

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LOS ANGELES, CA
NOVEMBER 22, 2008
2:00 P.M. PT

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Daniel Flynn, Don Garber, Jim Hamilton, Brooks McCormick, Jon McCullough, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Kevin Payne, Donna Shalala, Peter Vermes.

BY PHONE: Carlos Cordeiro, Mike Edwards, Francisco Marcos, Fabian Núñez.

REGRETS: Amanda Cromwell

IN ATTENDANCE: Jay Berhalter, Timothy Pinto, Eric Gleason, Gregory Fike, Kati Hope, David Eldridge, Brad Hays.

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Kati Hope took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 15, 2008 meeting in Chicago and the September 24, 2008 telephone conference. There were two minor amendments to the June 15, 2008 meeting minutes. The minutes as amended were **APPROVED**.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Gulati updated the Board on several of the National Teams including the following: the Men's National Team draw for the final round of 2010 World Cup Qualifying and the Confederations Cup; the U-17 Women's National Team second place finish at the U-17 Women's World Cup; and the U-20 Women's National Team winning its first two group games at the U-20 Women's World Cup. He also welcomed Donna Shalala, the new independent director, to her first in-person board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mike Edwards updated the Board regarding a proposed amendment to the life member bylaw and policy that details the criteria for nominees and a procedure for a task force to review such nominations. The Board agreed to jointly sponsor the amendments. The Board also agreed that President Gulati would appoint a task force to review the three life member nominations that have been submitted for the 2009 AGM.



2009 AGM UPDATE

Kati Hope updated the Board on the 2009 AGM, which will be held on March 12-14, 2009 in Orlando, Florida. President Gulati announced that the registration fee for the 2009 AGM would be waived in accordance with the number of votes the Organization Member had at the last National Council meeting.

PLAYING RULES/YOUTH SOCCER COACHING

President Gulati and Kevin Payne updated the Board on the work of the technical committee regarding youth soccer playing rules, coaching and player development at younger ages.

WPS UPDATE

Tim Pinto updated the Board on the WPS request for two waivers: (1) a waiver from the professional league standard minimum of 8 teams, so that WPS can play its first year with 7 teams; and (2) a waiver allowing them to have certain required employees be full time during the season only. It was noted that the National Council will have the opportunity to grant WPS full membership at the 2009 AGM. It was **MOVED** to approve the waivers. The motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pinto presented the Board with a group of Bylaw amendments that were drafted to amend U.S. Soccer's Bylaws per FIFA's requests. The Board agreed to jointly sponsor all of the amendments except the amendment to Bylaw 708, which would be proposed by President Gulati.

PROFESSIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE FEES

Mr. Pinto informed the Board about a proposed amendment to Policy 214-2 setting membership fees for indoor professional leagues at \$40,000 for up to 10 teams and \$2,000 for each team above 10. It was **MOVED** that the proposed amendment be adopted. The motion **PASSED**.

PROFESSIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE APPLICATIONS

Mr. Pinto updated the Board regarding two membership applications that had been received for Indoor Professional Leagues. It was **MOVED** that the Board grant the two professional indoor leagues, XSL and NISL, provisional membership and allow certain waivers requested by the leagues to the professional league standards including fewer than the required six teams for one year. The motion **PASSED**. It was agreed that the Board will ask that the National Council delegate the authority to grant full membership to the Board, and the Board will review the leagues after one year to consider whether full membership is appropriate.

SAY NATIONAL AFFILIATION STATUS

Mr. Pinto updated the Board regarding SAY's request to change its membership category from Other Affiliate to National Affiliate. It was **MOVED** to provisionally change SAY's membership category to National Affiliate. The motion **PASSED**.

POLICY 531-2 (REFEREE OVERSEAS BRANCH)

Greg Fike presented an amendment to Policy 531-2, which proposed to eliminate a reference to an overseas referee branch that no longer exists. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 531-2. The motion **PASSED**.



REFEREES

Larry Monaco informed the Board that U.S. Youth Soccer is reviewing whether to establish a U.S. Youth Soccer referee program. Mr. Monaco has appointed a referee task force that will be reporting to the U.S. Youth Soccer National Council on March 7, 2009.

PROPOSED BYLAWS AND POLICIES FOR THE 2009 AGM

Mr. Fike informed the Board that U.S. Soccer had received a proposal to amend Bylaw 212 submitted by California Youth Soccer Association – North and that the proposed amendment would be sent to the Rules Committee.

U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION ISSUES

Brad Hays updated the Board on the status of the U.S. Soccer Foundation and its plan to restructure.

FY2010 BUDGET

Dan Flynn presented a proposed budget for FY 2010, which included a projected deficit of \$7.3 million. Dave Eldridge provided a report from the Budget Committee regarding its review of the proposed budget. It was **MOVED** to adopt the proposed budget. The motion **PASSED**.

NATIONAL SOCCER HALL OF FAME

The Board was updated on the status of the Hall of Fame.

CALIFORNIA SOCCER ASSOCIATION – SOUTH

President Gulati, Dr. Contiguglia and Mr. Pinto updated the Board on the findings of the hearing panel appointed by the Board to review the membership of California Soccer Association – South and review two applications to replace it. The panel recommended that the current state association be removed and that California Youth Soccer Association – South replace the current adult state association after amending its application. Albert Espinoza and Mike Maloney addressed the Board regarding CASA's application to replace the state association.

[At this point, the Board went into Executive Session. The minutes for this session are contained in a separate document.]

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

