet Coke, he gets some very critical eyes on him, because we're trying to implement things on the nutritional side, that sodas are not allowed anymore at all, so we had some funny moments there.

But it was an exception, you said, right?
PRESIDENT GULATI: Only when we beat
Italy.

COACH KLINSMANN: Only when we beat Italy.

So we're challenging the players. We are throwing things at them that they haven't maybe heard before. We're trying to teach them

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to become real full-time professionals, because they're not yet. None of them, actually. Even if you talk about the European players that think they are there, they're not there. If you look at the programs of Barcelona or Real Madrid or other teams, it's still another level how they live their life, how they approach their job, how responsible they feel for their actions, how accountable they are for whatever they do off the field. You know, we still have kids that want to go out and party through the night and think it's no big deal. Unfortunately, now today, it is a big deal, because we live in a world of Twitter, Facebook; and everything they do is around the world in one second.

So we have a lot of -- still a lot of education to get done with the players. So once they understand that they really live for their profession and they chose to become a professional soccer player, then they have to live that way, you know, and it is what it is. And we tell the players now, If you decide otherwise and you want to rather party or you want to rather take it easy or you don't want to eat a certain way and you don't want to take care

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of your sleep and you don't want to travel in a certain way, you are going to lose your spot in the National Team. And I don't care who it is, and I don't care how many caps he has. And they got that message.

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So when they come in now, they're pretty focused. We don't have a rule catalog. There's nothing written there. Marcello, we don't need to kind of tell them in writing, but they now understand that it's something special. It's something special to play for this country and represent the country, and we keep them on their toes that way.

But they also need to see that we're trying to do everything based on their individual skills, because everyone is different. Everyone has different strengths and different weaknesses, so we try really to kind of go in a very individual way, kind of from one topic to another, to teach them how they can get better. So it's a lot of work. And when Sunil comes in and sees -- or Dan comes in and sees us working with the players, you know, they're not getting five minutes from me because I'm just with the players the whole time.

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So we are going to move to the next slide.

Going forward. That is a little bit to illustrate, you know, the physical side of it. I don't want to get too much into it, but we still have there a long way to go compared to the best teams in the world. Now we go further --I'm going to run faster, because you guys have about 20 more meetings this morning, correct?

Now, do I have to go this way? No, we do not really need to go all that way.

We're trying to get -- that is maybe an important slide. Obviously, Neil Buethe is there, our chief from the media. We're trying to communicate what we are doing. We want people I mean, we can be here, we have the nice meeting, but as Sunil said, there are a lot of people out there; they don't really know what's going on with the National Team program, so we try to communicate it. We try to get the message out there that they understand what we're doing, why we do certain things, and it's not only blah-blah. It is actually -- there's actually a plan behind that.

You know, we have reasons why we do

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certain things, so we try to communicate it.

- 2 Maybe the difference now is a little bit --
- 3 Sunil, correct me -- is that we're reaching out,
- 4 not only within the U.S., because we're going
- 5 also down to South America, we're going to
- 6 Europe, and we're going to spread the word out to
- 7 say, We are coming up. We are there to kind of
- 8 compete with you one day eye to eye. We want you
- 9 in England to know that we're working hard. We 10

want you in Germany to know that we work hard and

11 that we're going to challenge you down the road. 12 And this is maybe one of the most

important points from the Wednesday-night experiences: not only that it felt really, really good to the guys that they had that moment, that special moment, but it's a signal. It's a signal throughout Europe, when they read the result that we beat Italy in Italy. You

- 19 know, that's what coaches kind of understand the
- 20 next day when they see the results of all the
- 21 games played throughout the world, and they see
- 22 that result, and they stop a second, and they
- 23 say, Hold on, what is that? Why did that happen?
- 24 So you build respect.
 - And that's what we're trying to do

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1 with these games. We want to build respect, so 2 at the end of the day that we go, hopefully then 3

and hopefully in the round of the last 16 or in

the quarter final, into those games, and it's not 20-80 anymore; because what we're building now

will have an influence on how they look at that game two years down the road, hopefully, after

successful qualification, that they may be actually coming towards a 40-60 or 45-55, and

then we're right there. And we're right there.

And then there's a game to be played. So we're trying to get the word out,

and that's what I'm trying to do here as well, and we're doing that full-time.

Working hand in hand with Caleb, with the Under-23s, with obviously the Olympic team, but also with MLS, and the representatives of MLS are here, and the clubs in Europe and Mexico are very extremely important. And that goes back to the coaching staff. It goes back to Martin Vasquez calling all the coaches in Mexico, looking at all players in Mexico, all the coaches throughout MLS we're doing, both of us, having

- 22 23
- 24 Andreas Herzog in Europe communicating with all 25 the coaches there, going there, visiting the

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clubs, looking after the players, and spending two or three times with each -- two or three days at each club in order to build those relationships. That is very important.

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I think, you know, it is an exciting year, 2012. And when we sit down there with Caleb, we try to give him really the sense of, We're here for you. I mean, he's coming from a university program and stepping it up to a professional level and stepping it up to hopefully, after a successful qualification, to an Olympic Games in London where very, very good teams, all full-time professional teams, are there, is a big chunk for him.

So we made it clear to him, Caleb, you get all the support you need. That's why I left almost all the players for -- the young players for the game against Mexico, except Brek Shea that -- because I was running out of players after all the injuries. I needed to call in Brek Shea, and in that sense -- it's really the sense for him that there's a special year ahead for U.S. Soccer.

Obviously, for us from the senior program, three Friendlies now in May and June

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with Scotland, then Brazil at FedEx Field. Then going up to Toronto playing Canada. And then going into the first two World Cup qualifiers, that will set the tone for us, and World Cup qualifiers definitely will have all our focus and the highest priority.

That is about the schedule, and that's why I'm pretty much done, and I hope I didn't steal your time, and I want to thank you again for letting me come by in Miami on my way back home now, so flew from Italy here. And if you have any questions, feel free. I'm more than happy to answer them, but I know that you have a long agenda in front of you.

Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Jürgen, thanks very much.

And touching on the digital age, I just had an e-mail from one of our players, saying, "Hey, I heard Coach said that a lot of the guys were partying. Please tell them that it wasn't me." But he didn't sign it, so I don't know who sent that.

We thought it was important that you

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got to hear from Jürgen while he was here and coming fresh off that win on Wednesday. That win on a -- strange wins on a leap year, which we don't get often enough, I guess.

We move on to Reports of Officers and Committees. Those are in the book. But you have seen these. And before we go on to Dan's remarks, two notes on the agenda of an addition and a move.

The item listed under 14- -- 8 D, the Wisconsin Soccer Association, we're going to move that to the end of the agenda. That will fall into place at 13, after 13. So the Wisconsin item will go to 13 A, and the second is 13 B will be the discussion about next year's annual meeting. So 13 A will be the Wisconsin matter moved down from 8 D, and 13 B will be the AGM issue for 2013.

And with that, I turn the floor to Mr. Flynn for a report and an update.

MR. FLYNN: Thank you. My remarks are going to be focused on the 2013 Centennial. What a wonderful opportunity for us to make a positive statement about our institution and our sport.

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So we have essentially four major objectives: to grow the membership and build connections while we're celebrating our Centennial. Strengthen the connection between our member organizations and U.S. Soccer. Target the unregistered community, also build a stronger connection with our Hispanic community. And very importantly, acknowledge the large number of volunteers within U.S. Soccer.

The second objective is we want to have some type of strategic fundraising initiative, whether it's the production of a Centennial coffee table book or a postage stamp coin program, which we are now working on.

The third objective is to build the U.S. Soccer brand -- continue to build the U.S. Soccer brand, I should say. Reenergize the brand. Engage our fans in ways that we haven't done yet, new ways on the digital side in particular. Engage our sponsors and our commercial partners.

It is already under way; we have had several meetings both with Nike and Gatorade, and they are very excited about joining us in our celebration. We also want to include the

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nonsoccer community, those sports personalities from the other sports that understand our sport and would want to be part of the celebration as well.

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And the fourth and most important in many ways is to honor the history and the future of our sport in U.S. Soccer. That will include special events; celebrate the Men's and Women's National Team; hopefully, a game -- Sunil will talk about that later on as part of the Centennial celebration. We also want to recognize and celebrate the influential people of U.S. Soccer over the years, and outline and promote a path for our future as well.

So key stakeholders that we are looking at to assist us, help us, we want you to be part of this; we want you to feel part of the Centennial; our state associations and member associations, the Men's and Women's National Team players, current and former players.

We do have a Centennial committee, which we will be engaging in a little more than we have to date: myself, Alan Rothenberg, Bob Contiguglia, Hank Steinbrecher, and Richard Groff at this point.

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We have an internal group working at U.S. Soccer, and we also have external sources under way. Fleishman-Hillard, we have hired to help us on the public relations site; the book publisher that I mentioned earlier, as well as commercial affiliates.

So in April and May, we will be reaching out -- U.S. Soccer will reach out to member organizations to talk about your thoughts, and you may have some ideas. We would like to hear about those ideas. Timeline is summer to fall, where we would like to have the logo launch, if you will, of what we will be doing in terms of our image for 2013. We're going to use the summer months of qualifiers and the Olympics to continue to build the message about the Centennial, all with the focus in November to come with a full presentation.

Then, in '13, just to give you a little bit of an idea, we're going to try to use the benchmarks in the calendar, whether it's the NCAA convention; we'll obviously, along the way, when we get messages through the state associations or from the state associations about your annual meetings, World Cup qualifiers, the

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AGM itself, professional league seasons, how we can integrate patches on the jersey, all of those types of things.

Youth and adult championship events, we want to be part of those events. We want the Centennial message hopefully integrated in those events. A jersev launch will be a little bit different because of the Centennial. The Hall of Fame announcement and a White House event are some of the things on the schedule.

So the call to action is we will be reaching out. We look forward to you. We will be asking in each of the state associations to have a point person that we can continue to work with, and we look forward to building what should be a tremendous opportunity for U.S. Soccer in 2013. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: As Dan mentioned. we will come back and do a little bit of housekeeping. We need to be able to change the time of the AGM that I mentioned to all groups yesterday. But we will do that a little bit later on in the meeting. In past years, sometimes we will have

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1 one of the other officers or one of the other 2 Board members give an update on specific parts of 3 our program. Sometimes Mike has done that 4 vis-a-vis the referee group or the areas he's 5 involved in.

And today I have asked Don Garber to do that. As you know, MLS is a week away from kicking off with 19 teams, a new team in Montreal, so it's been a pretty extraordinary birth in 1996 to now. And with that, I'm going to introduce Don. He'll talk to you a little bit about where Major League Soccer is and where it's going.

Don Garber, Commissioner of Major League Soccer.

(Applause.)

MR. GARBER: Thank you very much, Sunil.

I think we're going to try to do this up over here. So while they're doing that, about 12 years ago, I think, was the last time that I got up and spoke to this group. And at that time, as many of you know, certainly those people that were here in the room, there was a real sense of tension between the grassroots soccer

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community and the professional game. And I think at that time -- as you know, the league was founded in 1996 -- there was a view among the professionals that we deserve the support of the Youth Soccer community, the amateur community, and I think we had high expectations of what we hoped to achieve out of all of you.

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And frankly, at that time, I don't think we had done enough to actually earn that support. And I'm hear to talk to you today about what's happened over the last ten years, certainly over the last four or five years, that has developed a league that I think everybody in this room can be very proud of, a league that is helping to develop fans, develop players, create all sorts of great opportunities for people to work in the sport.

And that recent success is really the direct result of everybody in the room. It starts with many of the athletes that have played in our league. Guys like Jeff and Marcelo and Stewart and others, and many, many other folks. the hundreds and hundreds, if not thousands, of players that have come through the league over the last 16 years.

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Certainly it's all of our staffs, and our staff is represented here today as well as the staffs of the other professional leagues. We take our role and our responsibility as being active members of this Federation very seriously, and I think that's a bit different from, perhaps, the way we might have viewed it 10 or 12 years

And it's also the direct result of each and every one of you. I think our country deserves to have a vibrant and successful professional league and a professional league system, and if we have that system, it will help drive the creation of what we call a very active and passionate and valuable soccer nation in our country. And all of us kind of do this every day and have a lot of things that many of you might not be aware of; so when Sunil said, Hey, am I interested in giving a short presentation, I really wanted to jump at the opportunity.

So I want to start by thanking each and every one of you. I'm going to give you some details that the public doesn't know in terms of what kind of resources we provide to the sport and to the league overall. I will ask that you

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keep some of that stuff confidential, even though I know this is a public forum. You might tweet

it or put it on Facebook or the like. But

there's some interesting information that I think you are going to find very valuable.

So let's go to the videotape, and then I've got about a five-minute presentation. (Video shown.)

MR. GARBER: So those are probably some images that might have been a little different than the images that you saw 10 or 12 years ago.

So for those of you who don't know, this is your Division 1 league. It sits on top of a system that basically is driven by not just what we do, but the leagues underneath us. Our pro council is not just made up of Major League Soccer; it's made up of USL Pro and the NASL. And our goal is not just to build a great Division 1 league, but ultimately to build a professional soccer system.

Founded by a bunch of NFL guys years ago, there's now 19 teams playing in the U.S. and Canada. The season is not as long as many people would like it to be. It's not in line with the

world calendar for a variety of reasons. But it's continuing to get longer. You may not know that our Cup will be in December this year. It's going to move away from a neutral site. It's going to be in the place of the team that earns that right to host that game. A number of years ago, we would be concerned in Kansas City, or many other markets, whether they would be able to sell out a game if they earned the right to host a cup. Now we have no concerns about that at all. Even with a week's time, we will sell out our championship game in any market that we could have it. 34 regular season games, and players that are coming not just from the grassroots system, through college, through youth academies, but from around the world.

I want to highlight youth development because this is really the engine that's driving the pyramid. And while many of our players are playing in the National Team, many of our players are going through our league and playing abroad. The future of the sport in our country at the highest level is going to come from this very, very vibrant youth development system that we have.

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We've gone about it with finding creative ways that we can incentivize our teams to sign young players. Young players that are part of our generation Adidas programs don't count against the caps, so that's a real incentive for players to sign those guys. We give our teams the opportunity to sign a player out of their Academy directly to their roster. So think of that in the NBA. They had that system in Kobe Bryant, who grew up in Philadelphia, was developed by the '76ers. He wouldn't be playing for the Lakers.

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So we have a system now that's forcing our clubs and incentivizing them to invest deeply in the Academy so that they get those players on their clubs.

Almost \$2 billion invested in soccer stadiums. We also take for granted that you can go to a game in Denver and Toronto and Columbus and L.A. and sit in a great stadium, but it was only 1998 when the first one was built. We will have many more coming on-line in the future. Houston will open up this year, a beautiful stadium right in downtown Houston. Just last week we got approval to build a stadium in San

Jose. So all but two of our teams will be playing in soccer stadiums over the next couple of years.

Supporters group. This is the passionate fan base that's really changed the perception of professional soccer in America. There's a great movement going on of people that believe they want to support their club. That sport or culture that exists around the world is part of the DNA of our sport. It's part of our character. It's the thing that's really transformed the perception of Major League Soccer, and not just here, but the perception of our league around the world. It's a very, very exciting part of what we have going on.

All of our games are televised, either televised locally or nationally on ESPN, on Univision, on ESPN Deportes Televisa, and now we have a new deal on NBC, so, NBC Sports Network, and a handful of network games. So the broadcast community in our country is beginning to embrace our sport in ways we never thought they would. We encourage you to watch the games on television. Watch the European games, embrace American soccer and support watching our games on

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television, because it's very important to empower all those broadcasters who are taking risks on soccer.

We are in a digital community because our fans are not getting everything that they need on SportsCenter. We need to provide that forum, and the digital generation is really embracing soccer in ways that are very valuable for all of us.

For those of you who don't know, just yesterday we announced a new Google initiative called Kick TV, so Soccer United Marketing, our marketing company, is creating a global channel on Google called Kick TV. It's not an MLS channel. It's a place for us to aggregate all the great fun and exciting things that are happening in soccer around the world. Download an app, our apps, or the information that you are going to get from the other leagues. Engage in social media. All those things are important parts of really being an active supporter.

A couple of stats you have never heard about: Our owners have put \$1.5 billion into this sport, into a wide variety of things. Most of that has been paying players and

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player-related spending. Almost a billion dollars since 1996. Annually, it's about \$125 million a year. So for those of you who think that MLS is a small league and not really investing in players, that's a number that has grown dramatically over the last number of years; and by the way, I think that number is going to continue to grow over the next couple of years.

Every league and every business needs a vision. So while we are feeling pretty good about where we are, our vision is bold. When we got together as a group, as an organization and tried to get the World Cup for the U.S. in 2022, we said, Hey, if we get that, we should have a big, bold vision and try to be one of the top leagues in the world. Well, we didn't get the World Cup, but we didn't walk away from that vision. Our vision is to be one of the top soccer leagues in the world. It's not to be the fourth-best league or the fifth-best league. It's not to be like a Championship team in England. It's to be among the best.

And as Americans who are running businesses, we think it would be weak to go out there and think that America can't have a soccer

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league that could be thought of the way the rest of the world thinks of the Premier League or thinks of Serie A, or thinks of La Liga. It's going to take some time, but we have got to do everything that we can do to grow our quality of play, to continue to build the passion of our fans, to make our clubs very relevant in the local community, and then very importantly, have a league that has value. So we don't want to be like La Liga, we don't want to be like the Premier League where every other day, there's a

team that's going bankrupt. We want to do it in

a way that we can assure that we're going to be

around forever.

These are our goals. We want to be a league of choice for players. I will say this in front of Jürgen. We want him to say that he wants the bulk of his players to come from Major League Soccer at some point. And we've got to do a lot of work over those three or four points on that list to be able to achieve that. We have got to be a world leader as it relates to youth development and having players that want to play in our league. This would be their league of choice. That's not going to happen today, but

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there's no reason why in time that that can't happen in the future.

We need to work hard on creating the right environments for our players. And again, we're only 16 years old, and their leagues are 100 years old. So we've got to continue and invest time and energy and work closely with Jürgen and the Federation on getting the right kind of environments, training environments, competitive environments, all the kinds of things that people will say, Go play in Major League Soccer; that's a great place for you to develop your career.

Last is though -- the next one is the world leader in the form and the structure of our competition. We want to have -- every time, if you live in Kansas City, a small market or Columbus, we want you to believe that your team could win a championship. We know that's not what you might think if you are in England or you are in Spain. We want all of our fans and all of our players and all of our clubs to believe that they could win and have the type of environment and the type of competition where that could happen. And obviously that have the right kinds

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of staffs and all sorts of other things like that.

So these are the things that we're going to look to in the future. This is where our money will go. This is where our energy will go. This is where all of our attention will be focused: getting the right focus on our players, on the first team, on our reserve teams, on our academies; getting the right training grounds; getting the right marketing and business and commercial energy behind that; exposing the game in media; getting the right broadcasters; getting the right schedule; getting the right publicity, et cetera, et cetera.

Soccer United Marketing is the engine that feeds a lot of this machine. This is the marketing company that our owners own and represents a wide variety of soccer properties in our country. Soccer in this country is exploding. ESPN just did a survey that said the second-most popular sport after the NFL amongst 12- to 25-years-old is professional soccer. That's a stat that even surprised us.

So the international soccer community is coming in here and trying, as they have every

Page 61 right to do, to take advantage of that. Our

company is trying to find ways that we can capitalize on that, and that's what this company

is all about.

So a couple of things that I would like to leave you with: There are 2000 people that work in Major League Soccer that are employed by our league. 500 or so of those are players. So as we, as in a business in our country, are thinking about ways to drive the economy, employees are a big part of that. So it's not just about having great games on television. It's having a league that can employ the next great coach, that can employ the next great player, that can employ the next great commissioner, and we're very focused in trying to create those opportunities.

So all we ask of you is to be a fan.

Support professional soccer. Attend a game, whether it's an MLS game, a USL Pro game, it's an NASL game; be a part of helping this game grow at the professional level. Watch it on television.

Engage in social media.

So thanks a lot for your support. I appreciate everything you do to help the game.

Page 62 Page 63 1 1 it for adoption, and we can go from there. (Applause.) 2 2 PRESIDENT GULATI: I should add --MR. RUBENSTEIN: Move for adoption. 3 3 and it's highlighted by a dinner that a few of us PRESIDENT GULATI: Moved for adoption 4 went to after the dinner last night -- and Jeff 4 by Mr. Rubenstein. Any questions or concerns 5 Agoos from the Athletes Council; Don; Jürgen was 5 about the budget? Go to a microphone if you do. 6 6 there; Carlos Cordeiro, our treasurer -- and we Any questions at all about the budget? 7 7 MR. RUBENSTEIN: Call the question. got into a long discussion about professional PRESIDENT GULATI: Going. Going. 8 8 soccer in America and the team and so on. 9 The reason I mentioned that, it 9 Gone. We will call the question. Let's see if 10 10 we can do this without the keypad. All those in highlights the extraordinarily good relationship 11 we have -- from my view, probably the best in the 11 favor of adopting the budget as presented, say 12 aye? All opposed? 12 world -- between the Federation and its 13 professional leagues. It's really extraordinary. 13 (Motion passed.) 14 The issues about player call-ups and all those 14 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. The budget 15 things are there, but we work through them. Dan 15 is passed. 16 16 talks to Don every day. I probably talk to Don Membership applications. We have 17 every day. Jürgen is talking to people at MLS 17 three membership applications. Let's take those 18 18 individually. The North American Soccer League, and so on. So it's really a very, very big 19 positive in our working relationships. 19 which played last year. You have got the 20 20 Okay. New business. We've got three information. 21 21 Do we have a motion to have the North items under new business. The proposed budget. 22 So the proposed budget is on the floor. I have 22 American Soccer League as full members? 23 got the treasurer, budget committee chair, and 2.3 MR. EDWARDS: I would move 24 the CFO of U.S. Soccer ready, willing, and able 24 acceptance. 25 25 to answer questions on it or to have someone move PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Edwards moves Page 64 Page 65 1 acceptance of their application. As you know, 1 welcome on behalf of U.S. Soccer. 2 this has been approved by the Board and by a 2 (Applause.) 3 3 PRESIDENT GULATI: Membership committee that Mr. Edwards chairs going in. 4 Any comments? We will do this by 4 application of North Dakota Soccer Association. 5 5 voice vote as well. Do we have a motion to accept? 6 All in favor? Any opposed? 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move. 7 7 PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Podewils. (Motion passed.) 8 8 Any comments, questions? PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Downs, are you 9 here? Would you like to say a quick word at a 9 Thank you. All in favor of accepting 10 microphone, if you want, 30 seconds. 10 the application of North Dakota Soccer 11 Not fit enough to get to a 11 Association, say aye? Any opposed? 12 microphone. Okay. David, come up this way. 12 Thank you. 13 Work your way through. There's a defender on the 13 (Motrin passed.) 14 way. 14 PRESIDENT GULATI: Is there someone here 15 15 MR. DOWNS: Thank you-all very much from the North Dakota Soccer Association? Do you 16 16 want to come to a mic? Please. for your support. 17 17 PRESIDENT GULATI: Make that mic Is it still live? Hang on. They're going 18 18 live. Okav. to make that one live. 19 MR. DOWNS: Thank you-all very, very 19 MR. SCHNEWEIS: My name is Terry 20 much for your support. We're very pleased with 20 Schneweis. I'm the executive director of North 21 this vote today. Obviously, it was a good first 21 Dakota Soccer. Our president, Tom Marcis, 22 unfortunately couldn't be here this weekend. His 22 year for us, and we're really looking forward to 23 continuing our role as the second division of 23 oldest daughter is getting married this 24 U.S. Soccer. 24 afternoon. So hopefully, you'll excuse him. 25 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you and 25 I want to thank Greg Fike for his

Page 66 Page 67 1 1 help at the U.S. Federation for getting this we look forward to participating in the growth of 2 2 this great game. Thank you. application in. I also need to thank Bruno from 3 Region 2 at the Adult Association, and then also 3 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you and 4 Stephanie and Nick at the Adult Association were 4 welcome. 5 a big help as well. And we look forward with 5 We are on to Life Member nominations, working for the adults now that we're an adult 6 6 and I understand from the General Secretary, we 7 7 association. And thanks for your support today. have five nominations that have been reviewed by 8 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you and 8 the committee and meet the criteria. Those five 9 welcome. 9 are: Dr. Bob Contiguglia, Madam Marge Madriago, 10 10 Bob Black, Marypat Bell, and Peter Collins. Last is the application of North I'm going to take the power of the 11 American Adult Soccer Association as another 11 12 12 affiliate. Do we have a motion on that chair and see if we can have all five of those 13 application? Kathy Zolad, thank you. 13 voted on at the same time, rather than go through 14 Second? We don't need a second. 14 them individually. 15 Any comments. Questions? 15 MR. RUBENSTEIN: Move them all in one 16 All in favor of accepting North 16 package. American Adult Soccer Association, say aye. Any 17 17 PRESIDENT GULATI: I'm sorry? I 18 18 think I just said that. That's what we're going opposed? 19 (Motion passed.) 19 to do. Any objection to doing all five? Okay. 20 PRESIDENT GULATI: Welcome. Is there 20 All in favor of those five being 21 someone here from the North American Adult Soccer inducted into the U.S. Soccer Federation Life 21 22 Association? 22 Membership category, say aye? Any opposed? 2.3 2.3 (Motion passed.) MR. HEVIA: My name is Carlos Hevia. 24 On behalf of North American Adult 24 PRESIDENT GULATI: Are any of them 25 25 here? Which are here? Who is here? Marge is Soccer Association, I want to thank you all, and Page 69 Page 68 1 here. Welcome, Marge. Peter is here. Great to 1 recommendation. So the committee can make a 2 2 see you. We will get to honor them again at the recommendation in time for the suggested 60-day 3 3 distribution; or if its work is not completed by end of the meeting when we ask them to come up 4 and get pinned. So congratulations, and we will 4 then, it can distribute as it is currently done 5 5 see you right after the meeting, folks, up front. and include it in the AGM book sent out 30 days 6 We are then on to bylaw -- proposed 6 prior to the AGM, therefore not requiring any 7 7 amendments to the bylaws since the Wisconsin additional mailing. issue has been moved down. 8 8 Their position is questionable, 9 And we have the first of those is 9 because in many instances, they don't make 10 10 Bylaw 802. Mr. Flamhaft, would you like to recommendations either because they don't believe 11 explain or withdraw or whatever we are doing with 11 it's necessary or it's not required. 12 My proposal does not interfere with 12 13 13 any requirements under Bylaw 303 with regard to MR. FLAMHAFT: I'm only addressing 14 Item 4. I withdrew Item 3. May I? 14 the agenda or other items to be mailed out 30 15 15 PRESIDENT GULATI: Sure. days in advance. Contrary to the Rules 16 MR. FLAMHAFT: After reading the 16 Committee's statement, the proposed amendment 17 17 does not shorten the period during which the Rules Committee's recommendation, it appears that 18 committee can consider proposed amendments and its main opposition for the proposal is that its 18 19 recommendations, if any is to be made, would be 19 make its recommendations. It can take the full 20 eliminated. That is simply not so. The committee 20 90 days, as it currently has. 21 will not be prohibited from making 21 The Rules Committee also raises a 22 22 recommendations. It can still do so. question of an additional administrative burden. 23 My amendment only requests an 23 In this day and age, with modern technology, that

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burden is very minimal, if hardly existing at

all. E-mail distribution would be acceptable.

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advanced distribution of proposed bylaw

amendments of 60 days, not the committee's

Page 70 Page 71 1 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He said it Rule change proposals are required to 2 2 be submitted 120 days before the AGM. The Rules backwards. 3 3 Committee receives the proposals at that time. MR. FLAMHAFT: It's 802 is the one 4 My proposal simply provides for advancing to 60 4 I'm proposing. 5 days, rather than 30 days, the distribution of 5 PRESIDENT GULATI: 802 (3) is the one 6 the rule change proposal allowing delegates more 6 that is being left in. You need to go to a 7 7 of an opportunity to evaluate and discuss with microphone, folks, if anyone is going to speak. 8 8 others the proposed changes. Yeah, comment, sir? 9 Interestingly, the committee's own 9 MR. KAHLER: Yeah, Harold Kahler, 10 language agrees with my proposal to increase the 10 Iowa Soccer Association. 11 amount of time for members to consider the merits 11 I would just like to speak in support 12 12 of this proposal. As far as the associations are of the proposal and that it is beneficial. That 13 is precisely the reason I offer the rule change 13 concerned, sometimes it's convenient, sometimes 14 proposal. 14 it's inconvenient, as far as the organization is 15 15 concerned, but I think we really need to focus on PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. Any other 16 16 what is convenient for the membership. And if comments? 17 MR. DES BORDES: Which one are we 17 the membership feels that they could invest more 18 18 time into a better work product, which makes the voting on? Federation better, I believe. Then I would 19 PRESIDENT GULATI: We're going to get 19 20 20 to a microphone. The first one, the one he just certainly support the extension of the time that 21 read all about, the timing on the rule changes. 21 we have to take a look at those proposals. 22 MR. DES BORDES: But he said he 22 Thank you. 23 withdrew one and we're voting on one. 23 PRESIDENT GULATI: Anyone else? Are we keyed up on keypads to do this? So let's go 24 PRESIDENT GULATI: Steve, what's the 24 25 25 numbers on the one you are on? electronic here. Page 72 Page 73 1 This needs two-thirds. Yes, it needs 1 That one is done unanimously. 2 2. a two-thirds, so we will go electronic. Let me The second is about the U.S. Soccer 3 know when you are ready. Or Bob will actually 3 Referee Committee -- no, I'm sorry. We're 4 tell you when they're ready. 4 skipping one. It's not on the list. 5 MR. KEPNER: Please vote now. "1" 5 This is the Policy 411-1, 411-1. 6 for yes; "2" for no. б This changes our rules that essentially would put 7 Voting will close, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 7 Dan in violation under our current rules of this 8 8 freeze. Display the results. rule every day that he signs a contract for more 9 PRESIDENT GULATI: 58 percent yes, 42 9 than \$10,000, which he has to frequently, so this 10 percent no. This needed a two-thirds majority to 10 just updates our rules for the modern era. 11 pass; is that right? 11 Any objections to this confirmation? 12 12 MR. KEPNER: Correct. The Board has approved these unanimously. Any 13 PRESIDENT GULATI: So the motion 13 objections? That's confirmed unanimously. 14 fails. 14 Third is regarding the referees. I 15 15 We are on to affirmation of think the matter is clear, but if there's any 16 Federation policies adopted since 2011. There 16 questions, we can take them. Any objections to 17 are four of them -- five of them? Okay, there's 17 confirming this? 18 Thank you. an additional. Right. 18 19 All right. We will take those one by 19 Fourth is the international 20 one. The first one has been proposed by me, and 20 clearances, purely to put us in consistent 21 it is on player registration fees -- on 21 language with FIFA, as I understand it. Any professional player registration fees, I think, 22 22 objections on this one? 23 to bring into compliance -- into consistency. 2.3 Tony. 24 Yeah. Okay. Any questions, comments about that? 24 MR. FALCONE: Anthony Falcone, 25 It's confirmation. Any objections? 25 Maryland Adult.

Page 74 Page 75 1 1 Just point of clarification. This one from yesterday? 2 2 policy, in the FIFA regulations, refers to And then you have one that was handed 3 3 "players," which means they're registered out, which is Policy 214-1 from Mr. Groff that 4 players, players who are transferring from one 4 was passed yesterday, and therefore was not in 5 national association to another. We are just 5 the book regarding amendment to Policy 214 to 6 looking at individuals who just move from one 6 membership fees. This was adopted by the Board 7 7 country to another, not necessarily looking at vesterday. 8 8 them as players. I have had players in my Any comments on this one? 9 leagues who have played for 10, 15 years, were 9 MR. BUSCH: Mr. President, Tim Busch, 10 10 born in another country, became U.S. citizens. Washington State Adult Soccer Association. 11 And we were having this debate because it 11 In looking at Section 10, the 12 bordered another country; they have to get 12 proposed change, my understanding -- and I would 13 international clearance. 13 appreciate any information from the NBOD that 14 We need to make some sense of what we 14 would be helpful -- the state associations, my 15 are considering "players," and not just 15 understanding is each state association, youth and adult, are charter members of the Federation: 16 individuals who happen to move to this country. 16 17 And I just ask that the Board reviews that and 17 is that correct? Generally? Okay. 18 sees how the staff handles these matters. Thank 18 So what we're talking about in 19 you. 19 Section 10 is if a state association chooses to 20 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. Thank you, 20 leave one or the other youth or adult parent 21 bodies and chooses to affiliate directly with the Tony. 21 22 Any other questions, comments? Any 22 Federation, there's a \$10,000 one-time fee or a 23 objection? Confirmation? Hearing none, that's 23 \$10,000 annual fee. 24 confirmed, unanimously. Thank you. 24 PRESIDENT GULATI: Annual. 25 And we have one new one, Greg, the 25 MR. BUSCH: Let me understand this. Page 76 Page 77 1 The Federation needs \$10,000 to be able to accept 1 Soccer national office. 2 2 our player fees? I mean, I understand a Now, currently under our bylaws, any 3 3 reasonable administrative fee. But \$10.000? other affiliate, any affiliate of U.S. Soccer, 4 PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Groff. 4 U.S. Adult Soccer or U.S. Youth Soccer, pays this 5 5 MR. GROFF: Yes, I would like to annual affiliation fee of \$10,000. 6 speak. Just an explanation. First, I apologize 6 Tim, what we're saying is that we 7 7 that we only looked at this yesterday, and you didn't think about this 14 years ago. Now, John 8 8 and I are not sure why you would want to leave, didn't have it in advance. 9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: We can't 9 but you certainly have that option to leave. 10 10 hear. MR. BUSCH: And you are aware that we 11 PRESIDENT GULATI: Richard, come to 11 actually had explored that option. 12 this one. 12 MR. GROFF: Yes. 13 13 MR. BUSCH: And you're aware of that? MR. GROFF: Apologies that we only 14 reviewed this yesterday and that you did not have 14 MR. GROFF: Yes. And so that the 15 this in advance. 15 issue is that if a state association chooses to 16 16 When the bylaws of the Federation do that, leave a national association and go on 17 17 went through a significant change 14 years ago, their own, then they should pay exactly the same 18 state associations were given a unique option. 18 fee as any other affiliate, like AYSO, U.S. Club 19 They could be a member of a national association, 19 Soccer, U.S. Youth Soccer, or U.S. Adult Soccer; 20 which in this case, would be like U.S. Adult 20 that is, the traditional fee of \$10,000 annually. 21 Soccer or U.S. Youth Soccer, or they could join 21 MR. BUSCH: I would only observe, 22 22 the Federation directly. In the first case, they Mr. Groff, that if this is an attempt to maintain 23 23 would register their players through the national state associations in either the youth bodies or 24 association. In the second case, they would 24 the adult bodies, it's very cynical, and I would

urge the body to reject this particular proposal.

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register their players directly to the U.S.

Page 78 Page 79 1 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. Any other 1 open for any other nominations. Any other comments? Why don't we -- let's do this by voice 2 2 nominations or any of those four --3 call first, and if we need to do anything else, 3 MR. ROSE: Move to close the 4 4 we will do that. nominations. 5 So this is a motion to confirm the 5 PRESIDENT GULATI: Motion to close 6 Board's decision. So a "yes" would be confirming 6 the nominations. Done. 7 7 the Board's decision, and "no" would be not And if there's no objection, all four 8 confirming. Without using the keypads for now, 8 of the incumbents are returned unanimously. 9 all in favor of confirming the Board's decision 9 Welcome back to the Foundation. 10 say aye? Opposed? No. 10 (Applause.) 11 11 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. We are then So let's go to the keypads, since 12 12 we've got weighted votes in the room. on to independent director nominations. We have 13 MR. KEPNER: Okay. You can begin 13 one term that is expired, and that is 14 voting. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, stop. 14 Dr. Shalala, and Donna has graciously agreed to 15 PRESIDENT GULATI: So that passes. 15 stand again. And unless there are any other 16 16 nominations from the floor, we will close Okay. We are then on to the next 17 17 item on the agenda which is -- we are on to nominations and unanimously elect and thank Dr. 18 Foundation board member nominations and 18 Shalala for her continued service. 19 elections. 19 Thank you, Donna. 20 20 As I understand it, we have four (Applause.) 21 incumbents, all of whom are being recommended by 21 PRESIDENT GULATI: While we do that, 22 their individual councils, and those are David 22 just to mention that the decision we made six 23 23 Messersmith, Gianfranco Borroni, Juergen Sommer, years ago to add independent directors to our 24 and Kevin Payne. If that's not correct, please 24 Board was one of the smartest things we've ever 25 someone let us know. And obviously, the floor is 25 done. Their service to the organization has been Page 80 Page 81 1 extraordinary. All three cases, I think we got 1 U.S. Soccer. 2 very lucky with the people we got and what they 2 I suspect we all have some stories 3 3 bring to the table, and any of you that attended that I don't know, but that guy is also 4 Board meetings, watching them in action and the 4 passionate for the game. I think the only thing 5 responsiveness and the interactions, it's really 5 that he is more passionate about is his daughter 6 terrific. So thank you-all for your service. 6 Sarah. He works tirelessly for the game, for 7 7 We are then to vice-president U.S. Soccer, and all the way down to our local 8 8 level. He currently has a trip scheduled -- a election. 9 The office of vice-president is --9 road trip scheduled to one of our outlying cities 10 10 term ends this year. And we have opening -- I to go and talk to a new league and help bring new 11 will open nominations for the office of 11 members into the association and get them 12 12 vice-president. affiliated and part of this wonderful game. 13 13 He works with our referees. He helps Yes, ma'am. 14 MS. LANGENWALTER: This is Erin 14 run tournaments at the local level. He has 15 Langenwalter, president, New Mexico State Soccer 15 served as a mentor and a resource and a friend 16 16 Association, which is the adults. for me for many years. I know he has for many of 17 17 I would like to nominate Mike Edwards 18 to continue to hold the position of 18 I wanted to say one last thing about 19 vice-president. When I asked Mike if he had 19 the fact that those of you who know me from the 20 anything he wanted me to highlight, he said, if 20 Adult Council know that I'm a huge advocate for 21 you would just tell them about the guy you know. 21 promoting and fostering new leadership in this 22 And -- which I kind of thought to myself, I think 22 organization. But in this case, I really think

that Mike's work is not done. He has more ideas,

more work, more to give to this position. And I

would ask that you continue to support him in

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the guy I know is the guy that all of us know.

He's very genuine. He's approachable. He's been

available to the adults and now to anybody from

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this position and give him your vote. Thank you. PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Do we have any other nominations?

MR. GUTHRIE: Dave Guthrie of Indiana.

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It's my privilege to nominate Juergen Sommer. For those of you that don't know Juergen, Juergen in high school attended Culver Military Academy. Having known that academy, they turn out excellence, and he definitely demonstrates that level of excellence. He walked on at Indiana University. He wanted to go to the best, and he wanted to play for Jerry Yeagley. He earned a starting role, and not earned only a starting role, but he also became the captain and the MVP of a national championship team.

What's important to me about his journey with Indiana University is that his character was helped, shaped, by the winningest men's soccer coach in the United States, Jerry Yeagley, whom I know very well.

He left there, and he penetrated the veil in England when we went into the first division of the Premier League. Several athletes have gone behind and also now play. But he

showed his courage in being able to attempt that effort and to be successful there for eight years.

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Came back to the MLS, where he spent another six years. And during that time frame, he represented this country, generating some of the same enthusiasm that you saw on the screen earlier, and he represented the United States twice in the World Cup.

This gentleman, as he came back now to Indiana, I have seen him volunteering with clubs to help them with their recreational programs. Most recently, one of the largest recreational programs we have in Indiana, he's out showing them how to make the game fun for Under-6s, how to shape those young kids to where they become fans, where they become supporters of this game. He had also coached at the more senior youth level where he took a group of kids to several state titles. And now he's coaching U-10s, where he's seeing the game through his kids and being able to support his own family.

All of those things show a rich journey for a man, seeing the game from all those perspectives.

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But one of the things that's important to me when I look at someone is what is their character. And the way you see a man's character is you look at his wife, and you say what kind of a husband is he? And you look at his kids and how he interacts with his kids; what kind of a dad is he?

And again, I see the icon of excellence when I look at Juergen Sommer. That type of character, that rich life journey, is something that he's willing to now invest into this organization. It's not often that we're going to find somebody that doesn't want to serve as vice-president because of an ego, but has been asked to serve because of those that know him. And so he was asked to serve. And I have seen him as he serves in the rec programs and in other programs: He has a service heart.

So we have a man that is willing to give all that life journey, all that experience to this organization, and I would ask you to join me and invest in Juergen Sommer so that we can get the benefit of that type of expertise, that type of international experience.

Thank you.

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PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Any other nominations to the office of vice-president? Seeing none, we will close the floor for nominations and allow the candidates up to a couple of minutes, if they choose, to make a statement to the council. I know you have been to all of the council meetings and spoken at the Youth Council and the regional meetings, but Juergen, Mike, either of you would like to make a statement for a couple of minutes, either the nearest mic or from here, we're happy to have you do that. Where is Juergen at or Mike? Mike is here. That was easy.

Juergen, if you want to come here or there, you have got your choice.

MR. SOMMER: I will be here. I'm fine.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay.

MR. SOMMER: Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity from U.S. Soccer to be considered in the leadership ranks, so thank you very much. I appreciate the opportunity.

I don't know if Jürgen Klinsmann is still here, but I want to say, gosh, we really treasure having an icon like that in our game,

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and we should all be very fortunate to have leadership like that and help guide us kind of to the next generation. So, Willkommen, Jürgen, vielen Dank, vielen Glück mit unserem nationalen Mannschaft, und vielen Spaß dieses Jahr.

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So I come from a German background and grew up here in southwest Florida and played a lot of my youth soccer here in the Miami-Dade area, and I'm real excited about that opportunity, but it goes to the leadership of the folks up there that help really generate that opportunity for us. So we're in a real unique point in our game of soccer right now. I'm excited to be, and continue to be, part of it.

I just want to let you-all know that I have a great respect for the game and everything that you do. I was fortunate to kind of be an athlete and see a game from that perspective for a number of years, and now, as a father and a coach and kind of a student of the game, learning how to raise my kids and teach the game and continue to be involved in a meaningful

So I just want you-all to know that I will work hard to earn your trust, to lead with Page 87

1 my heart, kind of do what's best, in the best 2 interest of the game, and for the body -- or the 3 family of this U.S. Soccer as a whole, because I 4 feel we have such enterprise, such innovation and 5 energy in this room, if we can collaborate and 6 bring that together and kind of connect the dots, 7 I don't see there's any obstacle, we can't 8 overcome.

So thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you, Juergen.

Mike.

MR. EDWARDS: We've come a long way since I first began coming to annual meetings and wondering what in the world is this about? Discovered how much business was done in the hotel lobby. Come a long way. When I first started coming here, we couldn't afford a set of uniforms. We're strong financially. We're respected worldwide. But there's still an awful lot of work left to do.

There's a lot of people playing soccer in this country. There's a lot of soccer fans in this country, as Don's presentation showed you. There's not enough of them that are

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with us in U.S. Soccer. And I think -- I think our focus for the next ten years needs to be on getting those people involved with us, not just watching the game, but coming out and playing the game. And that's my commitment is to continue my quest to visit every airport in the United States, no matter how small the plane, and get those people on board with us.

I think you've got a choice between two pretty good candidates, both of whom want to work themselves silly for you. So that's a good sign to me. It really is. And I would appreciate your support to continue doing that work, and we're ready to go. Thanks.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. I don't think there's anything left but the ballot box. So get your keypads. Mr. Kepner, the election is in your hands.

MR. KEPNER: Begin. You may vote now. 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, stop.

When you see the screen, "yes" is Number 1. "No" is Number 2. It just didn't show that.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Edwards is reelected as vice president.

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(Applause.) PRESIDENT GULATI: Congratulations,

Mike.

Comment to Juergen: Almost everyone in the room has had to run for office somewhere along the way, and doing so in a big body like this is never easy. You are to be commended for running, for standing, for having the courage to do it and for wanting to get involved. And we'll get you more involved. You have got my word on that. So thank your for your effort.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: We are at the Good of the Game, and before I turn it over to those of you -- oh, I'm sorry. We've got Wisconsin and -- sorry. The stuff moved down.

Wisconsin, yes. Who is speaking from Wisconsin? Thank you.

Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, sir,

21 Mr. President.

My name is Richard Williams, and I'm the president of the Wisconsin Adult Soccer Association, a division of the Wisconsin Soccer Association, Incorporated. I am here to ask that

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the appeal that was filed by our state association be withdrawn. Our association, following the decision of the committee, formed an appeal and planning committee to address our association's needs for improvement as we move forward. And we look forward in the future to working with the United States Soccer Federation.

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We've asked two members of our planning committee to come forward and present their views of the future for us, and they are Jim Keller, the chairman of our committee, and Tony Pierce, a representative of our Wisconsin soccer community. So if they will come forward, they can take you into our future.

MR. KELLER: Thank you, Richard. About two weeks ago, I was a player in Wisconsin Adult Soccer, in Over-30 -- probably should have been playing Over-50 -- but I was a player, and I was the coach of the Brewers major team, still am, and that was pretty much my involvement. I didn't really understand a lot of the governance and that type of thing. But my club president asked me to get involved in a meeting last Tuesday night with some of the issues that our organization faced. I've got ten

Page 91

years of national association experience in my professional life, and he knew that I might be able to help implement some positive change to some of the issues that the association faced.

So I stepped up and have spent the last ten days or so with Richard and Bill, and we've really been working diligently with our members and the teams and trying to figure out what needs to happen in a very short period of time.

We wrote an appeal, which we believed was the right way to go. And after realizing that there was so much work to do, that the association right now, to appeal that, is not in the state of -- positive state of affairs to do the appeal. So that's why Richard has just withdrawn the appeal.

Moving forward, our reorganization committee has already made some progress with respect to where we need to go in the future. To address the appeal, we have made that happen. We started the plan to try to create a new vision for Wisconsin Soccer.

As part of that plan, we have already had our initial talk with Wisconsin Youth Soccer

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and just to work on building a relationship to

unify Wisconsin Soccer programs. The work has begun. We've discussed some resignations within

4 our organization with some officers. We have

5 reviewed all the correspondence. This committee

б is new to the information and the things that

7 have happened in the last couple of years, so we

have looked at all the correspondence and all the

back-and-forth between all the different groups,

10 and we really believe that we can create a positive vision moving forward in Wisconsin

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12 Soccer by taking all the different groups, the 13 referees, the coaches -- I'm also a member of the

14 coaches association -- working with the referees 15

and the youth association and bringing everybody together to work together in Wisconsin in a very

positive way.

We have already talked with the referees. Haven't talked with the coaches association yet. But we've already started the dialog and started the movement, but it's only been a 10-, 12-day process here, so we got as far as we could.

And with that, we would like to say when we're ready and we believe that we are in a

Page 93

position to be worthy of the membership, which is hopefully going to be here, the plan will be done in about 45 days or so, we would like to reapply as our approach to move forward.

Also, we did set the date for an AGM of April 21st in Wisconsin, and we did invite Wisconsin Youth Soccer to that meeting.

So if there's any questions. Tony,

did you have any comments?

PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. Thank you. MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: We have one

question? Mr. DesBordes.

MR. DES BORDES: Is this on?

To the gentleman from Wisconsin. Do you understand by withdrawing this you have just lost your membership in this organization?

PRESIDENT GULATI: They do.

MR. KELLER: Yes, we've actually talked about that, and we understand that.

MR. Des BORDES: So, and what

happened to the players that they were --PRESIDENT GULATI: That's all in

place.

MR. Des BORDES: Okay.

Page 94 Page 95 1 1 PRESIDENT GULATI: We got that here. And that the Federation is still to vacate 2 2 covered. They're still registered players, Hank, the state association, that's a bad, bad, bad, 3 and we've got 60 days now to look at some new 3 bad precedent. And there's another one, then, I 4 groups, including them. 4 don't believe that the Youth should be called the 5 MR. DES BORDES: But who is 5 "amateur," like happened in California. There is 6 representing the players? 6 something wrong. The youth take care of the 7 7 MR. GROFF: U.S. Adult Soccer will vouth, and the amateur take care of the amateur. 8 8 continue to insure, manage, and register the Thank you. 9 players. 9 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. We don't 10 10 PRESIDENT GULATI: Richard's answer have a matter pending on the floor at this point. 11 for those that couldn't hear, U.S. Soccer will 11 I'm sorry? No, we're not at the Good of the Game 12 12 continue to register, manage, and take care of vet, Steve. 13 the players. U.S. Adult Soccer. Yes, thank you. 13 The matter that I mentioned at the 14 Okay. Thank you. 14 beginning that we were going to move back which 15 Okay. We are then to the one item 15 is dealing with the 2013 AGM, Dan's outlined the about the Centennial and movement of the AGM. plan for the Centennial. As I said at the four 16 16 17 17 adult regional meetings vesterday as well as the 18 MR. RAPAGLIA: Sal Rapaglia, Eastern 18 Youth Council meeting and the athletes and pro 19 New York. 19 meetings, we need to suspend the rules to allow 20 20 for an annual meeting in the second quarter so You know, Richard Williams has been a 21 21 that we could be sometime after the first gentleman, has been for years in this place. 22 Now, he's got a problem that he's, really can 22 quarter, which our rules require. 23 exist as a state association. And I believe that 23 I'm going to have the parliamentarian 24 we should be one, two, three chances again to do 24 go through the logistics of what we need to do. 25 25 It's pretty straightforward. There didn't seem it. He's got the backup of those people over Page 96 Page 97 1 to be any objection to it; but so I don't mess up 1 thank vou. 2 2 Robert's Rules, I will have to him walk you Is there a second? 3 3 MR. BORRONI: Second. through that. 4 4 PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Borroni. I guess the first part is me, the 5 5 Chair, will entertain a motion to suspend the Having heard that motion, is there 6 rules, to allow a single vote on whether to 6 unanimous consent to do that? Any objections? 7 consider a motion not included in the notice of 7 MR. DES BORDES: Do what? 8 8 the annual general meeting pursuant to Bylaw 303 PRESIDENT GULATI: To adopt the 9 and on the adoption of the motion itself. 9 motion. 10 10 Basically, since it's not on the MR. MALAMUT: To suspend the rules 11 rules, we need to suspend the rules. Okay? 11 and adopt the motion. 12 PRESIDENT GULATI: Yeah, to suspend And that motion would be, it is the 12 13 the rules and adopt the motion. Any objection? sense of this meeting that holding the Annual 13 14 General Meeting of the U.S. Soccer of 2013 during 14 Thank you. 15 the months of April through June in order to 15 MR. MALAMUT: There being no 16 16 allow the simultaneous scheduling of the objection --17 17 hundredth anniversary annual general meeting with PRESIDENT GULATI: There being no 18 a National Team game is appropriate and fitting 18 objection. 19 manner by which to commemorate this significant 19 MR. MALAMUT: -- the motion is 20 anniversary of U.S. Soccer, and this body 20 adopted. 21 therefore strongly endorses the holding of the 21 PRESIDENT GULATI: I do. 22 22 2013 annual general meeting during that time. (Laughter.) 23 Will someone make that motion? 23 PRESIDENT GULATI: I haven't objected 24 MR. RUBENSTEIN: So move. 24 since, man. 25 PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Rubenstein, 25 MR. MALAMUT: There being no

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all good things.

objection, the motion has been adopted. PRESIDENT GULATI: There being no objection, the motion as moved is accepted.

That's it. We're good. All right. The "kids" come next.

Okay. We are now to the Good of the Game, and let me make --

MS. SHALALA: Can I ask for a breakdown on the vice president vote? PRESIDENT GULATI: What breakdown?

MS. SHALALA: The vote breakdown. PRESIDENT GULATI: We had it. I mean

the numbers?

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MS. SHALALA: By council.

PRESIDENT GULATI: We don't do it by council. We've never done it by that. We give totals, we've never done anything other than

A couple of three things. The last couple of days and obviously the last week in many ways has been a very good one. The teams' performance on the field. Some breakthroughs, I think, in cooperation between groups. A contested election, which we haven't had in many years for any of the officer's seats. Those are

We still have a long way to go. And some of the discussions that have taken place over the last couple of days about how U.S. Soccer can work with the adults, and Richard has made some proposals and John is in the process of making some proposals, and we've talked to Burt and always talk with the athletes and the pros, I think are all positives. But we've got to get things done and not just talk about those things, which hopefully over this next several months and

vears to come, we will be able to do.

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Page 101

We're in a pretty good place in many ways. The sport is in a pretty good place in many ways. We've got a commercial deal with television and marketing partners that's coming up that Don and his group are in charge of. MLS is in a pretty good place. No one is asking, is it going to make it? It's just a question of how many teams and where they're going to be and how much more growth. The NASL now in its second solid year. The USL around for many years. Obviously a disappointment in WPS needing to take a year off, and hopefully, they will be able to return. So lots of positive things.

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But we're not growing numbers-wise as much as we would like in registration. You can't do that forever, given American demographics. But there's still lots of ways to get better.

I want to thank all of you for what you do to try to help get us better in the sport overall. I certainly want to thank the Board for their continued support and leadership. Dan and his staff do an extraordinary job in managing the organization day to day in a fiscally responsible and a transparent way that we should all be proud of, and I certainly am proud of when I go to meetings of organizations that maybe aren't handled in quite the same way. And that's a plus.

I also want to recognize, we have one Board member changing today at the end of this meeting and a very long-serving Board member and very long-serving USYS Board member, and he continues in this role, but leaves the Federation Board today. And I want take this time to thank Bob Palmeiro for his service to the organization, to the Federation's Board and to the Federation for many years.

Bob, thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: And along with that, to welcome Evelyn Gill, also many years of service in Youth Soccer and other areas, including Federation committees and so on. She'll join the Board at the next meeting.

So thank you-all for your efforts. Enjoy the next couple of days.

And with that, I will go to the Good of the Game throughout the audience. Mr. Flamhaft, you were headed to the mic before.

MR. FLAMHAFT: I have two items. The first one would be to convey from the organization our wishes to continue the rehabilitation of Bob Black.

With regards to the item, the appeal of Wisconsin state, we have received this item of distribution. Today Wisconsin withdrew their application. However, I would make the suggestion to the Board of Directors that before asking the National Council to consider an important item such as this, we should have the benefit of receiving the recommendation of the Board of Directors.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you.

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MR. AMOROSO: My name is Rocco Amoroso, Eastern New York Soccer.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Peter Collins on being a life member today. In essence, Mr. Collins was my tutor, mentor, for many years, and he was very much responsible for me to be active in the realm of sportsmanship in soccer.

At the age of 86, I'm probably the oldest member of this august body. For the good of our game and for the good of the game of life, I would like to share with you today some keen lessons that I have learned through my life's experiences. The lesson to save for a rainy day, to build a shelter of financial security, which is a necessary endeavor. However, accumulating material assets alone will not help you to survive the rainstorms and floods of life.

A more important lesson, you build a shelter against a rainy day by the life you lead, by becoming a certain kind of person. A person who has accumulated the majesty of values, the beauty of virtues, strong character traits of loyalty, giving an honest effort, no matter the

Page 103 cost, unyielding integrity, perseverance, strong

1 2 work ethic, strong family relationships, enduring 3 friendships, and above all, faith in God. These 4

are the real possessions that make one's character. You can always develop those

character traits at any time in your life,

whether you're 5, 25, yes, even at 86.

For it is in character, once acquired, it will last forever and can be stored in the cellar of your soul. For it is in character that once becomes your most prized possession, especially, especially, in the rainy season of life.

Thanks for listening. May God bless American Soccer.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: You're on.

MR. MARION: Thank you. Andy Marion,

North Carolina Adult Soccer.

Unfortunately, I had to be out of the room when Bylaw 802 from Mr. Flamhaft was brought to the floor on the advanced notice of the rules. I realize the vote has already been taken. I do

24 have a suggestion, but I was delayed because

25 Coach Klinsmann, who was trying to get out of the

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lobby to get to the airport, was fortunate enough to run into me, and I know he was very keen to get my advice, so if you think Italy was a good game, wait until the next one.

I do have a suggestion, though, on the idea of advanced notice for the proposals. I know that a similar idea came up at the Adult Council yesterday, and the Rules Committee seemed to have two general objections to the idea. One, it was an extra hassle to them. And two, why bother? Who needs that? Who really wants more than 30 days? Most people don't pay attention until the last minute anyway, so is it really worth the hassle? And those are legitimate concerns.

I do think there ought to be a way to have some advance notice that may be by simply posting them, as proposed, a certain days ahead of time. And like a lot of web sites, particularly those with new stories or any kind of items, after the posting, there's a way for people either in the public or people who have to log on to post comments and questions about the issue or the story that's posted. And having something like that ahead of time, maybe even

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1 closer than 30 days, where people really get a 2 chance to think about and understand the issues 3 behind what the rule proposal it is, because very 4 often, you just get a language of a bylaw change, 5 you may get some recommendations from the Rules

Committee, maybe not. And you really don't understand the context of that rule change. You

don't understand the implications of it.

So, a little more advanced notice would be good, I think personally. Even though not everybody would really take advantage of that, the few that do, it might help this body make a better decision and a quicker decision. And then having some way of having a posted forum for people to exchange ideas or answer questions ahead of time might smooth over a lot of misunderstandings before we get to the floor and may make for a quicker vote.

So I would encourage you to, at the Federation level, to think about some way of doing that. And, too, I would encourage everybody to think about how looking at such rule changes ahead of time, and trying to be diligent about looking at these ahead of time, would make for better decisions.

Page 106 Page 107 1 1 McDade, president of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Thank you. 2 2 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Soccer Association. 3 3 And Jürgen thanks you. Tonight in Philadelphia, Eastern Penn 4 MR. DES BORDES: Hank desBordes. 4 is going to be celebrating its 40th anniversary. 5 The reason I voted, was a lone voice 5 I personally want to thank all of the councils, 6 against the budget, was because last year I told 6 U.S. Youth, the Federation for its years of 7 7 Dan in a meeting that if we had another deficit support. Without you guys, we would be nobody. 8 8 budget that I was going to oppose it. And I will I personally want to thank Coach 9 continue to oppose it in the future. The money 9 Klinsmann, if he's still here, Sunil, and Richard 10 10 Groff for their personal commitment to our event was hard to come by. I don't want it to be easy 11 to go away. But I hope that we are putting it in 11 tonight. I understand that both Coach and Sunil 12 place things -- I know the economy has got to get 12 did a nice little video cameo for us, so we will 13 a little bit better, but I do hope we're putting 13 be looking forward to seeing that tonight. 14 things in place where we're not going to have to 14 Thank you all. 15 dig in so deep into the money that we've 15 PRESIDENT GULATI: Jim. Mr. Collins. 16 16 invested. MR. COLLINS: Mr. President, we're 17 And in the future, if we're going to 17 here on the Good of the Game or that part of the 18 still do that suspending, I will ask for more 18 agenda. And I think there's something important 19 explanations, and I'm sure other people will be 19 that should be stated that many may not 20 20 joining me in that endeavor. recognize. Obviously many will recognize there's 21 21 been a crisis in international football over the And I would also like to thank the 22 athletes for getting more involved in this 22 last year. But what they don't necessarily 23 meeting. Thank you very much. They know what 23 recognize is the leadership position that the 24 I'm talking about. 24 United States has had and is having in the 25 25 restructuring of international football, both at MR. MC DADE: Mr. President, Bob Page 108 Page 109 1 FIFA and at CONCACAF. And Sunil is the leader on 1 really appreciated the support and that he has that point. He is on the Independent Governance 2 2 treasured the years that he has spent working 3 Committee of FIFA, which is helping oversee the 3 side by side with many of you in this room, and 4 restructuring of FIFA, and he is working 4 he thanks you very much for the life member 5 5 tirelessly on that. And I work very closely with honor. 6 him in CONCACAF as well, where it's been going on 6 (Applause.) 7 through major restructuring as well. 7 MR. SUTTER: The second is that we 8 And this body should know how 8 continue to mark milestones, and we look forward 9 extremely well represented it is by what Sunil 9 to the milestones that we are going to mark. 10 does. I have seen him take over boardrooms in 10 Eastern P.A. was here, and they indicated that 11 places where he doesn't have the vote. The 11 they've had 40 years of membership, and I think 12 powerful independence governance committee, they 12 we need to give them a round of applause, because 13 all listen to him. They all know Sunil. You 40 years is a milestone, indeed. 13 14 have no idea how well represented you are, and 14 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thanks, John. 15 everyone should thank Sunil for what he's doing 15 Anvone else? 16 to clean up the game internationally. 16 Seeing none, one announcement: The 17 Thank you. 17 cocktail party this evening starts at 6 in this 18 hotel, and dinner is at 7. That is the Werner PRESIDENT GULATI: Thanks, John. 18 Fricker dinner. So we will see you in your best 19 19 2.0 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Any 20 Sunday suits at 6:00. Six o'clock this evening. 21 others? Anybody behind me here? 21 Seven o'clock dinner. Enjoy the day. Thank you. 22 John Sutter. 22 And before -- don't leave yet. We're 23 MR. SUTTER: Two items, Sunil. The 23 showing you one last video on your way out, 24 first is that I received a text message from Bob 24 and -- yeah, I'm going to do that. We are going 25 Black, who said that he was deeply honored and 25 to have a motion to adjourn.

Page 110 1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move. MR. EDWARDS: Second. PRESIDENT GULATI: Accepted. And now we'll just send you off with a little video as you prepare your mental thoughts for the dinner this evening. Let's run that video. (Video shown.) (Adjourned 11:15 a.m.) 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 18 19 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 Page 110 Page 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I, DEBRA K. RESLING, RMR, and Certified Realtime Reporter appointed to take the meetings of the U.S. Soccer Federation, do certify that the within proceedings of the National Council meetin were taken by me stenographically in Miami, Flori on March 3, 2012 then reduced to typewritten form consisting of 111 pages herein; that the foregoing is a true transcript of the proceedings had. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of March, 2012. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of March, 2012. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of March, 2012. Debra K. Resling, CSR, CRR, RMR Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public. A Cheyenne Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80905 My commission expires February 28, 2013
MR. EDWARDS: Second. PRESIDENT GULATI: Accepted. And now we'll just send you off with a little video as you prepare your mental thoughts for the dinner this evening. Let's run that video. (Video shown.) (Adjourned 11:15 a.m.) (Adjourned 11:15 a.m.) Debra K. Resling, CSR, CRR, RMR (and Certified Realtime Reporter appointed to take the meetings of the U.S. Soccer Federation, do certify that the within proceedings of the National Council meetin were taken by me stenographically in Miami, Flori on March 3, 2012 then reduced to typewritten form consisting of 111 pages herein; that the foregoing is a true transcript of the proceedings had. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of March, 2012. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of March, 2012. Debra K. Resling, CSR, CRR, RMR Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public. 4 Cheyenne Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80905 My commission expires February 28, 2013