

**MINUTES  
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
AUGUST 18, 2007  
8:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME**

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**PRESENT:** Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Daniel Flynn, Don Garber, Jim Hamilton, Brooks McCormick, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Fabian Núñez, Kevin Payne, Peter Vermes.

**BY PHONE:** Paul Caligiuri, Carlos Cordeiro, Bill Goaziou, Burton Haimes.

**REGRETS:** Linda Hamilton.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Jay Berhalter, Timothy Pinto, Richard Matthys, Gregory Fike, Asher Mendelsohn, Melissa Biniewicz.

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President Gulati called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Asher Mendelsohn took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes and executive session minutes for the May 19, 2007 Board meeting in Chicago. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Gulati welcomed Fabian Núñez who was elected to serve as an independent director on the Board. President Gulati recognized the numerous U.S. Soccer teams participating in International Competitions over the summer. He updated the Board on changes in leadership of FIFA. He informed the Board that Don Garber was appointed to the FIFA Committee for the World Club Championships; Kevin Payne was appointed to the FIFA Club Task Force; and Mike Edwards was appointed to the FIFA Discipline Committee. President Gulati also updated the Board on the CONCACAF Club Championships. He also informed the Board that the Men's National Team would be playing Brazil on September 9, 2007 and that the game scheduled against Mexico for September 9, 2007 had been cancelled. President Gulati updated the Board on the success of MLS, SuperLiga and professional soccer in the United States over the past few months.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Bill Goaziou informed the Board that U.S. Soccer is in a strong financial position and that U.S. Soccer was currently ahead of budget projections.



### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Tim Pinto and President Gulati updated the Board on the status of the Championsworld litigation. Mr. Pinto informed the Board that Championsworld's motion to reconsider and leave to appeal had been denied.

### **WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE**

Burton Haimes updated the Board on the status of the pending application for the Women's professional league. He informed the Board that the league would not be launching until 2009.

### **U.S. SOCCER DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY**

Dan Flynn and Jay Berhalter gave a presentation on the U.S. Soccer Development Academy. Jay Berhalter provided details regarding the pre-launch, launch and application phase for the Development Academy. Asher Mendelsohn informed the Board about the scheduling of games and events for the Development Academy. Jay Berhalter outlined the financial needs of the Development Academy for its first season. Specifically, the budget for the Development Academy for its first year was expected to be \$1.9 million. The Board debated and discussed many aspects of the Development Academy. It was **MOVED** to allow a variance of \$1.1 million for the Development Academy in FY'08. The motion **PASSED** unanimously. It was agreed that a budget line item for necessary Development Academy expenditures in FY'09 would be included in the proposed FY'09 budget.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Asher Mendelsohn informed the Board that U.S. Soccer was currently considering the Hilton at Disney Resort in Orlando, Florida as the site for the 2009 AGM. It was **MOVED** to proceed in finalizing a contract with the hotel located in Orlando, Florida for the 2009 AGM. The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

### **MONTERREY PROFESSIONAL INDOOR SOCCER TEAM**

Mr. Flynn reported that MISL proposed expanding to include a team in Mexico. MISL and U.S. Soccer were still waiting for approval from CONCACAF for the team to play in the MISL. It was **MOVED** to allow the team from Mexico to participate in the MISL if CONCACAF approved. The motion **PASSED** unanimously.

### **U.S. POWER SOCCER ASSOCIATION**

Tim Pinto informed the Board that the U.S. Power Soccer Association submitted an application to become a member of U.S. Soccer as a disabled service organization. The next step will be to have the Rules Committee review the application.

### **U.S. YOUTH SOCCER COACHING EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Larry Monaco informed the Board about a new coaching education development program that U.S. Youth Soccer wanted to implement for 6 to 12 year olds with the help of U.S. Soccer. The Board discussed the proposal and determined that the Technical Committee should review the proposal.



### **AMENDMENTS TO POLICY 531-1**

Mr. Monaco informed the Board about proposed amendments to Policy 531-1 regarding state referee committee and referee risk management. The proposed amendments to Policy 531-1, Section 4 and Section 5 were referred to the Rules Committee. The proposed amendment to Policy 531-1, which added section 6, was referred to the Referee Committee for further review.

### **ADA REFEREE ISSUES**

Mr. Monaco updated the Board regarding some issues that State Associations have had in determining compliance with the American Disabilities Act for referee courses. He specifically raised the issue that the U.S. Department of Justice had been telling one state association that they must provide a sign language interpreter for a referee course. Mr. Pinto informed the Board that U.S. Soccer was working with the State Association and the Department of Justice to resolve the matter.

### **REFEREES**

Kevin Payne proposed that U.S. Soccer take a comprehensive look at the development of referees. The Board discussed options for the review and Dan Flynn agreed to update the Board regarding referee development.

### **LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

President Gulati raised the issue of how people become life members of U.S. Soccer and suggested that there should be some criteria created for the life member category. The Board discussed the suggestion and Mike Edwards agreed to review the life member category and make some suggestions at the next Board meeting.

### **GOOD OF THE GAME**

Dr. Contiguglia expressed his anticipation that the Development Academy would be critical to the development of the game in the United States. He also noted that the U.S. Soccer Foundation dinner would be on March 23, 2008 in New York. Asher Mendelsohn introduced Melissa Biniewicz who was recently hired by U.S. Soccer to help with the Development Academy and the Board of Directors. Fabian Núñez thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors. Peter Vermes commended all involved with the creation and implementation of the Development Academy. Mr. Monaco expressed his wish that the Development Academy would run smoothly. Mr. Edwards thanked the U.S. Soccer staff for the difficult working of coordinating the busy schedule of international competitions in 2007. Carlos Cordeiro informed the Board that based on his relatively new status on the Board that he was impressed with the financial management and health of U.S. Soccer. President Gulati recognized the importance of the two independent directors' Hispanic heritage and noted that they bring a much needed diversity to the U.S. Soccer Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

