

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
DECEMBER 8, 2013
8:30 A.M. CT

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Dan Flynn, Jeff Agoos, Don Garber, Evelyn Gill, Richard Groff, Jon McCullough, John Motta, Kevin Payne, Bill Sage, Donna Shalala, Danielle Slaton

TELEPHONE: Carlos Cordeiro, Dr. Robert Contiguglia, John Sutter

REGRETS: Fabian Nunez

IN ATTENDANCE: Linda Cardenas, Greg Fike, Eric Gleason, Lisa Levine, Brian Remedi

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Linda Cardenas took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 11, 2013 meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. The minutes for the meeting were **APPROVED**.

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

President Gulati updated the Board on the success of the Men's National Team. He also spoke about the 2014 World Cup draw in Brazil. President Gulati updated the Board about the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) season and addressed the financial aspects of the league. Although there were thoughts about postponing expansion until 2015, President Gulati described Houston as a very strong candidate to be an NWSL team in 2014. Don Garber informed the Board about Houston's ownership structure. President Gulati informed the Board that FIFA is finalizing their governance reforms. President Gulati also updated the Board about the positive changes in CONCACAF.

Dan Flynn gave an overview of the Federation's favorable finances in FY2014. Mr. Flynn also discussed strategic planning for the development program, technical director program, development academy, coaching education, and futsal.

FY2015 BUDGET

Carlos Cordeiro, Dan Flynn and Eric Gleason presented the proposed budget for FY2015, which included a projected surplus of \$7 million. It was **MOVED** to adopt the proposed budget. The Board discussed the proposed budget. The motion **PASSED**.

2014 MEN'S WORLD CUP

Brian Remedi outlined the Men's National Team schedule for the 2014 World Cup. He indicated that the preliminary plan is to play three sendoff matches in the United States before the team travels to Brazil. Mr. Remedi also discussed the different constituencies that the Federation will manage during the 2014 World Cup, including the allocation of tickets between different support groups.



PRO LEAGUE STANDARDS

President Gulati reviewed the composition of the Pro League Standards Task Force. He updated the Board on the current draft of the standards and comments received from the pro leagues. The next step is for the task force to review the comments from the pro leagues and provide a revised draft to the Board.

PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES' ANNUAL REPORTS

Lisa Levine introduced the annual reports for the pro leagues and those leagues that requested waivers from certain standards. It was **MOVED** to grant waivers to Major League Soccer (MLS) for not complying with minimum field size requirements and licensing requirements for head coaches. The motion **PASSED**. It was **MOVED** to grant waivers to NWSL for not complying with minimum field size requirements and minimum stadium seating capacity requirements. The motion was **PASSED**. It was **MOVED** to grant a waiver to USLPRO for not complying with minimum field size requirements. The motion was **PASSED**. It was **MOVED** to approve, for 2014, all four professional leagues (MLS, NWSL, NASL, USLPRO) subject to waivers. The motion **PASSED**.

MANDATORY ADULT LIABILITY INSURANCE

Ms. Levine updated the board on recommended revisions to the proposal for mandatory liability. It was determined that there would be additional input from the Board on changes and that the resulting proposal would be sent to the Rules Committee for review.

2014 INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR NOMINATION

It was **MOVED** to recommend to the National Council that Donna Shalala be reelected as independent director. The motion **PASSED**.

2014 PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

President Gulati explained that the Board does not approve or disapprove bylaw amendments but it can make recommendations to the National Council. The Board recommended that both of the proposed bylaw amendments, one to Life Member bylaws and one to the litigation bylaw, be adopted by the National Council.

2014 LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Mike Edwards updated the Board on the nominations for life membership. It was **MOVED** that Rocco Amoroso and Francisco Marcos be recommended for life membership. The motion **PASSED**.

WERNER FRICKER AWARD

Dr. Robert Contiguglia informed the Board that the Werner Fricker Task Force had determined that Richard Groff would receive the Werner Fricker Award at the 2014 AGM.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER WINDOWS

Mr. Flynn discussed working with all of the professional leagues about international transfer windows and indicated that this will be a future item for the Pro Council to review.

(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 10:40 a.m.

