

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
MAY 18, 2003
BIRMINGHAM, AL
8:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME

- PRESENT:** Dr. Robert Contiguglia, Sunil Gulati, William J. Goaziou, Marypat Bell, John Bouda, David Burton, Chris Christoffersen, Kevin Crow, Mike Edwards, Werner Fricker Jr., Don Garber, Evelyn Gill, Richard Groff, Larry Harmon, Mary Harvey, Marge Madriago, Francisco Marcos, Brooks McCormick, Robert McGee, David Messersmith, Lynn Morgan, Bob Palmeiro, Alex Para, Darl Rose, Bill Sage, Bruno Trapikas, Peter Vermes, Matt Weibe.
- VIA PHONE:** David Askinas, Burton Haimes, John Harkes, Kevin Payne, Cameron Rast, Jim Sheldon, Dante Washington.
- APOLOGIES:** Amanda Cromwell, Tony DiCicco, John Doyle, Bob Gansler, John Kerr, Jr., Jonathan Kraft, Alan Rothenberg.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Daniel T. Flynn, Jay Berhalter, Rich Matthys, Alison Kocoras, Timothy Pinto, Bob Albus, Julie Ilacqua, Jen Adler, Mike Malamut, Parliamentarian, Debra Resling, Reporter, Herb Giobbi.
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President Contiguglia called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Bob Albus took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Contiguglia described recent efforts by the USOC to reorganize. He indicated that he would continue to update the board as the process moved forward.

Dr. Contiguglia reported that the Executive Committee had gotten together recently to look at USSF's own governance structure, and would be submitting several bylaw amendment proposals. Dr. Contiguglia described these proposals briefly. He also reported that the Executive Committee had agreed to put together a task force on governance, as well as a task force on organizational ethics. He asked that board members offer him suggestions for possible members of these task forces.

Dr. Contiguglia discussed several FIFA issues, including efforts to assist in restarting the Iraqi federation. He provided an overview of efforts to have the Women's World Cup relocated to the United States. He indicated that FIFA should make a decision in the next two weeks. He asked Lynn Morgan to speak on the issue, and she expressed WUSA's desire to support the World Cup effort. Ms. Morgan also introduced Kevin Crow as a new board member.

Dr. Contiguglia noted that the Men's team had a great crowd for the Mexico game in Houston. He discussed preparation for the Confederations Cup and the Gold Cup.

Dr. Contiguglia noted that as part of the gala to open the national training center, certain national teams players would be recognized and honored.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Dan Flynn introduced Jen Adler as the new manager of the national training center. He described the process of having the NTC built and USSF plans for staffing and organization. He presented a short video showing the facilities. He described efforts to raise funds and obtain donations of equipment.

Mr. Flynn presented a brief financial overview. Several board members asked questions about these financials and estimates for the year-end surplus.



Mr. Flynn provided an update on referee registration efforts, describing progress made in reducing the number of registrations still to be processed.

Mr. Flynn described efforts to get ready to host the Women's World Cup, and discussed general thoughts on how it would be handled financially and logistically. He noted that bringing the World Cup here and having USSF staff handle the organization offers a great opportunity for staff development. He asked Don Garber to speak on behalf of SUM, which owns the TV rights. Mr. Garber offered further background on efforts to have the World Cup moved to the United States.

Mr. Flynn also briefly described continuing efforts to focus on player development.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Goaziou reported that USSF had put its audit work out for bid, and Ernst and Young had been selected again as auditors. He thanked Rich Matthys for his work in getting this deal done.

Mr. Goaziou presented the updated budget information, and invited questions on any of the variances to be directed to Mr. Matthys.

[At this point a brief recess was taken, so that the Board could reconvene in a different room for more formal business]

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 16, 2003 Board meeting in Chicago, IL. Evelyn Gill asked that the minutes be revised to indicate that she was on the phone for that meeting. With that correction, the minutes were **APPROVED** by unanimous consent.

[At this point the Board went into executive session to review minutes from the February 16, 2003 meeting that described the portion of the meeting that took place in executive session.] With the same correction as above, the minutes were **APPROVED** by unanimous consent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alison Kocoras provided an update on efforts to collect financial information and bylaws from Organization Members. She reported that all materials had been collected except for those from Alaska and Montana Adult Associations. She indicated that there were questions about whether those two associations were even active.

Ms. Kocoras also presented a proposed bylaw amendment that FYSA had submitted as part of its effort to comply with the Board's grievance decision. Mike Edwards **MOVED** that the rewrite be accepted. Several board members asked questions about the substances of the rewrite. The motion **PASSED** by majority vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Goaziou explained to the board that there was a timing issue with the budgets, since the AGM has been moved to the first few months of the year, but the fiscal year was set to end in December. After discussion as to timing, it was agreed that the Board would meet by telephone within the next 30 days to consider an extended budget, running through March 31, to be presented at the national council meeting.

Mr. Goaziou then presented a stub period budget, set to run through December 2003. Mr. Bouda **MOVED** that the budget be approved. The motion **PASSED** by majority vote.

Mr. Goaziou then presented a proposal from the Budget Committee to set forth a detailed process for proposals to amend the budget. After discussion as to possible conflicts between that proposal and existing USSF policy, Mr. Goaziou withdrew the proposal and indicated it would be redrafted by the Budget Committee and resubmitted in the future.



Tim Pinto presented to the Board a recommendation and report from a panel appointed to consider a grievance filed by John Dolinsky against Indiana Youth Soccer Association. He provided an explanation of the background and a procedural history, and explained that the panel recommended that the grievance be denied. Bob Palmeiro **MOVED** that the recommendation be adopted. After discussion, the motion **PASSED** by majority vote.

Upon a request from Dr. Contiguglia, it was **MOVED** that USSF will form the Women's World Cup 2003 Organizing Committee as a not-for profit corporation, and its job will be to manage, oversee, and conduct the Women's World Cup 2003, in the event FIFA awards the event to the United States. Mr. Groff **MOVED** that the motion be amended to also indicate that USSF will provide a one million dollar line of credit to the new corporation. The amendment was accepted as a friendly amendment. The motion, as amended, **PASSED** unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

Bruno Trapikas raised the issue of USSF sanctioning certain international tournaments under the Amateur Sports Act. He expressed concern that USSF was not exercising its authority adequately. Ms. Kocoras described the current process by which such requests for sanction are considered. After discussion, it was agreed that the sanctioning letter sent to such organizations would be revised to clarify that receiving this sanction does not mean the tournament matches should be considered to be "affiliated."

Ms. Kocoras reported to the board about concerns that had been raised relating to CYSA-North's travel policy. She presented a letter that USSF had sent to CYSA-North, as well as CYSA-North's response. Sunil Gulati **MOVED** that USSF inform CYSA-North that it must revise its travel rule, so that is in compliance with USSF bylaws and policies by June 10, or at a minimum confirm that the travel policy will be revised when the CYSA-North board next meets. The motion **PASSED** by majority vote.

Ms. Kocoras updated the board on a lawsuit filed against USSF relating to a qualifier match against Honduras. She reported that the plaintiff had voluntarily dismissed the lawsuit.

Bob Albus reported on the schedule for the 2003 AGM.

GOOD OF THE GAME

Mr. Groff suggested that USSF should consider partnering with a charity. Mr. Marcos asked that a Professional Council meeting be added to the AGM schedule. Mr. Garber encouraged everyone to attend the grand opening of the Home Depot Center on June 6 and 7. Ms. Harvey expressed the athletes' appreciation for the plan to honor World Cup athletes. She also noted that the players' bill of rights would be one of the proposals to be considered at the AGM. Ms. Morgan added her thanks to USSF staff for efforts to obtain the World Cup.

Dr. Contiguglia thanked Mary Harvey and the players' bill of rights committee for their work. He invited Herb Giobbi to speak on some outreach programs being conducted by the Foundation. Dr. Contiguglia expressed his optimism that, if given the opportunity, USSF can help organize a successful Women's World Cup.

President Contiguglia adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

