

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2006
EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ
10:00 A.M. EASTERN TIME

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Bill Bosgraaf, Paul Caligiuri, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Daniel Flynn, Don Garber, Burton Haimes, Brooks McCormick, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Kevin Payne, Peter Vermes.

VIA PHONE: Linda Hamilton

REGRETS: William Goaziou

IN ATTENDANCE: Jay Berhalter, Timothy Pinto, Gregory Fike, Asher Mendelsohn, Brad Hays (U.S. Soccer Foundation), Debra Resling (Reporter).

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Gregory Fike took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 12, 2006 and July 25, 2006 Board meetings by telephone conference. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Gulati reported to the Board regarding international relations for U.S. Soccer. He informed the Board that the first two initiatives will be a referee symposium and sending a combination of players and coaches to four countries. He also reported to the Board about a meeting with key media partners, FIFA, CONCACAF and FIFA's commercial partners. Mr. Flynn and Mr. Garber presented the information they provided at the meeting. Mr. Gulati also updated the Board on the status of a first division women's professional league, which is still targeted for launch in 2008. He also updated the Board on the status of the Men's National Team head coaching position. He informed the Board that USYS had withdrawn its grievance against USSF from the USOC. Mr. Gulati updated the Board on meetings with the Foundation.

U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. Gulati asked Brad Hays to update the Board on the Foundation's activities. Mr. Hays reported on the current activities of the Foundation. A program for four cities in the United States is currently being developed to fund minority soccer programs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Pinto reported to the Board that some progress had been made with U.S. Futsal Federation (USFF) about the resolution of its use of its trademark on the word Futsal. He informed the Board that USFF understood the seriousness of the situation and that it wanted to remain part of the Federation. However, it was recommended that a hearing date be set by the Board to move the process along. It was **MOVED** to set a hearing date of November 11, 2006. The motion **PASSED**.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gulati updated the Board on the search for independent directors. The Board discussed the recruiting of additional candidates for the independent director positions.



APPEALS COMMITTEE

Mr. Gulati presented five new members for the Appeals Committee. It was **MOVED** to approve the new members of the Appeals Committee. The motion **PASSED**.

IYSA GRIEVANCE

Mr. Fike informed the Board that the Illinois Women's Soccer League (IWSL) had filed a grievance against Illinois Youth Soccer (IYSA) alleging gender discrimination based on a change to the date of tryouts.

RISK MANAGEMENT DATABASE

Mr. Fike informed the Board that a new database was near completion to allow member organizations to share risk management decisions pursuant to Policy 601-10. After discussion, several concerns were raised about the database. It was determined that there would be dialogue with member organizations about the database. After discussion with the member organizations, another presentation to the Board would be made on this issue at the November meeting.

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

Mr. Flynn updated the Board regarding new and potential sponsors for USSF.

CONFLICTS POLICY

Mr. Pinto updated the Board on Michael Malamut's review of USSF's conflicts policy. It was determined that Mr. Pinto and Mr. Monaco would work together on a proposal to amend the current conflicts policy.

YOUTH COUNCIL TASK FORCE

Mr. Gulati informed the Board that there would be a meeting of the Youth Council Task Force in the next four to six weeks.

U.S. OPEN CUP

Mr. Bosgraaf reported to the Board that two of the amateur teams that competed in the later rounds of the U.S. Open Cup had incurred significant debt. It was **MOVED** to allocate up to an additional \$20,000 for amateur team expenses for this year's U.S. Open Cup. The motion **PASSED**. The Board also requested that U.S. Soccer staff review funding for amateur teams in future U.S. Open Cup competitions.

COUNCIL FUNDING

Mr. McCormick raised the issue of whether USSF was going to spend the amount budgeted for the Councils. After discussion by the Board, it was determined that the money would be used on a case by case basis for reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses.

TELEVISION CONTRACTS

Mr. Flynn presented the television contracts with ESPN, FSC and Univision that had recently been signed by SUM. The Board discussed various aspects of television coverage for soccer in the United States.

FINDING THE 10

Mr. Flynn also presented the concept for a new reality television program for USSF called Finding the 10. Finding the 10 will be a program that gives youth players an opportunity to compete for a spot on the Under-17 Men's National Team.

[At this point, Mr. Garber and Mr. Payne left the room and the Board went into Executive Session. The minutes for this session are contained in a separate document.]

GOOD OF THE GAME

Mr. Haimes informed the Board that AYSO named Rick Davis as its new executive director. Mr. Caligiuri stated that he believed the technical skill of the youth programs in the United States have continued to



improve. Mr. Payne asserted that the business of soccer in the United States has reached a tipping point that will benefit the game and that it is very important to continue to focus on the technical development of players in the United States. Mr. Vermes noted the continual improvement of U.S. Soccer as an organization over the last decade, the health of MLS and its relationship with USSF, and the need to continue the improvement of play in the United States. Mr. McDaniel informed the Board of his personal experience with the enormous interest the World Cup generated in the United States. Mr. Edwards commented on the strong position of USSF to work together with other soccer organizations to improve the technical side of the game. Mr. Gulati commented on the recent business successes for USSF and noted that it was important to continue to move forward in the right direction.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

