PROCEEDINGS

UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION

91st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Los Angeles, California

Hyatt Regency Century Plaza
February 24, 2007
9:00 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Reported by Debra K. Resling, RMR, CRR
PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay. Would you please take a seat and we'll get started.

Take a few seconds to get seated.

Two comments before we do get started, cell phones are going off. Please turn off your cell phones or put them on vibrate mode or silent mode or whatever else gives you pleasure. And secondly, during the meeting, any time if you need to speak, if you would go to the microphone and give us your name because we have a court reporter, it would make her life and the record keeping immeasurably easier.

Welcome to the annual meeting.

Welcome to Los Angeles. A special welcome to our life members, Mr. Rubenstein, Madam Derflinger, Mr. Borroni, Mr. Perry, Madam Mankamyer and Mr. DesBordes, welcome.

(Appplause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Before we start the formal part of our meeting, if we could take a Moment of Silence for those who are near and dear to the game that all of us know and some of us that we don't know who we have lost over the last year since our last annual meeting.

Please, a Moment of Silence.

(Moment of silence.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you.

A couple of additions to the agenda.

I will ask Mr. Kepner to come up and walk you through two or three parts of the voting procedures and a roll call.

One -- after Item 12, we will add the election of independent directors. Election of independent directors will be added after Item 12. When we get to Item 12, we have two slots open for election of independent directors, and I'm proposing that we will sever the election of those two spots and do one today and do one by a mail vote over the next 120 days.

I will explain that when we get there, why we need to do that, but that's what we're proposing, so we would have the election of one independent director today, and one in the next 120 days by a mail vote. So that would be one item. The second which will be immediately after that, we have an application for a new member which would be a professional league, and we would take that immediately after the election of independent directors, as Item
12 B, I suppose before the Good of the Game. With that, I would ask Mr. Kepner to come, walk us through electronic voting, roll call, and the Credentials Committee report. Mr. Kepner.

MR. KEPNER: Thank you very much, Sunil, and I will offer my own welcome to all of you here. Welcome to L.A.

I have several tasks. One certainly is a roll call. Secondly, I will give you the multipliers, in other words the Credentials Committee report, and third, we will go through a practice run with the keypad.

One point that I want to make concerning the process that we're following this year is, as many folks have come to realize, because they were not signing in as they -- in order to get into the room, and to take the seats here -- that a streamlining of the registration and sign-in process was put into place this year. And I want to say thank you to Greg Fike and Tim Pinto and Asher Mendelsohn for bringing that about. It certainly is -- those of us who take on writer's cramp very quickly, at least didn't have to sign on this morning.

A second aspect of that, though, is that the registration for this National Council meeting really came to an end at 8:00 last night, and so the roll call and the multipliers will be based on the registration at that point. Now, with the state associations, when I call their names, I will also give you the number of keypads that that individual state association is supposed to have. If it turns out that there's a state association that has more than it should, I would appreciate it if you would raise your hand, there we go, Leeann in the back -- just so that we can straighten out that particular item.

In my initial roll call as well, I will read the names of the organizations and the names of the individuals that have registered for the meeting. I will skip over the organizations and the individuals that did not register.

I will run through a full roll call, and then run back through the list of organizations and individuals that were not declared as present at the beginning. And at that point, I'm going to ask the assistance of the National Council in helping us to remove the keypads of the organizations and individuals that are not present at this point in time, members of the staff and members of my committee will pick those up, take them again back to that same table where Leeann is located and have them there. It does not mean that those organizations and those individuals, if they show up later during the meeting won't be able to vote. They will simply go there and pick up their keypads.

But because it's a large room and tough to figure out exactly where organizations are that don't answer, I will ask for your assistance. If you are an organization or an individual that is next to one that hasn't answered on the second roll call, please raise your hand to facilitate our picking up the keypads.

I will start off with the Youth Council.

(The following represents the roll call by Bob Kepner; the answers by the respective parties.)

Q. Alaska, three?
A. Here.

Q. Arkansas, three?
A. Here.

Q. California North, six?
A. Here.

Q. California South, six?
A. Here.

Q. Colorado, five?
A. Here.

Q. Connecticut, five?
A. Here.

Q. Delaware, three?
A. Here.

Q. Eastern New York, six?
A. Here.

Q. Eastern Penn, six?
A. Here.

Q. Florida, six?
A. Here.

Q. Georgia, five?
A. Here.

Q. Hawaii, two?
A. Here.

Q. Idaho, three?
A. Here.

Q. Illinois, five?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page 10</th>
<th>Page 11</th>
<th>Page 12</th>
<th>Page 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Q. This is Youth again.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Q. Oregon, five?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Indiana, five?</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Q. Pennsylvania West, four?</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Q. Iowa, four?</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Q. Rhode Island, four?</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Q. Kansas, four?</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Q. South Carolina, three?</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Q. Kentucky, four?</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Q. South Dakota, three?</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Q. Louisiana, four?</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Q. South Texas, six?</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Q. Maine, three?</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Q. Tennessee, four?</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Q. Maryland, five?</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Q. Vermont, three?</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Q. Speak up, please, I think I heard here.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Q. Virginia, six?</td>
</tr>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Q. Thank you.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Massachusetts, six?</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Q. West Virginia, three?</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Q. Michigan, five?</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Q. Wisconsin, five?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Q. Minnesota, five?</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Q. AYSO?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Q. And proceeding to Adult Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Alaska, three?</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Q. Arizona, four?</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Q. Arkansas, four?</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Q. California North, five?</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Q. California South, five?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Q. Colorado, four?</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Q. Connecticut, four?</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Q. Delaware, two?</td>
</tr>
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<td>17</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Q. Eastern New York, five?</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Q. Eastern Pennsylvania, four?</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Q. Florida, five?</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Q. Georgia, four?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
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<td>Page 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Hawaii, three?</td>
<td>Q. Oregon, four?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Idaho, three?</td>
<td>Q. Pennsylvania West, two?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Illinois, four?</td>
<td>Q. Rhode Island, two?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Indiana, two?</td>
<td>Q. South Carolina, three?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Iowa, three?</td>
<td>Q. South Dakota, one?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. (No response.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Kansas, three?</td>
<td>Q. Southern Ohio, three?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Kentucky, three?</td>
<td>Q. Tennessee, four?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Louisiana, three?</td>
<td>Q. Texas South, five?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Maryland, two?</td>
<td>Q. Washington, five?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Massachusetts, five?</td>
<td>Q. West Virginia, two?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Metro D.C. Virginia, five?</td>
<td>Q. Western New York, three?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Michigan, four?</td>
<td>Q. Wisconsin, two?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Present.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Minnesota, four?</td>
<td>Q. Direct Affiliates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>AYSO, Amateur League?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Mississippi, one?</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. United Soccer Leagues?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Missouri, two?</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. New Jersey Champions League?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Montana, two?</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. Women's Premier Soccer League?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Nebraska, two?</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. The National Premier Soccer League?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. Mid Atlantic Showcase Soccer League?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. New Jersey, four?</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>Q. For the Professional Council, Major League Soccer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. New Mexico, four?</td>
<td>Alex Topete?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. North Carolina, five?</td>
<td>Q. Blane Shepard?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. North Texas, five?</td>
<td>Q. James Silkret?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Ohio North, three?</td>
<td>Q. Russell Sargent?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Oklahoma, three?</td>
<td>Q. Stephen Hamilton?</td>
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<td>A. Here.</td>
<td>A. Here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Oklahoma, three?</td>
<td>Q. Tom Rios?</td>
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<td>Page 19</td>
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<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>A. U.S. Club Soccer?</em></td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Q. Whit Haskel?</em></td>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
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<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>Q. Associate Members.</em></td>
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<td><em>Q. United Soccer Leagues.</em></td>
<td><em>NSCAA?</em></td>
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<td><em>Francisco Marcos?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Q. Mat Weibe?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
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<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
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<td><em>Q. Steven Thompson?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
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<td><em>Q. Tim Holt?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>13</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Q. Beverly Marcos?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Q. Albert Coutinho?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>17</strong></td>
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<td><em>Q. Athletes Council.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><em>Alexi Lalas.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><em>A. (No response.)</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>20</strong></td>
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<td><em>Q. Amanda Cromwell?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>21</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. Here.</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Q. Cindy Parlow?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>23</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. (No response.)</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Q. Jeff Agoos?</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A. (No response.)</em></td>
<td><em>(No response.)</em></td>
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6 (Pages 18 to 21)
Q. Past Presidents, Bob Contiguglia?
A. Here.

MR. KEPNER: And that is notable, by the way. That's the first time in many a year that we've had that category filled. It's always some other position that somebody also has. I will ask the question if there is any organization or individual that had more keypads than it, the organization, or that he/she, the individual should have held? I will again, just quickly, because there's not many at all that answered, failed to answer. With the Youth, I found none.

With the adults, South Dakota? The organization that is closest to South Dakota, please raise your hand, so we can take that keypad up.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Picked up already.

MR. KEPNER: Picked up already.

Thank you. NSCAA? The organization or individual closest to NSCAA, could you raise your hand?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Already been picked up.

MR. KEPNER: Already been picked up.

MR. FLYNN: He's here.

MR. KEPNER: Hank Steinbrecher's, and Peter Masotto.

Okay. Based on the registration that we had last night, the weighted votes are as follows, 245 youth delegates, 245 adult delegates, 245 professional delegates, 27 other members, life members and national BOD. Athlete delegates, weighted vote, 191. Total votes 953.

If all voting, everybody would vote fully, a simple majority would be 477, and a two-thirds majority would be 636.

It is important to point out, though, that in determining a simple majority or two-thirds majority, it's based on the actual number of votes cast in any single vote, not on those numbers.

The weightings, the multipliers -- naturally the Youth Council has the largest body, 1.00; Adult Council, 1.39; Professional Council, 18.85; Athletes Council 15.92, and other members, life members of National BOD, 1.00.

Keypads, you will find in front of you a wireless keypad that you will use to vote throughout the meeting. The keypads have been carefully programmed with the weight of each vote. Please use only the keypad assigned to you.

Briefly, here's how the keypads work.

Throughout the meeting, you will be asked to vote on a number of issues. The item to be voted on will appear on the screen. You will be asked to use your keypad to place your vote. Press 1 for yes and 2 for no.

When you press the button, the number you selected will show up in the LED box on the keypad. It will stay on for about a second, and the data will be sent to our computer technician who will tabulate the results and display them on the screen.

Please do not place your vote until I say begin voting now. Now the system that we will use, except for our practice run when I will be up here, I will be in the back, and I will keep an eye on the numbers that are coming in, and then I will say, begin voting now. And I will start counting down, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, stop.

And at that point, we will stop. We will determine the tally, and it will be portrayed on the screen. So don't wait until I say begin voting now. As the votes wind down, I will, say five seconds remain; four, three, two, one, stop.

You can change your mind up until the time we stop the voting. The keypad will accept your final vote.

Okay. There is one issue that we have, and let me just mention it to Sunil first.

Okay. We're going to go through our warmup. And we have a really excellent and critical question to pose. And the question is: Which soccer player was ejected from the World Cup final in 2006. Was it Charles deGaulle? Was it Larry Monaco? Was it Zidane Zidane? Or was it Marcel Balboa?
DeGaulle is one; Monaco is two; Zidane is three and Balboa is four. So, begin voting now. Five seconds, four seconds, three seconds, two seconds, one second, stop. Charles deGaulle.

Larry and Zidane Zidane, okay.

Larry was a close, pretty close second.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Bob, as always, thank you for a great job on that. It's a lot of work, please, a round of applause for Mr. Kepner.

(Part of applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: It is a little bit historic that we're in this building today. And I was going to talk about this later, and I will, but since we've got two gentlemen in the room, we should probably do it now. The reason it's historic is because across the street -- and some of you know this -- are the headquarters of World Cup 1994, two towers. The big towers were the headquarters of 1994 of our World Cup. And if I were looking back on this, in the World Cup bid -- and especially the World Cup bid is sort of like Hank Aaron's famous homerun -- there were actually 33 million people in the stadium that saw that home run, because everyone was part of it, which is good, in one way. But if I look back, there were about a dozen people who were very much involved in our bid effort, but the two people who really made the bid effort to bring the '94 World Cup here, obviously, front and center, was Werner Fricker, who we have our highest award named after, and all of you, or many of you, know him. But there was another person who was a principal author of our bid and had many hundreds of pages of our bid effort, and he is here and I would like to recognize him, Scot LeTellier is in the back of the room.

(Part of applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: And then the gentleman sitting next to him who didn't answer -- and he has much to answer for as we all know -- is Alan Rothenberg, who put on that spectacular World Cup.

(Part of applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: A life member -- and I can't help but think there is some serendipity that in the week we announced that we are in this particular hotel where so many meetings were held about that last World Cup. We will talk about that a little bit later on.

The next order of business is we have approval of the minutes from the National Council meeting in 2006. You have those minutes. Can we have a motion to approve those minutes?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.

PRESIDENT GULATI: So moved. We need a name, I suppose. Since Mr. Edwards is right next to me. We will make it Mr. Edwards. We need a second to move.

MR. GOAZIOU: Second.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Goaziou. Any comments on those minutes? Approved by unanimous consent.

(Motion passed.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: I would like to make a few remarks, and we will use what's up on the screen. Some of you in the back may not be able to see a couple of the slides. I assure you there is not any resolutions calling for large expenditures of money or any rule changes, where there's small print.

People in the first 25 rows certainly will be able to see it. There may be a couple of our guests in the back that may not be able to see it.

It's been an interesting year, partly because of that World Cup. We have got two organizations that have a lot of resources, the Foundation and the Federation; partly, because of the great work that many people in this room and across the country have put in.

We're in good shape.

I want to share with you parts of different presentations that Dan, Don Garber, a couple of our television partners, that I have been involved in over the last year, and then some new pieces that we have made in the last few days. And walk you through kind of where we are in the game today, where we have been, and in a few cases where I think we're going.

And then talk a little bit about -- I did this in the board yesterday -- what's happened literally in the last 45 days in Soccer in this country, and if we could extrapolate that for the next decade, or for the next 45
1 days for that matter, would be pretty
2 extraordinary.
3 And I look at the L.A. Times today,
4 and they are concerned because David Beckham,
5 according to new documents, is only making five
6 and a half million dollars a year for playing
7 soccer. He's got a whole bunch of other things
8 that he's getting paid for, and that's a
9 concern, but that's a pretty good paycheck.
10 But let me talk to you a little bit
11 about that. You can't see that if you are in the
12 back few rows.
13 That's a quick slide that we shared
14 with people present back in April, that Dan and
15 I walked through. The last 20 years. And I use
16 '86 as a benchmark, because that's when we
17 started bidding for the World Cup. If we hadn't
18 been to the World Cup on the men's side in 40
19 years, we have now been there five straight
20 times. We didn't have women's soccer and now
21 we've got multiple gold medalists. The NASL had
22 just folded; MLS has just finished its 12th
23 season, starting with 13 teams; millions more
24 registered players, although growth rates have
25 slowed down, number of youth teams, expenditure

1 of years ago. But we didn't need to do this
2 research, because you knew that. The number of
3 kids playing drops off pretty dramatically and
4 nothing we can do. The same is true in
5 swimming. The same is true in virtually any
6 activity that kids participate in, but it's a
7 big challenge to try to retain some of those
8 kids, and if we can't retain them as players;
9 certainly to keep them involved in the game, in
10 some way, shape or form.
11 Turning to Major League Soccer, 12th
12 season. "Sports Illustrated" ran a story in
13 1996, "MLS kicks off in April and will likely
14 shutter its doors by June." Twelve seasons in,
15 David Beckham is coming; 13 teams including
16 Toronto. A plan for 16 teams. Don gets calls
17 regularly from teams that want to start.
18 Average attendance, 16,000. Before, before the
19 issues in Italy in the last two weeks, and some
20 games that are being played without spectators
21 due to some violence, the average attendance at
22 games in Italy was 19,000 this year.
23 So -- okay. When Inter Milan plays
24 AC Milan, there's a lot of people. The average
25 attendance at games in Serie A was 19,000, MLS
is at 16,000. Now, it's not Serie A, that's not what I'm saying. That's a pretty healthy attendance. That's not the premier league, but it's a pretty healthy attendance. That's a big part of what we're doing.

Some of the top players -- you know some of them -- some of them play for our national team, some of them play for our opponents.

Landon, Claudio Suarez, who is one of the world leaders in caps, that plays for Chivas, and the Mexican national team -- Carlos Ruiz in Dallas and so on -- and then this guy that happens to be married to a former Spice girl.

We make this announcement in January, and unless you lived in a cave, and even if you lived in a cave, you knew what was going on, because on the front page of the "New York Times," literally, next to Condoleezza Rice talking about the Iraq war and congressional testimony, you've got David Beckham and Posh Spice. Front page. Every paper around the world. And even bigger around the world, every TV talk show. Literally, the most important sports icon in the world -- Tiger Woods, Michael Jordan and so on, but around the world, extraordinary ambassador.

Ticket sales, yes. With the media attention that comes -- and then people say, well, he's past his best days. Don't let Bayern Munich know that, because he played in the champions league last week and had a couple pretty incredible assists, I guess we'd call them. And he's not playing this weekend because he got a red card, and my guess, he will get called back into the English national team.

So the most recognizable -- not soccer player -- but sports icon in the world will be playing down the road -- and some of you are going to visit the Home Depot Center this afternoon -- will be playing for the L.A. Galaxy and will be in every MLS market this summer.

That's pretty extraordinary that he chose to play here. Now at age 35, and we will get such media hype, as we already have. Pretty extraordinary. And there's pictures with Posh, Condoleezza, and "Spend it like Beckham," as it were.

We couldn't possibly have enough money between the Foundation, Federation and double that to get the media exposure for the sport that we got in the week around this announcement.

We don't have enough money to get that sort of exposure for the sport. We could have spent all of it, and we couldn't get ourselves in the front page of the "Times," except by having something negative and having a riot. We couldn't do it. This guy put us on the front page of every newspaper in the world. Literally, next to the Iraq war. The surrealness of that is something that we can all think about a little bit.

The stadiums and some of you live in markets where those MLS stadiums exist, and we have got a great partnership in Frisco, where we've got youth headquarters and youth fields and a MLS field.

And we'll talk a little bit later about the likelihood of a women's team playing there. Four brand new fields in the last few years. Soccer-specific stadiums, places we can call home for the sport, and not just for an MLS team, but for our teams; whether it's a state Open Cup or anything else. And three new ones going up in the next couple of years. I left Toronto out because it's not within the U.S. borders, but not too far from, and they're kind of a 51st state, I guess.

Soccer United Marketing, a big portal for the sport in the U.S. And I mentioned this, and it's pretty important, because there's lots of times where we have issues between Major League Soccer and U.S. Soccer and so on. Let me be very clear about this. And there are times where it certainly causes me issues and conflicts. The relationship we have between Major League Soccer and U.S. Soccer, is better than any that exist in the world between an organizing and governing body and a professional league.

We decided to play in COPA America this summer. First time we brought it up was after the World Cup last summer because we didn't do as well as we wanted. And when Dan and I talked with Don and Ivan Gazidis, they said, wait a minute, it's in the middle of July. We're playing then. And by the end of that discussion, and a few more, they realized how
important it was to the development of our team, they said, okay. We got it. We couldn't have even thought about having that discussion with teams abroad. And we'll talk about another place where it came together in an extraordinary way, but the relationship we have between those entities -- and I'm not talking about situations where we have a rule change and people vote in a way -- but the relationship we have between our professional league, in this case, the Division 1 leagues, but in other cases, where there's the USF is pretty extraordinary.

And I think you are starting to see that between state associations, between leagues, and so on. It is not every day that everything is perfect and there's some conflicts that come up. But it's pretty extraordinary. And I will talk a little bit more about that, and if you have seen, SUM has brought some pretty extraordinary games to the U.S., whether it's Barcelona, whether it's Manchester United, whether it's Interlega Super League, and other competitions.

Those are our sponsors, and Soccer United Marketing represents U.S. Soccer. Those are the sponsors now and that will grow over time.

I mentioned five themes last year, when I was elected. One, and most importantly perhaps, was the technical area. And Kevin Payne who has been running a technical review of all of our programs will talk about this in a couple of minutes. We're going to spend a lot of money in this area. Player development. Absolutely critical to everything that we do and that we're about. How do we get better?

And as I mentioned last year when Germany finished second in the 2002 World Cup, they immediately initiated a series of programs, because second wasn't good enough.

We're not second, and we're still not good enough. Those are some of the competitions we've got next year. We didn't do as well as we wanted last summer. The best thing that came out last summer was we didn't do as well as we wanted, and people were mad. Media expectations were higher. That's a good thing. Just qualifying is not good enough for us anymore. That's a good thing. That doesn't mean every time we're going to get to the second round or get to the quarterfinals or with a little bit of luck, do what we all expect and hope someday, but just to hold that little statue.

The second thing I mentioned last year, which is absolutely a cornerstone of everything we need to do in this sport is media. In 2007, we relaunched our television effort. I can't think of anything that's more important in growing the sport than how we communicate with the public. I can't think of anything that's happened over the last couple of years, that brought together MLS, Soccer United Marketing, in this case, CONCACAF, and U.S. Soccer, to make something happen at a critical juncture for this sport in this country. And in the end, eventually, FIFA, and so far it has paid extraordinary dividends.

I want to thank publically Don Garber for being at the right place at the right time and making it happen. And what I'm talking about is a situation where we were able to put our rights for U.S. National teams with MLS's rights, and in a way, package them in the World Cup rights and come up with two extraordinary partners in ESPN and Uninvision and also with Fox. The two primary partners in that deal were Uninvision and ESPN. And we have in those two partners, two partners that are committed to the sport. And frankly, two individuals that are the point people that care about the game. They're not going to care about the game, if it cost them their jobs, but they believe in the sport. And when you meet them -- and some of you will meet them -- and they did a presentation with Don and with Dan and myself at FIFA for all of FIFA's commercial partners, and you could certainly hear that they believed in the game. They go to the games. And one of their sons plays in ODP and they go to the game. And they believe in the game and come and watch our national teams and they are passionate about it. They're not, oh, we got to put another soccer game on.

So, what we have launched in a new program -- and some of you have seen it, and we'll talk about that in a minute -- a year ago, in my view, may have been the most critical thing.

Board of Directors, U.S. Soccer Federation
RESLING SPORTSCRIPT (719)632-6391; (719)661-7226 (cell)
moment as we look forward to the two new TV partners. We can't buy that sort of exposure for the sport.

Anything that we do can't be viewed by millions of people, in anything we do. It's not publications. It's not mailing, but when ten million people watch our national team play, and they do well and they're promoting it, it's pretty extraordinary.

ESPN, their platforms. They are a part of FIFA's, of MLS', of U.S. Soccer. You see some of the Champions League, NCAA. You can watch games on the phone. You can watch games on ESPN Classic, and so on.

Univision. And Univision is important to us for a number of reasons. One is, obviously, they're very committed to the sport. They're going to televise over 400 games this year on their Spanish platforms. And they're also obviously important to us because one of my other themes from last year is outreach in the Hispanic community, extraordinarily committed.

And between Univision and ESPN, they made the rights buy for the World Cup, the largest single rights buy of any country in the world. Of any country in the world. More than Italy. More than Germany. More than Brazil. More than Argentina. More than England. So soccer hasn't quite caught on in the United States.

Well, there's some folks in Zurich that represent FIFA's marketing interest that got a very, very large check that says different.

That's their formula. A Spanish language message gets sponsors around it, have us support them, and try to get some real change, and that real change is also part of what we're trying to do in the Hispanic community. And I will come back to that in just a couple of minutes.

Is it going to work? Well, February 7th is the turning point from my point of view.

How many people watched the game that we played against Mexico, two weeks ago? Quite a few of you. We won. Bob Bradley's second game. We beat Mexico. Big result. Great win. That was important. We had 62,000 people in the stands in a state-of-the-art facility, with a roof and a field that you can roll outside. Maybe, 75 percent of the fans were rooting against the U.S. team. That's okay, because everybody paid.

A stadium that we could play the World Cup final in tomorrow. Those are two big things. We made a lot of money on that game. Two huge things. That wasn't the big story of the day. The big story of the day was we had almost 8 million people watch the game. Almost 8 million people watched the game. Think about registered players.

At the ESL, 8 million people watched the game, predominantly on Univision; predominantly in homes that are Spanish speaking as the first language, but guess what? 8 million people saw the U.S. team beat Mexico. That's a pretty good start.

Second-highest-rated sports program in the history of Spanish language television.

Shattered every Super Bowl, not even close. Every Super Bowl. The only game that was ever higher, the only sports event that was ever higher was Argentina and Mexico in the World Cup. There was nothing any of us could do day-to-day that could match that sort of exposure to the sport. And every one of those folks that watched us beat Mexico and watched Landon Donovan run 60 yards with a nice pass from the referee. Referees training is an important part in this.

(Applause.)

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(Applause.)

And not only that, you saw ESPN do some things -- two-and-a-half hour broadcast, and a studio built at the end of the field. And I'm told some commentary from announcers about decisions we should be making, but we'll leave that issue aside. A Sky-Cam. ESPN and Univision are spending money to help promote the game, promote our team, the look of the game that no one has ever done, so that when you are watching a soccer game, you think you are watching a real sport, like you might be watching the NFL or Major League Baseball, basketball or a game from Europe. This will be a big plus as we go forward.

The second initiative was television. I think we're off to a good start.

I mentioned diversity, and this is one where I don't give us -- not us; me -- good marks in the last year.

As I mentioned last year we spent a
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1 lot of money -- not a lot, but some money -- and
2 we found some startling statistics. Hispanics
3 seem to like soccer. Much greater numbers of the
4 Hispanic community play soccer than the Anglo
5 community in the United States. We've got to do
6 something about it. You can see, in this case
7 at random, the players are much more likely to
8 be Hispanic. We've got to do something about
9 getting those players involved in our elite
10 player program in much greater numbers than they
11 are now.

And there's a second statistic
12 there, which is that African-American number and
13 the Anglo community and the Asian community
14 match up roughly with demographics. The other
15 two are way off. We got to do something about
16 that and we will announce some things that we're
17 going to start to do.

Certainly, we don't have the answers
18 on what we're going to try to do. We will see
19 what is working, and see what's portable, and
20 we'll throw some resources at it and see what we
21 can do about it. This has got to be part of the
22 solution, if we want to do it as well as we'd
23 like, whether it's in South Africa, somewhere in
24 the teams in the United States, or wherever the
25 World Cup may be.

That speaks for itself. Large
1 percentage of African-Americans have never
2 played the game; much higher than in the Anglo
3 community, and obviously the lowest in the
4 Hispanic community. And when we talk about
5 these sorts of percentages, those are big
6 numbers. Those are big numbers. Those are big
7 numbers when you talk about Hispanic players. 31
8 percent of Hispanic players watch soccer every
9 chance they get compared to 4 percent of white
10 players. And this is from our own data that we
11 looked at a few years ago. I just pulled out a
12 couple of slides.

Big challenge. Or if you look at it
13 differently, big opportunity. Big opportunity.

Fourth, we mentioned last year, a
14 program we were going to start, international
15 relations program, an outreach program. We have
16 resources. We have an affluent country. We have
17 knowledge. We have technical capabilities to try
18 to help those around the world.

And we started a program last year,
19 a key component of which was a sports
20 international envoy program that we did with the
21 state department. It's Cindy Parlow in Bahrain.
22 You see a soccer ball on the left-hand side.
23 Cindy is the only female on the field that's not
dressed in a way that would be traditional in
24 this country for women.

And then we have the reaction of
25 these young girls when she took the gold medal
out. I don't know who was more emotionally moved
by the whole experience, whether it was Cindy or
the young girls.

In the middle of that somewhere,
1 Nigeria, right in the middle of that, you can
2 barely see him, is Marcello Balboa who is here
3 today. Thank you for going, Marcello. Laura
4 Gregg, as well, is in the middle of that, in the
5 middle of a couple hundred young Nigerian kids.
6 Glenn Myernick, one of the last
7 things he did involved in soccer, went to South
8 Africa for us.

We started a program a few days ago
9 with full-time referees, before a gentleman that
10 agreed to be involved with us on a full-time
11 basis, taking a risk. It's a one-year contract.
12 We all have real jobs in real life, come do this
13 for a year. You can't referee when you're 75 at
14 a high level in terms of international,
15 obviously, or at MLS. We've got age
16 restrictions. And they're taking a risk.
17 Pioneers. And they're going to do this, and
18 we'll see what we can do.

One of the things we talked about at
19 the board meeting yesterday is the changes in
20 technology have made refereeing very, very
21 different because, you watch a game anywhere in
22 the world and all of a sudden, there are 30
23 different camera angles, and everyone in the
24 world, whether it's a guy in the Internet 5,000
25 miles away, know if the referee has made a
26 mistake. The poor guy out on the field has got
27 no idea, but everyone else in the world, all 2
28 billion viewers of the World Cup final know that
29 there's a mistake been made.

So the refereeing hasn't gotten
30 worse; just the technology has gotten a lot
31 better. We need to do a lot more to support our
32 high level and our elite referees. I'm not
33 talking about at a typical Under-12 youth game
34 that our technology is such that we can all
35 question the referee, although now I see
parents show up with video cameras, and they've got a computer, and they're checking out what's going on. Maybe that's the case, but I only do that every other game with my son. We've got to get more referees. I've talked about this with my friends in New York. I have ended up refereeing my son's games a couple of times. I don't have a badge, because a referee didn't show up. And sure enough as it turns out, New York is near the bottom in terms of referees per registered player. We don't have enough referees in other parts of the country. That's a problem. We've got to put more resources against that. It wasn't something I talked about last year.

The last thing I talked about last year was trying to bring more events to the United States. Big events. We have told FIFA that we would like to bring the 2009 FIFA Congress to the U.S. and it looks like that will happen. Right now, we're the only bidder and I like our chances in that case. But there's a long time between now and then, and it will likely be 2009 Congress in New York.

And then, as you know this past week, we announced that we would like to bring another event. But we're also going to host the Olympic qualifying tournament for men next year. A big part of these events is, Does it help our team? Is it financially viable? But, of course, on Tuesday of this week, it became public that we are going to try to bring the World Cup back to the United States, the Men's World Cup in 2018. But we'd be available if FIFA needs us to do it any earlier, 2014. That's not the one we're bidding on. But if they needed us to, we would never say no to our friends in Zurich. We're not talking about South Africa, but we are talking about hosting the world's biggest event. And some of you that were involved in the last one know what it can do for the sport. And I'm convinced that it would do even more for the sport this time than it did the last time, because we now have a base. We have a professional league -- and we'll talk a little bit later on -- and I think by then we will have two professional leagues of Division 1. We've obviously got a Division 2 league and a structure underneath.

We have got stadiums that every year are built that are better than virtually any stadium in the world -- the stadium in Phoenix, the stadium in Seattle. We don't need to build new stadiums. And think about it's not coincidence -- and I say this quite often -- it's not a coincidence that registration numbers in certain markets in 1995 and 1996 went up dramatically when those markets happened to be markets where World Cup games were played. It's not a coincidence that registration numbers in a number of markets, especially among young girls, went up in the year 2000 in certain markets where Women's World Cup games were played. Those aren't coincidences. They're not statistical anomalies. And as all of you know better than I do, we're flat right now in terms of numbers, growth rates. And I'm not talking about the players that are going back and forth between organizations and we count them three times. I'm not talking about that. So if we're going to try to increase numbers, and it's not only about numbers; two of these things that we've just talked about, mass media, television, David Beckham, turning kids on to the game, and bringing the World Cup here, we can't do anything that could match that. We can't do anything that could match that. The Federation is in great shape. And it's not what's happened over the last year while I have been president. I said this to you last year. It's been a long build-up. Werner Fricker, Gene Edwards before him, Alan, Bob, in terms of leaders, but it's the entire country -- it's all of you and everything, everyone across the country does. Financially, great shape. The sports are in great shape. But we have so much more to do, if we want to be a true soccer country, or as Don likes to say, a true soccer nation. We don't walk down the street -- people know who David Beckham is and a lot of people in this city know who Landon Donovan is, and a lot of people in the country know who Mia Hamm is, but beyond that it gets tougher. And so we've got a lot of work to do. The last year -- and one other decision that all of you took -- this job has been easier, and some of you sat in on the board meeting yesterday, saw it -- that job is easier.
the decision we made last year about reducing
the board size clearly has made my job easier,
certainly, in terms of board meetings. That's
certainly easier with a smaller board.
So I want to thank you for that.
Thank you for your faith last year in electing
me. Although, I guess it was -- since no one
else ran, you didn't have much of a choice --
but thank you anyway for that.
And we've got a lot of work to do.
We've got some things to get done today. We will
try to bring the World Cup here. We will make up
for last summer in 2006. We will try to bring an
Olympic gold medal or two of them back next
year. We'll try to bring a Women's World Cup
medal back this summer or in the fall. Keep
coaches, and let's make sure we have some fun
while we're doing it.
Thank you very much.
(Pause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: I think we can
take this off the screen.

Next order of business is the
approval of the fiscal year budget.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He just
stepped out for a second.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Edwards is
going to take advantage of this opportunity to
give his brief report, until Mr. Eldridge is
back.

MR. EDWARDS: Let me tell you how
neat it is to be the Vice-President. When you
go up 2-0, one of the privileges of being the
vice-president is the president jumps in your
arms. Now, the downside is the president is not
Scarlett Johansson, but what makes it feel even
better when you are walking around in Phoenix
with the president in your arms -- I'm kind of
big enough to do that -- the absolute joy of
having taken the ticket money and watching about
40,000 green shirts walking backwards out of the
stadium really brings joy to a man's heart.
One other perspective item. Sunil
talked about how far we've come over the last
year. We have been cleaning out the archives of
the New Mexico State Soccer Association, and I

PRESIDENT GULATI: We've got one more
report, and then I'm going to go first to Billy,
and then to Kevin Payne, and then we'll go to
David.

Billy Goaziou. I'm not going to say
welcome back, Billy, but we're glad you are
here.

(MR. GOAZIOU)

1 found a press release from a guy named Kevin
Payne that worked at U.S. Soccer, back in about
1985, and it was big news -- as Kevin will no
doubt admit now -- we had managed to finally
secure an $85,000 line of credit. And we were on
our way to finally being able to afford a set of
uniforms for the men's national team. I would
say we have made strides since then. And,
frankly, a whole lot of you sitting in the room
were sitting in the room back then, when you
actually thought that was good news, and at the
time it was; that somebody was actually willing
to stake money on us as some item of faith,
regardless of how much Werner Fricker's personal
assets may have been behind that. It's been a
hell of a good year. My hat is off to Sunil and
to Dan for what's been accomplished in the last
year.
And the good thing is there's an
awful lot of upward potential still to go into
this stuff when you looked at the plan Dan laid
in front of us yesterday -- just the opportunity
for soccer to be with you 24 hours a day has --
it's just overwhelming what you can get when you
think about what we had in 1985, and when soccer

was the 30-minute show, "Soccer Made in Germany"
on Public TV.
So we've made some pretty good
strides. As Sunil said, there's a lot of people
behind us that did that. There will be people
ahead of us that will keep it going, and I
commend all of you for the work in the field.
That makes it a whole lot easier to get this
done. So, thanks.

(Appause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: We've got one more
report, and then I'm going to go first to Billy,
and then to Kevin Payne, and then we'll go to
David.

MR. GOAZIOU: I only want to say one
thing. Yesterday, at the board meeting, I asked
that the Board of Directors approve the transfer
of $10 million from Merrill Lynch to Bear
Stearns, because the interest rate we could earn
was 8.7 percent. Howard Rubenstein came up to me
after the meeting and said, Ten years ago, we
argued to move ten cents, because that's all we had. So I would tell you that we have grown. We basically almost have as much money as the Foundation. We have over $60 million in cash in the bank, and it's thanks to the hard work of all of the people here in this room and the Federation, as a family. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Kevin, do you want to talk a little? Give us a quick update on his technical group's review, which is a critical part of what we're doing on player development.

MR. PAYNE: Thank you, Sunil, and good morning, everyone. I will try to keep this brief, although it's a pretty important subject, so please bear with me if I go a little longer than I should.

As all the speakers this morning have discussed, we've accomplished great, great things over the last 20 years, in particular, as we've grown as an organization. We have done those things, we've accomplished those things by working together, and working towards common goals. And we should all be very proud of that. However, that does not mean that we should rest on our laurels, and it should not mean that we should be satisfied with where we are. That premise is really the starting point for the task force on technical development that Sunil asked me to head. That task force is a subset of the technical committee. The technical committee is a very small group. It's comprised of the men's national team coach, the women's national team coach, Tab Ramos, Carin Gabarra, and it's chaired by me. But the task force is a broader group that has been asked to take a very, very broad look at the process of player development at every level of the United States and try to determine how we can improve that process. That task force includes Ivan Gazidis, from Major League Soccer; Tab Ramos, arguably the most technical player that our national team program has yet produced, Dr. Bob Contiguglia, Jerome de Bontin, Bob Jenkins, who is the director of coaching and education. Tom Kane from Nike and Dan and Jay.

That group has had two separate meetings, and will soon subdivide into a number of smaller committees that will look at different aspects of what we have to, what we feel are the challenges, and then the solutions that we need to find.

We met the morning after the game in Phoenix. And at that meeting, we also had a number of guests present. Those guests included Mat Weibe, Mike Sweeney of U.S. Club Soccer, Jim Cosgrove from USYS was invited, but was unable to attend. But we also had on hand John Ellinger, the first coach of our U-17 national team and residency. And also, we had the current U-17 coach, John Hackworth; the current U-20 coach, Thomas Rongen, and the current men's national team coach, Bob Bradley.

We began the meeting by asking those three what they believed was the current state of the players that come to them out of our development system. And what they said is that when we compare ourselves to the great teams in the world, teams like Brazil, teams like Argentina, teams like Italy, teams like France, the teams that regularly compete to win world championships, and particularly the World Cup, we are deficient. Our players are deficient in a number of areas. We're technically deficient. We're tactically deficient, meaning our players are not as astute about the game. While we have certain physical qualities, and those physical qualities tend to fare us well in our competition in CONCACAF, when we begin to play against the really sophisticated soccer nations of South America and Europe, in particular, we no longer have the physical advantages. And in fact, in many instances, we are, at best, average physically. And finally, our players in many instances -- and this is a result of the cultural differences of our country compared to other countries -- but our players don't necessarily have the same degree of mental toughness that players might have coming from a country like Brazil and Argentina.

I don't want this to sound harsh. This was intended to be a very frank discussion of where we are and how we can get better. The conclusion was that those issues
obviously begin at younger ages. Those are not products of what happens when a kid joins a national team camp. And there was a very frank discussion of how that occurs. And we all recognize that the way that youth player development in our country has progressed over the years has been different than it has been in other countries. In other countries, it has tended to be very much directed from the top down, because of the presence of decades-old professional leagues, which took the lead in developing elite players. That has not been the case in our country.

And as a result, in many instances, the focus on what's important at different stages of player development is different here than it is in other countries. And that's part of what we hope to begin the change. This is an exercise in changing the way people behave and the way people measure success. And we hope to be able to effect change at a very broad, a very broad level of our soccer continuum to achieve that.

We have been spending a lot of time reading literature that exists today, and this is a fairly new field of study, but there's a lot of scientific research that has been dedicated in recent years to studying performance and accomplishment, and trying to better understand how people, who we think of as geniuses -- whatever it is that they do -- how do they become that? Is it a matter of great, great talent or is it a matter of great, great dedication and perseverance and training? And most of the recent scientific literature suggests that it's the latter.

To put it to you a different way, and maybe in soccer terms, if success, let's say, at the World Cup was purely a matter of identifying talent, and if talent is reasonably distributed across broad populations on a statistical level that's consistent, then, China, the USSR, the United States should be the three best soccer nations in the world. But clearly we are not. And among the best soccer nations in the world are countries like Argentina with a population of 16 million; countries like Holland with a population of, I believe, 13 million, and even countries like Italy, which has in the neighborhood of 50 million people, so it's not a lot larger than California.

That clearly demonstrates that talent is less a predictor of great success than it is a dedicated training system. All of those countries that I mentioned have highly sophisticated systems to train young talent; to identify it early and then to train it through a very long process that results in the best possible player.

Those are things that we are looking at. We recognize that there are enormous cultural differences between the United States and those countries, but there are many principles that are very much a part of the way they approach this process that we can employ here in the United States.

We've begun talking a little bit about tactics and how we hope to effect change. Clearly, there's an enormous responsibility that rests with the professional clubs, at the first division level, at the second division level and below. The professional clubs have to do a better job of training young players. It's an area that we have not done a very good job in at all, but we have dedicated ourselves over the past years to investing a great deal more resources to that end.

There's also an enormous educational process that we hope to undertake, call it a marketing exercise, if you will, but essentially an attempt to try to convince parents there are other ways to measure the quality of their child's soccer experience than simply wins and losses; that watching their child become a greater player through a process that's focused to that end, as opposed to winning every single match on a weekend might also be a way to measure whether or not the soccer experience their kid is enjoying is a fruitful one.

That message, actually, is one that needs to also register with coaches. Most coaches do believe that, by the way. But they often, as you all know, they have to react to the pressure of parents. And then we also want to be able to convince players of that fact. And we are not going to be able to accomplish any of those things without enormous assistance from the clubs and leagues around the country.
some of it has engendered controversy, about a so-called national league. I want to assure you that that's a name that's a little bit misleading. There is no intent by the committee to go into competition with the existing groups that regulate and organize youth soccer play. There is a feeling that with the best young players and certain age groups, there may be a need to take them out of the existing environment, much as we've done with the group that lives in Bradenton. And that is the core of our Youth 17 national team program; and that rather than having 40 kids in that kind of a largely professional environment, we probably need to have 400 kids in different age groups, who are able to focus solely on becoming better players without regard to the results that they achieve on the weekend, until they get into actual legitimate competitions. To try to tackle this task, we have created a number of subcommittees. Several of them will look at the way things are done in other countries and try to apply those practices here in the United States. Others will look at how we can better interface with the Latino community and with the African-American, and particularly, the African-American inner-city community. The bottom line of this process, this is a -- we're effectively embarking on a grand exercise, to build on the base and the foundation that we've created over many years of hard work, and catapult the United States to a whole new level of achievement in international soccer. We want to be one of those countries that in every single World Cup is considered a possible favorite to win; in every Youth 17 tournament, in every U-20 tournament, we want to be a force to be reckoned with. We have made a great deal of progress in that direction, but we know that we can do far better, and, of course, we can't accomplish this without the help of everyone in this room and the organizations that you represent. And we hope that you will join us in what we consider to be, really, a great crusade to take the United States now to the next level, and to, eventually, in our lifetimes, win a World Cup.

Next on our agenda are the proposed amendments to the Federation by-laws. We are today missing our parliamentarian, who was stranded with flight problems on the East Coast, and so when we have an issue of parliamentary procedure -- we will do one of two things. He is available to Mr. Pinto by telephone, but we will also rely very heavily on common sense, in addition to parliamentary procedure. I find generally that works, and hopefully, that will get us through the day. And we have obviously got Mr. Monaco here as well, who between common sense, Mr. Monaco and parliamentary procedure, we should be able to make it. And Larry, we're going to lean towards common sense, between the two. And I am going to let Mr. Edwards take care of the amendments to the Federation bylaws.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. In addition to common sense, we want to go through this in a deliberate method, so that you actually understand where we are and which particular issue we're discussing. And make sure that it is clear to you, before we close for votes.

So thank you very much.

(APplause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thanks, Kevin.

He's right, it took a little bit longer than maybe he had planned, but it's important at our annual meeting, I think, that we perhaps talk a little bit about soccer.

Mr. Eldridge, the budget, please.

MR. ELDRIDGE: Thank you, sir.

I would like to recognize the members of the Budget Committee: Steve Meisberger, Juergen Sommer, Walt Konopka and Roy Smithers.

You have the budget. The information is in your program. I would like to entertain a motion to approve.

MR. GOAZIOU: Move to approve.

MR. EDWARDS: Second.

MR. ELDRIDGE: Second. Any questions?

Hearing no questions, I would now move to accept the budget by acclamation. Done. Thank you.

(Motion passed.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you, as always, David, for your efforts and for the efforts of your committee.
A reminder, when we do come to the actual voting on the issues, whether it be the bylaw or policy proposal itself or motions to amend, we will use the keypads; one for yes, two for no. We'll count you down as to when we're closing. We have plenty of time to step through all of this.

So, we will turn to the section of your book, bylaw proposals. We will go to Page 1, a proposal submitted by Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Bill Goaziou and Peter Vermes, which is a proposed amendment to Bylaw 103.

We have an insert to Section 1, which would add a statement that: "The Federation and its members are obliged to respect the statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and of CONCACAF, and to ensure that these are likewise expected by its members. The Federation is further obligated to recognize the FIFA International Match Calendar."

For purposes of discussion, can I get a motion to bring this issue to the floor?

MR. GOAZIOU: So move.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: We have a motion and a second to bring the first proposed amendment to Bylaw 103 to the floor. I would note the Rules Committee comments suggest a potential amendment to the proposal wherein you would have an insert which would then state: "The Federation and its members are to the extent permitted by governing law, obliged to respect the statutes," and et cetera.

Any discussion of the proposed bylaw amendment? And I will ask you when you approach the microphone for the benefit of our friendly reporter, to state your name and affiliation for the record. Billy?

MR. GOAZIOU: Is the recommendation by the Rules Committee? Is that something that we should take into consideration or not? I mean they usually don't recommend something

MR. EDWARDS: I believe you need a motion to modify the proposed bylaw amendment to incorporate the recommendation.

There's a motion to incorporate the recommended modification submitted by the Rules Committee. Is there a second to that motion?

MR. GOAZIOU: I'll second that.

MR. EDWARDS: I have got a motion and a second. This is simply a vote on the motion to amend. Is there any discussion of the motion to amend?

Hearing none, let's just try a voice vote. All in favor of the motion to amend, please say aye. Is there anyone opposed?

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. The motion to amend carries, so we are now back to the main question, which is the proposed bylaw amendment as modified by the Rules Committee. Is there any discussion regarding the bylaw amendment itself? Let's try a voice vote again. All in favor of the amendment, please, say aye. Anyone opposed? Okay. Thank you.

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Next, we are on Page 3 of a bylaw change to Bylaws 109 and 213 submitted by Larry Monaco, who is --

MR. MONACO: Mr. President?

MR. EDWARDS: Go ahead, Larry.

MR. MONACO: If I could, before there's a motion, I would like to tell you the test question at the beginning was a trick question by Sunil. My red card it was in 1966, not 2006, okay?

MR. EDWARDS: Is there a motion to amend that red card?

PRESIDENT GULATI: I do want to mention that Mr. Monaco finished second, and you will notice that the haircuts of Mr. Zidane and Mr. Monaco are very similar, and that's what caused the confusion.

(Applause.)

MR. EDWARDS: Far be it from me to question the credibility of a long-time friend. Mr. Monaco was a member of the Board of Directors, is now chair of the Youth Council, and proposes amending Bylaw 109 and 213, and I will summarize, not to speak for Larry --

MR. MONACO: Mr. President, before --

what I would like to do is just to make a comment, and then I am going to request permission to withdraw this at this time.

I would like to tell you just real
quickly. The situation occurs that we have a --
our membership falls in two categories. One is
members who are providing, who are putting on
player programs, who register players and put on
programs for players. We have another group of
members who are, who do not register players and
do not put on -- what I was trying to do, based
on recommendations from a couple of my state
associations, was to try to tighten up the
requirements to make it clear that if you are
registering players, you actually have to put on
programs for those players.
I don't think what I drafted
accomplished the purpose. I also recognized
this problem pointed out by the Rules Committee.
So, for this year only -- you will
see it again next year, but in a different form
-- I would ask permission to withdraw.
MR. EDWARDS: Any objection to
withdrawing the proposed bylaw amendments 109
and 213? Hearing none, we will consider it
withdrawn. Thank you, Larry.
We will now go to Page 6, the third
bylaw proposal change submitted by Larry Monaco.
A proposed change to Bylaw 302 would insert a
provision that: "A national association that
does not register players directly with the
Federation shall have one vote at a National
Council meeting."
And I believe in practice, I will
explain what we understand this to mean -- andLarry, you can further comment -- National
organizations are U.S. Adult Soccer Association,
AYSO, and United States Youth Soccer
Association. What Larry's proposal would do is
to, in so many words, codify the bylaws that
such an organization that does not directly
register players, because the players register
through state associations, would, in fact, have
one vote, sitting at the appropriate council,
youth council or adult council. And the
cumulative effect would be a minuscule
dilution -- correct, Larry -- in the voting
strength of the other members of that council?
Is there a motion to bring this
bylaw amendment to the board?
MR. GOAZIOU: Move to accept.
PRESIDENT GULATI: Is there a second?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion on the
bylaw amendment?
MR. TRAPIKAS: Bruno Trapikas,
Michigan Adults.
Mr. Chairman, in your explanation,
you indicated that this would change the rule. I
believe the proposal simply refers to the youth
council, as written.
MR. EDWARDS: That is correct.
MR. TRAPIKAS: Okay. I just wanted
that clarification. If, in fact, it were
considered to be appropriate for the adult
council to also include this, would an amendment
be in order?
MR. EDWARDS: A similar amendment in
part two?
MR. TRAPIKAS: Yes.
MR. EDWARDS: Yes.
Let me have Larry address that,
Bruno.
MR. GOAZIOU: Common sense just
showed up, folks, we'll see what happens here.
Tim Common Sense Pinto.
MR. MONACO: I'm sort of in a
peculiar position here, because theoretically,
not theoretically, practically, I'm a
professionally registered parliamentarian, and
I'm not supposed to be doing this kind of a
thing when I propose something. However, if you
would like, I could make a point of order and
handle it that way.
MR. EDWARDS: You can make a point of
order.
MR. MONACO: The answer is: On
proposed bylaw amendments, contrary to anything
else you do, on bylaws amendments, there are two
requirements. The first is timely notice, and
the second one is scope of notice. My provision
only applies to Bylaw 302, Section 2(a)(1).
Therefore, your proposal would go to another
bylaw provision. It would be outside the scope
of notice and not meeting the prior notice
required.
Thank you.
MR. EDWARDS: So the issue that has
been moved and is on the floor is modification
only to section, Subsection 1 of Section 2 of
Bylaw 302. Any other comments?
Okay. Hearing none, I will take the
first try at a voice vote again. All in favor of
accepting the amendment please, say aye;
1 opposed?
2 I'm going to have to go to the
3 keypads, so let's set up.
4 This is a two-thirds vote plus we
5 also have weighted votes.
6 So, Bob, are you ready to conduct the
7 ballot?
8 MR. KEPNER: Yes.
9 MR. EDWARDS: Press one for yes,
10 press two for no. And the balloting is under
11 way.
12 MR. KEPNER: Begin the voting now.
13 MR. EDWARDS: Begin the voting now,
14 press 1 or 2 on your keypad.
15 MR. KEPNER: Five, four, three, two,
16 one, stop.
17 MR. EDWARDS: And the winner of the
18 Oscar...
19 MR. KEPNER: That fails.
20 MR. EDWARDS: That amendment did not
21 reach the two-thirds required vote.
22 MR. KEPNER: It required 527.
23 MR. EDWARDS: So that bylaw fails,
24 and we will move on to Page 8. Page 8 submitted
25 by Larry Monaco, I would characterize as
26 housekeeping and cleanup to eliminate multiple
27 references to the Executive Committee, which was
28 removed from existence in the bylaw amendments
29 undertaken at the 2006 Annual General Meeting.
30 So, I would accept a motion to bring this bylaw
31 amendment to the floor.
32 MR. GOAZIOU: So move.
33 MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?
34 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
35 MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion of the
36 bylaw amendment? Hearing none, all in favor,
37 please, say aye? Anyone opposed?
38 (Motion passed.)
39 MR. EDWARDS: Okay. We will now
40 arrive at Page 11, and we have on Page 11 and on
41 Page 15 what I will describe as conflicting
42 proposals to address the same question.
43 When we modified the size of the
44 National Board of Directors at last year's
45 annual meeting, one of the steps we took was to
46 transition elimination of the position of
47 treasurer over a two-year period, and have a
48 transition to add a third independent director
49 to bring the National Board of Directors to 15
50 people.

1 And what has since transpired is
2 with some research and review of New York
3 corporate law, there is mention of the concept
4 of a treasurer in New York corporate law. And so
5 we have two proposals on how to deal with the
6 necessity of having a warm body in the position
7 of treasurer, when necessitated by corporate
8 law.
9 The proposal submitted by Sunil
10 would have the vice-president, who you will know
11 is me, serve in that position to the extent
12 necessary to comply with New York corporate law.
13 That is what the bylaw proposal starting on Page
14 11 intends to accomplish. And rather than have
15 specific responsibilities, Sunil's proposal
16 removed those, such that the authority vested in
17 the vice-president serving in the dual role as
18 treasurer would be whatever acts are necessary
19 to fulfill the role of treasurer under New York
20 corporate law.
21 So we will first address this
22 amendment. You have the report from the Rules
23 Committee stating that there are different
24 proposals. Stating their opinion: The
25 committee's view of the proposal submitted by
26 the President eliminates the references to the
27 position and provides that the Vice-President
28 shall have all authorities necessary to serve as
29 the Treasurer.
30 And the Rules Committee's opinion
31 is: "It is not clear from this proposal whether
32 the Vice-President would assume all of the
33 specific responsibilities previously assigned to
34 the Treasurer."
35 That being the function of the fact
36 that the proposal removes those specific job
37 requirements that have been in, when the
38 treasurer's position existed as a stand-alone
39 position.
40 As they note: The proposal submitted
41 by Mr. Monaco would provide for the appointment
42 of a treasurer to serve in that role and then
43 ultimately, with a policy proposal change that
44 Larry has submitted, would outline the specific
45 duties of that appointed treasurer.
46 There is a difference of opinion as
47 to exactly how New York corporate law governs
48 the existence of the treasurer and what the
49 treasurer does under law, and so the
50 recommendation of the Rules Committee, I
believe, in sum, was that the Federation obtain
a legal opinion to address two issues, as noted
in the final paragraph on Page 14.
First, whether one is actually
required, and then second, whether it's legally
permissible to delegate those responsibilities
to an appointed treasurer who is neither elected
to the position nor serves on the corporation's
Board of Directors as contemplated by the
proposed policy 411-1 submitted by Mr. Monaco.
So where we are is, in order, we
do I have a motion to bring it to the floor?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.
MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
MR. EDWARDS: It's been moved and
seconded to bring it to the floor. Is there any
discussion of this proposal?
PRESIDENT GULATI: I think it makes
sense, Larry, if you want to talk here, we can
talk about the two. And we should mention that
where proposals, as I think is obvious to
everyone, has my name or a group of officers'
name on it, they're proposals of the staff and
of legal counsel, but we put officers' names on
them.
There's essentially two issues
between the two sets of proposals. We eliminated
the position of treasurer, and then realized
under New York state law that in certain
circumstances, there is a requirement to have a
treasurer. And we also had a certain set of
responsibilities that were enunciated in our own
rules.
So the difference in the two
proposals, I think, and I think Larry will
agree, one is, that in the proposals that our
counsel made, that my name is on, the
Vice-President, where it's needed, would assume
those responsibilities where it's legally needed
and the responsibilities are not specifically
enunciated.
In Larry's proposal, we would
name -- I would name, subject to board approval,
a person to fulfill that role. And there are
some specific responsibilities enunciated in a
policy that was looked at by the board
yesterday.
I think the only -- and it's not a
critical difference, I guess, from my
perspective, and I think this is counsel's
perspective -- we spent a lot of time last year
going from 42 to 15. From my perspective, it
doesn't make sense to add an additional person
to the board that's a nonvoting member, when
we've essentially decided that the role of the
treasurer, with complete respect, Bill, is now
essentially handled by a staff person and
approved, if you will, by the treasurer and the
Vice-President, who has no specific
responsibilities. As long as I'm breathing and
the president, this would make a lot of sense to
have him be a corporate officer in that way, so
that was the thinking.
MR. MONACO: The first thing is I
would tell you, on Sunil's, is a technical
matter, of course; the lead-in language: "Such
amendments to go into effect as of the U.S.
Soccer Federation's 2008 Annual General
Meeting." That's not what we voted to do last
year. What we voted to do was this would be
effective upon the adjournment of the 2008
Annual General Meeting, and there's another
provision that says that. Okay?
MR. EDWARDS: I'm sorry.

MR. FRISOLI: Larry Frisoli from Massachusetts. I just want to see if I can crystalize clearly what I'm hearing from the stage.

MR. EDWARDS: Please speak up a little, Larry. I don't think people can hear you.

MR. FRISOLI: I want to see if I can crystalize what I think I'm hearing from the stage. Under New York law, it's my understanding that in every corporation there has to be a treasurer; however, the treasurer does not have to be a member of the National Board of Directors. Am I correct on that statement? Is that what you collectively are telling us? And if you don't know, then I'm frightened to vote on anything.

MR. PINTO: Under New York law there is no requirement there be a treasurer. There are references throughout New York law in a few times, that suggest that they expect there be a treasurer. But there's no requirement that there be a treasurer. So this is intended to clean up that weird situation, which is we're not required to have a treasurer; if there's a situation in which they expect something to be done by a treasurer, our Vice-President would have that authority.

MR. FRISOLI: Are you the person who files the annual reports every year for us under New York law, the secretary of state, the Articles of Incorporation?

MR. PINTO: Am I the person? No.

MR. FRISOLI: Did you ever see the form? Do you know what the form looks like?

MR. PINTO: Yes.

MR. FRISOLI: On the form, it lists president, vice-president, clerk and treasurer, no? Or am I wrong?

MR. PINTO: That's just the form. In the statute, there is no requirement that there be a treasurer.

MR. FRISOLI: All right.

DR. CONTIGUGLIA: Bob, I would like to see a little bit more flexibility.

MR. EDWARDS: I would like to propose an amendment to that section on Page 13, Section 2, the underlined part where I would cross the word vice-president and say: "Any board member chosen by the Board of Directors shall have the authority to act as treasurer."

And I will ask for a second. Is there a second?

Dr. CONTIGUGLIA: There is a second, yes.

MR. EDWARDS: So you have got a motion to modify the bylaw amendment proposal to state that -- read that again, please.

DR. CONTIGUGLIA: Any board member chosen by the Board of Directors shall have all the authorities for that position.

MR. EDWARDS: So the amended language would state in Section 2, on Page 13: Any board member chosen by the Board of Directors shall have all authorities necessary to serve as treasurer of the Federation.

MR. DES BORDES: Point of order. I haven't heard a motion to put any of these things on the floor, so we're amending --

MR. EDWARDS: Yes, there was a motion.

MR. DES BORDES: Which one are we dealing with? Larry's or Sunil's?

MR. EDWARDS: Larry's or Sunil's?

MR. EDWARDS: We're dealing with Sunil's first. We are just going in sequence.

We now have a motion and second on the floor to modify the bylaw proposal as I have just read. Is there any discussion?

MR. MOORE: Tom Moore, California North.

On neither of these proposals am I prepared to vote. The reason being, we've heard some conflicting discussion about what New York law says. I see in the board packet no extracts of the appropriate sections of New York law. I see no independent counsel's report. I can't do my due diligence without that information.

I cannot resolve what the requirements are under New York law for having a Board of Directors, U.S. Soccer Federation

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<td>2. can be independent, whether he can be elected,</td>
<td>2. different than meetings held, at least,</td>
<td>Larry Monaco. That would amend Bylaws 401, 402</td>
<td>Board of Directors, U.S. Soccer Federation</td>
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<td>3. whether he can't. I would like to move to table</td>
<td>3. quarterly. Theoretically, there is no place for</td>
<td>and 412, and I will characterize as a different</td>
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<td>4. both of these items until such time as we have</td>
<td>4. an unfinished business or a move to postpone</td>
<td>approach to intending the same accomplishment as</td>
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<td>5. appropriate portions of the extracts of New York</td>
<td>5. until next year.</td>
<td>Mr. Gulati's proposal. Is there a motion to</td>
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<td>6. law and a counsel's report.</td>
<td>6. But anything that's going to be in</td>
<td>bring that bylaw amendment to the floor?</td>
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<td>7. MR. EDWARDS: We've got to act now on</td>
<td>7. order next year, so, what you are doing, it</td>
<td>7. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.</td>
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<td>8. the motion to table. Is there a second?</td>
<td>8. seems to me, the easiest thing is just move to</td>
<td>8. MR. EDWARDS: Second?</td>
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<td>10. Massachusetts.</td>
<td>10. this year, because we couldn't act again until</td>
<td>10. MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?</td>
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<td>11. MR. EDWARDS: We are going to vote</td>
<td>11. next year anyway.</td>
<td>11. MR. GOAZIOU: Second.</td>
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<td>12. now on the question of the motion to table only.</td>
<td>12. The only difference between a motion</td>
<td>12. MR. EDWARDS: I will try a voice vote</td>
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<td>13. You are not voting on the amendment.</td>
<td>13. to table and a motion to postpone indefinitely</td>
<td>13. first. All in favor of the motion to postpone</td>
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<td>14. MR. FRISOLI: Discussion.</td>
<td>14. is the motion to postpone indefinitely is</td>
<td>14. indefinitely please, say aye? Anyone opposed?</td>
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<td>15. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Point of</td>
<td>15. debatable, and we're not going to debate it.</td>
<td>15. Okay.</td>
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<td>16. order?</td>
<td>16. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move to</td>
<td>16. (Motion passed.)</td>
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<td>17. MR. EDWARDS: Go ahead, Larry.</td>
<td>17. postpone indefinitely.</td>
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<td>18. MR. MONACO: I hate to disillusion you, but if you ever look at Roberts Rules of</td>
<td>18. MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?</td>
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<td>19. Order, a motion to table is almost never in</td>
<td>19. MR. GOAZIOU: Second.</td>
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<td>20. order. Okay?</td>
<td>20. MR. EDWARDS: I will try a voice vote</td>
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<td>21. first. All in favor of the motion to postpone</td>
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<td>22. in order is if an emergency situation arises.</td>
<td>22. indefinitely please, say aye? Anyone opposed?</td>
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<td>23. Okay? So, if he wants to move, or you construe</td>
<td>23. Okay.</td>
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<td>24. his motion to postpone indefinitely killing it,</td>
<td>24. (Motion passed.)</td>
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<td>25. you can do that.</td>
<td>25. MR. EDWARDS: Next, we will turn to</td>
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some clarification and housekeeping as regarding the positions of independent representatives being changed by title to independent directors and clarification of the two-year terms. Is there a motion to move the adoption?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.

MR. EDWARDS: Second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion of this amendment? Let's do a voice vote again. All in favor of the amendment. Anyone opposed? Okay. (Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay, accepted. Thank you.

We will move to Page 21, proposal by President Gulati to amend Bylaw 413.

When we made our massive bylaw changes last year to reduce the board size, I would characterize it as a bridge between the activity of the Executive Committee and the NBOD. We set Section 1 of Bylaw 413 to require at least 12 meetings of the Board of Directors each fiscal year. The President is requesting that you reduce that mandate to at least four times a year and allow additional meetings of the board to be scheduled by the president and Secretary General as necessary.

The two provisions in the Rules Committee comments for you. First, the proposal anticipates it would take immediate effect which you can do with your consent. Please note the italics at the top of the page: "The proposed amendment to this section shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the National Council." Normally, that would not be the case.

Second one is a consideration as to whether you might wish to amend Section 2 of Bylaw 413, which defines the procedures and how you can do with your consent. You can do with your consent.

The proposed amendment to Section 1.

So, is there a motion to bring the proposed amendment to Bylaw 413 to the floor?

MR. GOAZIOU: So move.

MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion of this bylaw amendment as submitted? Go ahead.

California North Youth.

I would like to propose an amendment that I think would just make things much easier. The existing proposal says "scheduled by the President and Secretary General." And my proposed amendment would be to delete the word "and Secretary General."

This obviously has nothing to do with Dan or anything else, but the thinking is simply that if you have two people, one of them is the president of the organization and another one, is, in fact, an employee, it really should be vested just in the president.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Second to the proposed amendment. Any discussion of the amendment to strike the words "and Secretary General"?

"So additional meetings of the board may be scheduled by the president as necessary." Any discussion of the amendment?

Let's try a voice vote on the amendment. All in favor, please say aye. Anyone opposed?

Motion passed.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. The amendment passes.

Let's go to the main question, which is now a modification stating: "Additional meetings of the board may be scheduled by the president as necessary," and reduces the number of meetings, mandatory meetings from 12 to 4 and will become effective immediately upon adoption.

Let's try a voice vote again.

MR. MONACO: Mr. President, Larry Monaco. I would like to make one comment on this.

The first sentence is now back to where it was, except for one year, back to four, but it does use the words "at least." And being a board member, when it says, "at least four times," that means the board, in addition to the...
second sentence we're adding, the board itself could vote to schedule and hold additional regular meetings as well.

MR. EDWARDS: Correct. Let's try a voice vote on the main motion. All in favor, please, say aye. Anyone opposed? Thank you.

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: We will now turn to Page 23, submitted by President Gulati would simply be housekeeping to remove the concept of an Executive Committee that we eliminated at last year's annual meeting and replaced that with the Board of Directors.

MR. GOAZIOU: There's a motion on the floor.

MR. EDWARDS: There's a motion to adopt. Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Discussion? Let's go with a voice vote. All in favor of adopting the amendment, please, say aye? Anyone opposed? Thank you.

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Let's go to Page 25, submitted by Larry Monaco.

Proposed modification to Bylaw 704 addressing disputes and grievances by or among organization members. The proposal would add a section B, a subsection B, to section 2, addressing a provision, adding a provision to enable the Secretary General to take certain actions regarding complaints filed under Bylaw 704.

The Rules Committee raises some due process concerns. Is there a motion to bring this to the floor?

MR. GOAZIOU: So move.

MR. EDWARDS: Second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion regarding the bylaw amendment proposal? Use your mic.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mr. President?

MR. GOAZIOU: Mr. Pinto, could you address the issues raised by the Rules Committee, please, sir.

MR. PINTO: Me or Larry.

MR. GOAZIOU: Right behind you. I want a real attorney.

MR. PINTO: I'm sorry, Bill, what

exactly do you want me to address?

MR. GOAZIOU: I want you to address the comments of the Rules Committee, their concern about due process. If they are a problem with due process, then I can't support that.

MR. PINTO: As the grievance process is currently outlined, anytime we get a grievance, once it's accepted as properly stating a grievance, it's referred to an arbitrator. The arbitrator has the ability to consider a motion to dismiss and grant it if he or she thinks it's appropriate.

The Rules Committee concern is that we're bestowing this power upon the Secretary General, the right to dismiss a grievance, before considering any of the facts. Based on that, as it's written I think it's for this council to determine whether they think it's more appropriate for the Secretary General or an independent arbitrator to have that power. I can say that as a matter of practice, I think, by assigning the role to the Secretary General, you are assigning it to staff, which would include the legal department. And I can say on behalf of the legal department, I don't think it's appropriate for us to be making decisions which could be considered political in some circumstances.

MR. GOAZIOU: So what you are saying is that you agree with the process that we have now with the mediation.

MR. PINTO: I'm very comfortable with the current process. I like it a lot.

MR. GOAZIOU: Thank you very much, Tim.

MR. MONACO: Mr. President?

MR. EDWARDS: Go ahead, Larry.

MR. MONACO: I guess what I would say in response is I guess I have more faith in the Secretary General than the Rules Committee. I assume that the Secretary General could do several things; one, was to consult inside counsel, outside counsel, and in addition he could ask the parties to file papers before he made that determination. All I'm trying to do is to put in place what happens in any administrative agency, or any court of the land, and that is, you do not have to go through a full period in order to end up with a motion to
1 dismiss.  
My experience with the last two, 
2 grievances in Ohio South and in Illinois, and I 
3 think it also applies to the other two before, 
4 the other two -- we've had four of them -- I 
5 think all four of them.  
6    The hearing examiner has gotten a 
7 motion to dismiss in every case and has always 
8 postponed consideration until there's been a 
9 full hearing. The only time it did not happen 
10 was in Illinois because settlement was reached. 
11 But in the other cases, we're talking about 
12 $50,000 in Ohio South being spent. We're talking 
13 about 50,000 or more being spent even in a 
14 settlement that never got to hearing, in 
15 Illinois. And there has to be some process for 
16 screening, as there is always true in the case 
17 of every administrative agency and every court. 
18    PRESIDENT GULATI: I happen to agree 
19 with almost everything Larry just said, that we 
20 need some mechanism of summary judgment that 
21 when we have a case, and then have a follow-up 
22 case that is so similar, that we should have an 
23 expedited way to deal with it. 
24    Having said that and talked with 
25 both Tim and Dan, we're a year into our 
26 arbitration procedures. And I think in talking 
27 to them, they both would feel more comfortable 
28 if we continue with where we are for another 
29 year, so we see how this process goes, but 
30 clearly move towards a situation where if we're 
31 getting a follow-up grievance that is so 
32 similar, and it's so clear that it's not a 
33 political-type issue, that they're comfortable 
34 doing that. 
35    So Larry, I agree with what you just 
36 said, and maybe this is something we look at it 
37 in another year, after we have a little more 
38 case history on the arbitration, but the 
39 principle we're in agreement on. 
40    MR. EDWARDS: And so that leaves us 
41 with the motion on the floor. Over here. 
42    MR. COLLINS: John Collins, AYSO 
43 delegate to the convention. 
44    With respect to this -- I understand 
45 and I echo Sunil's thoughts -- this is a new 
46 process where we switched arbitration, but in 
47 something that's related to another provision 
48 that's going to be coming, we will make a motion 
49 on it, has to do with Bylaw 707. There's a 
50 mandate -- in addition to being a delegate here 
51 for AYSO, I also serve on the FIFA legal 
52 committee -- and FIFA is pushing down certain 
53 things to the organizations, one of which is 
54 going to be that certain things can go to CAS. 
55 And if we have something where the Secretary 
56 General can just remove it, it would not have 
57 gone through any independent process, which then 
58 may cause it to be jurisdiction to CAS. 
59    So whatever process we do, we have 
60 to make sure that it goes through some level of 
61 independence, or we are just substituting 
62 something out that could be a much bigger 
63 problem. And I hope that this would -- I would 
64 ask, or I would like to make a motion to 
65 postpone the consideration indefinitely of this 
66 bylaw proposal along with I'm going to make a 
67 similar motion when 707 comes up, so that all of 
68 these are done in one package, so that we're 
69 doing what we can to make sure we're not 
70 creating problems that make us have to go to 
71 CAS, Court of Arbitration for Sport, the 
72 international court of arbitration of sport 
73 somewhere else. 
74    So I would like to move that to have 
75 this one postponed indefinitely, so we can do 
76 that as an overall package. 
77    MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second? 
78    UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. 
79    MR. EDWARDS: For clarification, 
80 Mr. Collins referred to a CAS, that is the Court 
81 of Arbitration for Sport, just as a matter of 
82 information. There is a motion to postpone 
83 indefinitely on the floor that has been 
84 seconded. Tony, are you speaking to the motion 
85 to postpone or to the main amendment? 
86    MR. FALCONE: I was going to speak to 
87 the main motion. 
88    MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Let's act on the 
89 motion to postpone indefinitely. 
90    Let me try a voice vote first. All 
91 in favor of the motion to postpone, please, say 
92 aye. All opposed? Let's make it official and 
93 go with the little keypads here, please. 
94    The international director of the 
95 voting committee will give you directions on 
96 when the ballot opens. 
97    We are voting on the motion to 
98 postpone indefinitely as made by John Collins on 
99 the bylaw proposal on Page 25.
MR. KEPNER: Begin voting now.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay, you are voting on the motion to postpone indefinitely. Vote 1 for yes, if you are in favor of the motion to postpone; push 2 for no, if you are opposed.

MR. KEPNER: Five, four, three, two, one. Stop.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. The motion to postpone indefinitely has carried.

Turn to Page 27, proposed by Larry Monaco, a proposed amendment to Bylaw 705 has two little typos in it. It should say: It is a proposed modification, adding a Section 8 to Bylaw 705. "If a decision," and I believe you should insert the word "of," "an organization member is final, the subject matter of that decision may not then be filed as a grievance. If it is so filed, the Secretary General shall dismiss the complaint. The dismissal is final."

Is there a motion to bring this amendment to the floor?

MR. MURPHY: So move.

MR. EDWARDS: Second?

MR. GOAZIOU: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: I will open for discussion of the amendment; Larry.

MR. MONACO: If I understand the Rules Committee comments, all I’m doing is putting in the bylaws, what is already common practice, therefore I would suggest that we adopt that practice and put it in the bylaws.

MR. GOAZIOU: The question I have -- and it always comes up -- is the failure to have due process. If we don’t have due process, that’s the backbone of our whole system. Again, I’m going to ask Mr. Pinto, if you will step up and tell me if this has a problem with due process. If it doesn’t then, I will support it, but if it is a problem with due process, I’m not going to support it.

MR. PINTO: The Rules Committee references in their comments that they’ve been advised that it’s the normal practice for the USSF to allow complaints to proceed on only one track. I’m the person that gave them that advice. When we receive complaints, we try to parse them down to it’s either a grievance or an appeal, but not both, and we base that pretty much exclusively on the remedy being sought.

So I can tell you that we’ve never accepted something as both a grievance and an appeal, since I’ve started. That being said, Mr. Monaco has said something that currently occurs. I don’t think that’s true. I think there are a number of instances in which an organization member could issue a final decision that is actually appropriate to be sought through the grievance process.

And if this -- a final decision is appealable, not just because it’s a final decision, but also because there’s several other things in the 705 bylaw that says it has to have consequences beyond the competition, et cetera, et cetera. So, I think there are certainly circumstances in which, "a final decision" is actually not an appeal and is actually a grievance.

MR. GOAZIOU: Thank you, Tim.

MR. EDWARDS: Any other discussion of the amendment on the floor to Bylaw 705?

Let’s go to the buttons on this one for the vote.

Okay. If you are in favor of the motion to amend Bylaw 705, as submitted by Mr. Monaco, with the two little typographical changes, please push 1 for yes; if you are opposed, please push 2 for no.

MR. KEPNER: Begin voting now.

Five, four, three, two, one. Stop.

(Motion failed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. The motion to modify Bylaw 705 on Page 27 has failed to reach the two-thirds required.

Turn next to Page 28. I’m advised by Mr. Gulati that we will be withdrawing the amendment proposed to Bylaw 707. So consider Page 28 is withdrawn.

Peter, are you okay with withdrawing? Billy?

MR. GOAZIOU: Yup.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Turn to Page 30.

We are proposing, numerous of us from the Board of Directors, modifications to the certificate of incorporation. The United States Soccer Federation is a nonprofit corporation chartered by the State of New York.
Based on a review of our Articles of Incorporation, there are several issues that, for legal purposes, need to be corrected, brought up-to-date and modified. So, you start on Page 32, and the actual amendments are described, starting in Item 5, that we are seeking to make modifications. A, "To simplify and broaden the corporate purposes in accordance with applicable law" and bring us up to current times on the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act with a citation, and would remove the existing first article and insert the first and second articles in Exhibit A. Exhibit A is on Page 34. So that Item 5 a, on Page 32 describes the first and second items in Exhibit A on Page 34. I got to bounce back and forth here a little. Item 5 b on Page 32 seeks to simplify our active territory by striking the third article of our original certificate and inserting what is now the fourth article, the territory within the United States. We're changing the corporate address in item 5 c, on Page 33, which you will see in Item 7.

We are noting the change in the number of directors that they are, in fact, set forth in the corporate bylaws. We are authorizing the corporation to keep its books and records in a location outside of the state of New York. They will be located in Chicago, Illinois, where our offices are. And we have the 8th article regarding the minimum requirements to amend the bylaws of the corporation. Those are based on legal review of our Articles of Incorporation. And I will entertain a motion to accept the changes as has been put forth by various of the Board of Directors. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move. MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second? UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. MR. EDWARDS: Discussion? Questions regarding the motion to modify and amend the Articles of Incorporation as submitted on Pages 30 through 35? MR. MONACO: Mr. President, I'm going to make one statement and make about five points of order.

On Page 33, it says: "The amendments embodied in the Restated Certificate of Incorporation, Exhibit A, were authorized by the vote of the Board of Directors on February 23, 2007."

I do not recall that happening. MR. GOAZIOU: Larry, I lost you on that one. Where did you say that was? MR. MONACO: On Page 33, Paragraph 6, and also 7 by inference. Paragraph 6 says the Board of Directors approved this restatement yesterday.

MR. EDWARDS: That is correct. MR. MONACO: We did? MR. EDWARDS: You are correct. MR. MONACO: We did not, okay. My point of order is as follows: This is an amendment to the articles -- actually, it's a restatement of the Articles of Incorporation. Under Federation bylaws, Articles of Incorporation and amendments are required to be submitted to the Rules Committee, and we are required to have a Rules Committee report back within 30 days, and that being circulated to the members.

Mine, which is the next one for U.S. Youth Soccer, was circulated to the Rules Committee. I do not see that here. In addition, if you go to Page 34 -- I really have no problem with the substance of any of this, though I would like the Rules Committee and counsel to give me some justification. Paragraph 8, under New York law, it says that amendments to Articles of Incorporation, and it also applies in the case of restatements: If there are members entitled to vote thereon by majority vote, okay? Therefore to adopt amendments or restatements of Articles of Incorporation you do it by a majority vote. Paragraph 8 on Page 34 tries to bootstrap that into a two-thirds vote. MR. PINTO: I'm not sure I understood all the comments. I apologize. It looks like in the book, there are no Rules Committee comments, but this was circulated to the Rules Committee at the same time. Oh, it's on the first page, on Page 30. The Rules Committee does provide...
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1 comments. It was circulated to the Rules Committee at the same exact time as the proposal to amend the Articles of Incorporation submitted by Mr. Monaco.

2 MR. MONACO: I apologize on that.

3 MR. PINTO: On the second item, I think what you are saying, Larry, is that your understanding that Exhibit A, Paragraph 8, to be changing the requirement for an amendment of Articles of Incorporation from majority to two-thirds, and that's correct. That's the intent.

4 MR. MONACO: Right.

5 MR. PINTO: And the last item is -- Mr. Monaco is correct -- we did not submit this to the Board of Directors. That was an oversight yesterday. So I think that we may -- what you have in your book here is, pages 32 and 33, are actually the form that goes to the state and includes an Exhibit A, and the form includes seven different paragraphs that states the facts, and then we submit it under Dan Flynn's name.

6 So we would have to change the information contained in paragraph 6 to indicate -- because it's not true that it went to the Board of Directors on February 23rd. So we would have to either -- I'm not sure if we can only have the National Council adopt this or if we would have to also have the board afterwards.

7 MR. MONACO: You can.

8 MR. PINTO: So we could just delete the reference to the Board of Directors, and simply say that a vote of the National Council on February 24th made these changes. So we would have to change the information in paragraph 6.

9 MR. DES BORDES: Hank desBordes, I move that amendment.

10 MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion related to the motion to amend paragraph 6?

11 MR. GOAZIOU: Where we're substituting this body vs. the Board of Directors?

12 MR. EDWARDS: Yes; was authorized by a vote of the National Council on February 24th, rather than the Board of Directors on February 23rd.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that legally sufficient?

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1 indicate -- because it's not true that it went to the Board of Directors on February 23rd. So we would have to either -- I'm not sure if we can only have the National Council adopt this or if we would have to also have the board afterwards.

2 MR. MONACO: You can.

3 MR. PINTO: So we could just delete the reference to the Board of Directors, and simply say that a vote of the National Council on February 24th made these changes. So we would have to change the information in paragraph 6.

4 MR. DES BORDES: Hank desBordes, I move that amendment.

5 MR. EDWARDS: Any discussion related to the motion to amend paragraph 6?

6 MR. GOAZIOU: Where we're substituting this body vs. the Board of Directors?

7 MR. EDWARDS: Yes; was authorized by a vote of the National Council on February 24th, rather than the Board of Directors on February 23rd.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Is that legally sufficient?

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1 MR. MONACO: Change paragraph 7 by said vote.

2 MR. EDWARDS: It will simply say, paragraph 6, as the intended modification moved by Mr. DesBordes would state: "The amendments embodied in the Restated Certificate of Incorporation, Exhibit A, were authorized by the vote of the corporation's National Council, a delegate body vested with the powers of the members as allowed under section," blah, blah, blah.

3 So the question on the floor -- and then modify the introductory phrase in 7 to say, "by said vote," rather than votes -- so the question on the floor is the motion to amend the proposal as made by Mr. desBordes.

4 Is there any discussion of the motion to amend? All in favor of the motion, please say aye? Anyone opposed?

5 (Motion passed.)

6 MR. EDWARDS: We turn back to the main amendment, which would be to approve the Restated Certificate of Incorporation with the steps as previously outlined in the discussion.

7 Is there any further discussion on the question?

8 MR. MONACO: My point of order still remains that the 8th paragraph is in violation of state law and therefore cannot be adopted. Paragraph 8 cannot be adopted; not the rest of it.

9 MR. EDWARDS: Can we move to strike that portion of this?

10 MR. DES BORDES: Move to strike and renumber.

11 MR. EDWARDS: Let me ask him to explain before we address that.

12 MR. PINTO: I'm not sure that we're going to be able to sway you guys one way or the other on a legal argument. I disagree with Mr. Monaco, but if it makes you all more comfortable, you can strike the 8th paragraph, so we can get something done on it. Articles of Incorporation are pathetic right now, so I would prefer that to not changing them at all.

13 MR. EDWARDS: There was a motion to strike paragraph 8 and renumber. Is there a second?

14 MR. THORNTON: Second.

15 MR. EDWARDS: Discussion on the
motion to strike paragraph 8 and renumber?

MR. THORNTON: I had another comment actually, and it had to do with the question.

MR. EDWARDS: The main question?

MR. THORNTON: Yes.

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Let me act on the motion to amend. Is there any discussion on the motion to modify by striking the 8th article? We will try a voice vote on it. All in favor of the motion, please say aye. Anyone opposed?

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay, we have struck 8, and what is now 9 becomes 8. Thank you. Now we're back on the main motion. Go ahead.

MR. THORNTON: I'm Mike Thornton, Oklahoma Soccer Association. The question is maybe for Mr. Pinto. Is it required under New York law, as it is, I know, in Oklahoma, for the Board of Trustees, directors or governors to recommend by a resolution passed by that body the adoption of this amended and restated articles?

MR. PINTO: I think the answer is no. I actually have the statutes in a book back here, so I can check if you would like.

MR. THORNTON: I think if we're going to vote on it we should know whether it's required as a prerequisite for the board to approve it first and then recommend it to the body or the members.

MR. TRAPIKAS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion to postpone for ten minutes, or whatever until an answer is gathered and then --

(Motion passed.)


(Brief recess taken from 11:15 to 11:30 a.m.)

MR. EDWARDS: If you can take your seats, so we can get going here. Okay. Get back on the record, here. Legal counsel has reviewed, and we are in agreement that, in fact, the Board of Directors does not need to be involved if, in fact, the National Council approves the motion that is on the floor as regards the modifications to the Articles of Incorporation, following the removal of item 8 and the renumbering of number 9 to number 8. Therefore, is there any further discussion regarding the motion to modify the Articles of Incorporation as submitted by Larry?

Hearing none --

MR. MARION: Andrew Marion, South Carolina Adults.

I have a stupid question that needs to be asked. I think I'm just the guy to do it. The 9th paragraph, if you will, of the new articles, states that basically the Federation is organized exclusively for amateur competition.

I'm sure there's an obvious answer to that, but if this passes, does that mean -- do we have to kick MLS out of the Federation?

MR. DES BORDES: No, and the answer to the question is that "amateur" covers everybody. So, we're not a problem with this. The amateur, the Amateur Sports Act covers everything, so we're covered with that.

MR. EDWARDS: The definition of the Amateur Sports Act -- that was Hank desBordes, life member on the record there. Any other questions?

All those in favor of the incorporation of the amendment; anyone opposed?

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: We are now on Page 36, a proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation submitted by Mr. Monaco that is -- all of this is new verbiage, correct, Larry?

From Pages 36 to 41 is the entire body of the amendment to insert a conflicts of interest and business ethics provision.

And I believe, based on the action we just took, this would still be inserted as Article 9. Is there a motion to adopt the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation as submitted by Mr. Monaco?

MR. GOAZIOU: So move.

MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Discussion?

MR. DES BORDES: What's it supposed to do?

MR. EDWARDS: A question posed by Mr. desBordes to Mr. Monaco: What is it supposed to do?
1. MR. DES BORDES: Why does it have to be in the Articles of Incorporation? I'm serious.
2. MR. PINTO: I will step up.
3. New York corporate law, which is fun, interesting and different than a lot of other state corporate laws has a Section 715, which sets forth a very, very basic explanation of ethical rules or conflicts rules that a corporation has to have. And it specifically says if you are going to go above and beyond those, those must be contained in a certificate of incorporation. So this is actually the appropriate way to impose a stricter conflicts policy.
4. MR. DES BORDES: So our corporate counsel recommends that we adopt this? Is that what you're saying?
5. MR. EDWARDS: No, I believe your corporate counsel was addressing the question of it being in the Articles of Incorporation.
6. MR. PINTO: I am just saying that it's appropriate, if you are going to change it, this is the way to do that. I wasn't saying that I support the change.
7. MR. DES BORDES: Well, that's my question is why --
8. MR. GOAZIOU: Tim, just stay there and just answer the questions.
9. MR. PINTO: I think the Rules Committee actually states it very fairly, which is -- and Larry, I apologize, if I'm speaking for you -- this is something Larry has been trying to do for a little while. I think his goal is a worthy one, which is to amend our conflicts policy, so that it matches up with some of the current efforts out there within the USOC, and within a number of state attorney generals. More conflict policies are popping up everywhere.
10. The Rules Committee raises a few concerns and I agree with them, that this deserves a little more attention, that it may actually benefit from having a committee look at it. It's a very, very complicated policy, as posed, and I can tell you that I would have difficulty as probably the person asked to interpret it and enforce it, in figuring out how to do so on a bunch of occasions. So the goal is a worthy one. I think it's very complicated, and so that's the reason that I have concerns with it.
11. MR. DES BORDES: So you are saying we don't need it right now? We should defer it to a committee?
12. MR. PINTO: We have a conflicts policy right now, so we do not need this one. If this body thinks it's appropriate to refer this to a committee or something like that, I think that would be fine.
13. MR. DES BORDES: Thank you.
14. MR. GOAZIOU: Do we need to dissect this rather lengthy proposal from Mr. Monaco and break it down and analyze it and do it piece by piece, Tim? Is that to our betterment or do we --
15. MR. PINTO: For purposes of today?
16. MR. GOAZIOU: No, long term. I don't mean today.
17. MR. PINTO: I think that's why there's been a suggestion a few times that maybe this deserves to go to a committee. And I actually think that it makes sense for, if that happened, if one were formed, it makes sense for Larry to be part of that. Because it is, it's very complicated. And the question I get asked every single time is: What does this mean? What is the real-life implications?
18. And I'm being honest. I'm not sure I can answer all of those, based on all the scenarios that we face. We're a representative organization. So it's different than other corporations where there are more potential conflicts out there depending on how you define the word "conflicts," and so we need to be very careful about that.
19. MR. PAYNE: Mike, I would like to move that we refer this to committee --
20. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
21. MR. EDWARDS: -- to the Rules Committee or to a committee?
22. MR. PAYNE: To a special committee.
23. MR. EDWARDS: The motion is to refer this to the Rules Committee for further consideration.
24. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: No, no.
25. MR. PAYNE: My suggestion was a special committee.
26. MR. EDWARDS: A special committee?
Okay. To a special committee to address the issues raised by the Rules Committee, Kevin?

MR. PAYNE: Yes.

MR. EDWARDS: To address the issues raised by the Rules Committee --

MR. PAYNE: To address the issues raised by the Rules Committee and by counsel.

MR. EDWARDS: Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

MR. GOAZIOU: You are going to have a committee that's appointed by Sunil.

MR. EDWARDS: Correct. He's the only one that has the authority to appoint a committee.

There's a motion to refer this to a special committee appointed by the President to address the issues raised by the Rules Committee. Is there any discussion on the motion?

MR. MONACO: Yes, Larry Monaco. I don't oppose the motion. I would hope that we would refer the whole policy to them though for an analysis. This has been kicking around for two years. I think this is the second time it's been here, okay?

MR. EDWARDS: I think that is inherent in Kevin's motion was the entire policy, correct? For clarity, Kevin was addressing the entire policy, not pieces. Tom, were you going to address the motion to refer to committee?

Any discussion on the motion to refer to committee? If not, let's try a voice vote. All in favor, please say aye? Anyone opposed?

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Thank you.

Before I go into the affirmation of policies, I have been requested for a motion for reconsideration of -- bylaw change Number 302 on Page 6 was defeated. I have had a request from someone who voted in the -- I need someone who voted for the motion to seek reconsideration of Bylaw 302 on Page 6. Mr. McDaniel has requested that he be allowed to move for reconsideration of that motion or of that action to turn it down.

Is there a second to the motion for reconsideration?

MS. DERFLINGER: Second.

MR. EDWARDS: Mike and Brooks have asked to speak to the issue.

MR. MC CORMICK: I think there may have been some misunderstanding on this one. The question was asked: How come this wasn't addressed in the adult council part of the bylaw? It would have been inappropriate for Larry to do that, because what this bylaw change does is simply reallocate by one vote how these guys vote within their weighted votes. It's their determination for their council, basically, how they want to split their votes up. It would not be proper for Larry to decide that the adult council should do the same thing. If we want to put forth a bylaw proposal next year that accomplishes that, we're well within our right to do it, but we would not be appropriate in trying to impose that on them, because it's how the votes are cast within a particular council. It doesn't affect the weighted vote at the end.

So if they're not getting a vote that, on the adult side of the aisle, that we're not getting -- and I think that might have been misunderstood -- and I would encourage that everybody from the adult council reconsider the possibility as supporting this bylaw change.

Thank you.

MR. EDWARDS: Let Mike go, Richard, and then you are next, please.

MR. MC DANIEL: I really would just like to believe that there was a misunderstanding here. I think when you peel all of the legalese aside, all this really does is extend one vote to U.S. Youth Soccer, and I, for the life of me, can't figure out what would be wrong with that.

MR. EDWARDS: That was Mike McDaniel. Richard.

MR. GROFF: Yes, Mike, could you explain or have the Credentials Committee explain why in the adult council USASA does get that one vote and USYS does not get the one vote?

MR. EDWARDS: I would defer that to Mr. Kepner.

MR. KEPNER: The reason for that is that there is only one national association that directly registers players, and that is USASA. USYS registers all of its players through state
The purpose of this motion is to override the system that we have now in order to specifically allow national associations that do not register players directly to gain that one vote.

MR. COLLINS: Mike, over here.

MR. EDWARDS: Oh, John.

MR. COLLINS: John Collins from AYSO.

I was going to speak in favor of Larry's bylaw proposal. Basically, what this is doing is correcting a drafting error that Larry and I made back in 1998, when we did this.

The intention was that all organization members with their fee to the Federation should get one basic vote. And then from there, there'sincrementals. And what happened in the drafting of it, and the subsequent interpretation back in '99, and 2000, there was some interpretation -- the interpretation was that they did get one vote. At some point, that changed. They don't get it. The USYSA does pay a fee, and so that is what Larry, I believe, is trying to do in oversight of the drafting that we made back in 1998.

PRESIDENT GULATI: It sounds like there was a lot of confusion about this, folks, and this is a cleanup, almost, within the youth council. Let's get this approved and get on with business.

MR. TRAPIKAS: Bruno Trapikas.

I too support this resolution. I raised the original question simply for clarification. I was not speaking against the motion at the time.

MR. EDWARDS: Thanks, Bruno.

Call the question. Let's do a voice vote. All in favor of the motion to reconsider Bylaw 302, please say aye? Anyone opposed?

(Motion passed.)

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Thank you.

The last item here --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You have to vote on it, Mike.

MR. EDWARDS: Oh, that was to reconsider; I'm sorry.

Man, it's amazing at how the meeting gets on, how many of you become experts in parliamentary procedure, isn't it?
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1 Mr. Christoffersen and Mr. Rose
2 nominated by Larry Monaco, and Mr. Masotto,
3 nominated by Eastern New York President,
4 Mr. Rapaglia. If we can do that by acclamation,
5 I think that would be appropriate. You’ve got
6 letters. We move that the three of them become
7 life members of U.S. Soccer by acclamation.
8 Hearing no objections, please
9 welcome them as life members.
10 (Applause.)
11 PRESIDENT GULATI: Next is the
12 election of Foundation Board Members. I will
13 open the floor for Foundation Board member
14 nominations. We have three slots available for
15 Foundation elections.
16 Do we have any nominations? We will
17 take just nominations, not seconds. We only need
18 one, and we will give the candidates that are so
19 nominated up to two minutes to make a statement,
20 if they choose.
21 Nominations.
22 MR. WADE: Yes, thank you. Mike Wade
23 with AYSO. I would like to nominate John
24 Collins.
25 John serves on the FIFA legal

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1 commission. He’s involved in AYSO and he even
2 coaches at the Youth 10 level.
3 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. We
4 have a nomination for John Collins. Any other
5 nominations?
6 Mike Edwards.
7 MR. EDWARDS: Mike Edwards, expert,
8 parliamentary procedure.
9 I would like to nominate Kevin
10 Payne. I could go on at length about Kevin’s
11 accomplishments, the interest Kevin has in the
12 game, but it’s specific to the Foundation, you
13 can’t find -- maybe he’s tied with three other
14 guys -- for the most valuable person, we have
15 had on the board since we started this
16 Foundation. The resources he makes available to
17 us, particularly because of the location with
18 D.C. United, the access he gives us to deal with
19 bigwigs; the fact that he’s been in the game
20 since he had $85,000 up to -- now that he’s
21 probably in professional soccer, has 86,000 --
22 all of the things Kevin has done in the
23 Foundation, you will not find a guy whose heart
24 is better situated to do what we want to do,
25 what Sunil discussed this morning. He’s been

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1 there from where we were, and he’s going to be
2 one of the guys that helps get us where we want
3 to be.
4 So I would strongly urge you to
5 support Kevin and retain him on the Foundation
6 board.
7 Thank you.
8 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you,
9 Mr. Edwards.
10 Any other nominations?
11 MR. DOUGHERTY: Yes, Tom Dougherty,
12 Eastern Pennsylvania Youth.
13 I would like to put in the name of
14 Mr. Richard Groff. Richard is diverse and
15 well-rounded, served as a former state
16 president, amateur regional director and
17 treasurer of the Penn Federation.
18 So I would like to place his name
19 and ask for your support for Mr. Richard Groff.
20 PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Mr.
21 Michallik.
22 MR. MICHALLIK: Janusz Michallik,
23 U.S. Soccer Foundation.
24 I would like to nominate Linda
25 Hamilton back to the Foundation Board. She also

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1 is chairman of an oversight committee and plays
2 an important role on it.
3 PRESIDENT GULATI: Any other
4 nominations?
5 With that we’ll close nominations.
6 Do any of the four candidates want
7 to make any comments to the council? John
8 Collins, first. We’ll do it in the order they
9 were nominated. John, would you like to make a
10 statement? Go to the nearest mic. You have up
11 to two minutes.
12 MR. COLLINS: Thank you, Sunil.
13 I’m involved in soccer in a lot of
14 ways and been looking for a way to get back, and
15 I believe that participating in the Foundation
16 would be an ideal opportunity to do so. Serving
17 and representing -- serving on the FIFA legal
18 committee, also representing CONCACAF in its
19 legal affairs, and also actively involved with
20 multiple organizations here domestically and
21 having served at the Federation in the
22 organization, I have seen a lot of different
23 aspects of soccer in the United States, and I
24 think there’s a lot of things the Foundation
25 could do, and we would like to help them get
moving to help everybody in this room grow the sport.

Thank you. Appreciate your support.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you, John.

Kevin, would you like to address the group?

MR. PAYNE: I would just like to say thank you to Mike for his kind words, and I hope I have a further opportunity to serve.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Groff, Richard.

MR. GROFF: Thank you, Tom.

I just wanted to mention this one thing. This past year, I took a group of people to the World Cup. It was a fundraiser for the Foundation. They each contributed $250, so that we raised about $8,000. One of the things that I would like to do for the Foundation is raise money, help them grow their corpus and represent all of you.

Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you, Richard.

MS. HAMILTON: I just want to say thanks to Janusz for nominating me, and it's been a privilege and pleasure to serve thus far as part of the U.S. Soccer Foundation and the Federation, and I hope to do so and continue to do so in the future. Thanks.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you.

Mr. Kepner, I'm absolutely lost as to how we now do this with the ballots.

MR. KEPNER: I will be happy to explain. I'm glad you asked.

What we will do is we will present -- you will need to vote for your first choice, and we'll go through the customary countdown on that, finish that one, and then start over again: pick your second choice. Again, all four will be there. We'll go through a countdown at that point, and then go for a third, and that's your third choice, and go through a countdown, and that will end it. And then we'll display the results.

PRESIDENT GULATI: For the sake of clarity, you cannot vote for the same person more than once, Number 1, and you are not required to vote for more than one or two candidates. You can vote for less than three, but you cannot vote multiple times for the same candidate.

MR. KEPNER: That is correct.

PRESIDENT GULATI: So do we understand the rules? We're going to go one by one. And you are not rank ordering your preferences in terms of the voting itself, but you cannot vote for the same person more than once. You are not required to vote for three. You can vote for one, two or three, and if you cast the ballot for the same person more than once, it's going to be negated. All right.

Question. We have a question.

MR. JORGENSEN: I apologize, Dave Jorgensen, Hawaii Soccer.

If I understood you correctly, if I vote for person X and they don't come in first, I cannot vote for them to be the second person?

PRESIDENT GULATI: No, no, you can -- right now, you are going to vote. We're going to say vote now, and you vote for candidate Number 1.

That's fine.

MR. JORGENSEN: Whoever wins, then we can vote for any of the other three for the next --

PRESIDENT GULATI: No, no, no, no, no. We're not going to have a winner then. It's a step process. We will then do it again.

There's not going to be a winner after that stage. On the second ballot, we're going to do that again. You can't vote for the same candidate again. That's all we're saying.

MR. JORGENSEN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay, clear? Crystal? Not? Is it clear for everyone other than Eastern New York? Just when I thought it was okay to be with you guys. You know where I live.

Okay. So let's start.

MR. FRISOLI: No, no, no, I have a question.

PRESIDENT GULATI: I'm getting very worried. The two states that I'm most closely associated with are the ones asking questions. Okay. Larry.

MR. FRISOLI: I love you too, Sunil.

If this is supposed to be a secret ballot, how do you know who voted for the
1 candidate on the first ballot, and that their vote, and how they're voting on the second ballot? If it's supposed to be confidential.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Kepner.

MR. KEPNER: It is confidential. The computer knows.

MR. FRISOLI: So that means you can go into the computer and see who did what?

PRESIDENT GULATI: Larry, with all due respect, we can always do that.

MR. FRISOLI: You're only electing two, right?

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Kepner, I will let you run it from there. Tell us when you start and so on.

MR. KEPNER: Okay. This is the first of three consecutive votes. We will start the first one now. Press one of the four.

Five, four, three, two, one. Stop.

PRESIDENT GULATI: So for the sake of clarity. We are now going to vote for another candidate. You can vote or not vote, but if you vote for the same person that you just voted for previously, it's negated.

MR. KEPNER: Correct. Ready to vote?

Now, vote for one, one of the four. Five, four, three, two, one. Stop.

Completes the second. And now, we go with the last of the three. Vote for one person. Again, now. Five, four, three, two, one. Stop.

PRESIDENT GULATI: So for the sake of clarity. We are now going to vote for another candidate. You can vote or not vote, but if you vote for the same person that you just voted for previously, it's negated.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Congratulations to Mr. Payne, Ms. Hamilton and Mr Groff, Mr. Payne, Ms. Hamilton, and Mr. Groff, congratulations.

Next order of business. Election of independent directors.

As I mentioned earlier, the proposal is that we are going to elect one independent director today and add a second by a mail ballot in the next 120 days. We can have nominations from the floor. You have one nomination from your board.

And let me tell you a little bit about this gentleman. My guess is that no one in the room has met him. I have got a gentleman named Carlos Cordeiro. I have got his bio in front of me.

Carlos is now an advisory director for Goldman Sachs; non-executive Vice-chairman of Goldman Sachs for Asia. Harvard graduate, Harvard undergraduate, Harvard MBA. He was voted as one of the most influential Hispanics in the year 2000. He's a partner at Goldman Sachs.

Colombian mother, Goan father. Speaks Spanish. Spends about half the year in Asia; spends about half the year here. Obviously, the sort of profile person that we talked about last year.

So, he would be, of course, a minority candidate. He's enthusiastic. He's not here this weekend. Enthusiastic about doing it. He was involved in the New York bid for the 2012 Olympics, and in the effort of what we're trying to do in 2018 would be particularly helpful.

I've got plenty of information on him here. We can certainly give you that. So that would be the nomination that's been unanimously approved by the board. He certainly meets the qualifications of independent, and he's filled in the forms and is not conflicted in any way. I think the only one in the room who has ever met him is me, and I met him once.

The reason we are not adding a second nomination from the board today is because we had a candidate that the day before yesterday told us that they declined our invitation, which was a very well-known Hispanic woman. We are determined, at least I am determined, to make the next candidate female that we would add to the Board, which is why we would like 120 days to add that person and send you a candidate. Clearly, we can have other nominations.

So that is the first nomination that has been -- and I guess I'm making that nomination -- that has been fully endorsed and unanimously supported by your board.

We can take other nominations from the floor. Clearly, we would not be in a position to have them vetted in terms of filling in any forms and conflicts.

Are there any other nominations from the floor for the independent director slots? Hearing or seeing none, I would like to get the group's approval for Mr. Cordeiro to join our board as an independent director. Can we do that?
by acclamation?

(Appause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you.

The next piece of business. We have
an application -- which is a piece of very good
news -- we have a preliminary application for
the relaunch of Women's Professional Soccer
League.

(Appause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Tonya Antonucci,
who has been working very hard for the last year
and a half with some seed money that was partly
provided by U.S. Soccer, partly by the U.S.
Soccer Foundation, and partly by investors, two
days ago received six commitment letters,
letters of memorandum, who I am understanding,
for six markets. She told the board about
those. Five identified markets, and one that is
still to be identified. She has four other
investors that she's trying to pin down for two
markets for the possible launch, a launch in
spring of 2008.

There's a lot of work to be done
between now and then. We have, the board has
appointed a committee, or I have appointed a
committee with the board's approval, to be
chaired by Burton Haines, with Dr. Bob and Linda
Hamilton to review that application, to work
through the standards for the relaunch of a
Division 1 Women's Professional League.

Separate and parallel to that
process, the Federation, in conjunction with
FIFA, will look to see how we can support that
league, potentially, financially; not with
upfront and early money, but some backend money
that insures stability. But it's certainly good
news. And we want to make sure that when they
get started -- and there's a lot of work to get
done, it's a very early application. And they
will announce more about that next week in their
way and on their timetable.

What we need here today, because
their launch -- and they're going to need to
apply for full membership prior to our next
meeting, and we will need to get approval,
obviously -- while playing won't start until
April of next year, assuming everything is in
order, they will certainly need to get
membership approval before that. So they will
have to do a number of things, like get FIFA
approval and registered players, and so on.

So I'm told that it's acceptable.
And final membership has to be done by this
board, by this council, and I'm told by
Mr. Monaco, and by our parliamentarian, who we
consulted last night, while he was on the East
Coast, that what we need is the council to
delegate the authority for the board to give
them full membership in one of our board
meetings over the next year, which would be
prior to our next council meeting. And
hopefully, all their paperwork will be in order,
and after legal and that committee reviews it.
So we would like to get that approval from the
council to delegate authority to grant full
membership to the Women's Professional Soccer
League that has applied for Division 1 status as
they meet the standards that are in place and
following our process.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Any comments on
that? Any objections to that? We will do that
by acclamation. Thank you.

(Appause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: And lastly, while
we're on resolutions, it seems to me it would be
appropriate -- so that when we send a note
across to our friends in Zurich at FIFA, so far,
it's been a series of statements that I've made
to the "Washington Post," and a few other
newspapers. Yesterday, our board approved
unanimously resolution form, not the expenditure
of any money or anything like that, the concept,
the notion that we would, full steam ahead, so
to speak, on bringing the World Cup back to the
United States -- so it seems to me that it would
be appropriate for this council to possibly
endorse that thought that we would like to bring
the World Cup back some time in the teens to the
United States.

(Appause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: I will take that
as a yes. Thank you.

Last but not least, we are to Good
of the Game. And before we get to Good of the
Game, we have a little video that we would like
to show you that I think fits in with that
concept. If we can show the Myernick video,
please.

(Vide shown.)
PRESIDENT GULATI: Good of the Game.

Rocco Amoroso, Eastern New York.

Last month in the front page of the Sunday "New York Times" appeared an article, as a matter of fact, three pages, "Outcast United."

I was truly humbled by the simple vision and wisdom by Miss Luma Mufleh, referee from Jordan, who summoned her spirits to brave a hostile environment in the small town of Clarkson, Georgia.

This young lady, notwithstanding the opposition from town officials, assembled young boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 17, all refugees from Sudan, Congo, Kosovo, Liberia, Bosnia, Iraq, Gambia and Afghanistan, to play soccer on rutted fields, sand-scarred fields with no goal posts, players not wearing fancy uniforms, playing with boots and baggy jeans, known as the "Fugees."

Ms. Mufleh in her first year as a coach was not very successful; lost every game. Within three years, her team was undefeated.

Ms. Mufleh was quite a disciplinarian. As a prerequisite for any of the "Fugees" to play soccer, everyone had to sign this agreement, which is very refreshing to all of us, as I will read it:

I will not smoke.
I will have good behavior on and off the field.
I will not do drugs.
I will not drink alcohol.
I will not use bad language.
I will not get anyone pregnant.
My hair will be shorter than the coach's.
I will be on time.
I will listen to the coach.
I will try hard.
I will ask for help.
I want to be part of the "Fugees."
What this young lady has accomplished with these disadvantaged young people are not merely the victories on the soccer fields; more importantly, she instilled in them a sense of self-worth; a sense of dignity, reinforced upon them a sense of hope and preparing them to be winners in the game of life.

Mr. President, we of Eastern New York Soccer lavishly applaud Ms. Luma Mufleh for all of her ideals and accomplishments. For it is such a rare attitude toward encouraging life's obstacles on and off the soccer fields will, in the final analysis be our greatest and purest source of our national strength.

Thank you, Ms. Mufleh, and God bless you all.

(而又.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Mr. Flamhaft.

Some of you, I hope, have received a letter I sent on November 16th. Some of you may know my ties to the office, and can recall in the recent past, I have spoken of my concern about the stature of the office.

The proposal in my letter of November 16th is consistent with my thinking to allow the president to remain fully engaged, as Sunil is, on a daily basis, so that he can make informed decisions affecting the affairs of the USSF.

The purpose of this statement is to invite a serious dialogue and discussion on the particular subject of compensation for the office of the president. By this proposal, I believe we can attract those individuals with the proper qualifications and credentials, who because of economic burdens, have not been able to seek the office, in effect, to open up the process.

At the same time, we should be careful to scrutinize those who seek the position solely for the compensation involved or self-aggrandizement.

I suggest that we should not consider those who we determine are not fully committed to the principles and goals of the organization, nor should the office be reserved for an award for only those who are financially viable.

While the office allows for the introduction of glamour, it involves an undertaking of enormous responsibility and personal sacrifice.

The president serves as the conscience of the USSF; therefore, I suggest we should only consider those individuals who
possess the ability, integrity, honesty and necessary stature and, in addition, and just as important, a proper respect for the game and the USSF. This idea is a result of my own independent judgment on the matter. While I have discussed this with various people, I did not seek anyone's approval. It is meant not to be critical of any individual, but is a concept, I think, is in the best interest of the USSF. I welcome your thoughts. And please rest easy, I have no intention of seeking the office. (Laughter.)

office, I was drafting the proposal so that the president of this organization would be compensated, and then you spoke about running, you asked me not to do it, simply because of, we know each other, but that's wrong. And I suggest that the Rules Committee should look at our bylaws to seek to amend them in the future, so that at some point in time, the president is compensated. What the amount is, is not the issue. It should be fair, but it's about time. (Applause.)

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PRESIDENT GULATI: Any other comments? Tony. MR. FALCONE: Tony Falcone from Maryland Adults. Mr. President, you started off this meeting talking about exposure. Great exposure we got with David Beckham coming over here. The exposure, Univision, had nearly 8 million viewers. You didn't mention how many TVs got thrown out of the windows that evening either, so it might be a record there too. But one area, where I'm going to ask you to step it up is exposure of our U.S. Open Cup, which is the oldest team competition in this country. It has great history. It has great prestige. For years, the competition was run by the then senior division, which then turned to the amateur division, which now is part of the adult council. But it's run by this organization, U.S. Soccer. And the thing that bothers me, I have, from my state of Maryland, we have 17 that compete for the Open Cup, just for the chance to get out of our state and run through the region. And I get offended every time I hear terms of Open Cup proper or that there's only 16 teams from the adult or amateur side. We have usually between 70 and 80 teams every year. And I'm not sure how the other leagues or members of our association, how they conduct their competition to see who qualifies through, but when we talk about numbers of teams that are competing for U.S. Cup, let's include everyone, because it's part of the Cup, and it makes our Cup look even better. Thank you. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. MS. PUGLIESE: Dyann Pugliese from Michigan. If you look at your agenda, we did not cover all the agenda items. We skipped Number 3, the Pledge of Allegiance. My father is a veteran, my husband is a veteran. I believe we have other veterans in this room. And so while we didn't start our meeting with the Pledge, I make a suggestion that we end that way. (Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

PRESIDENT GULATI: All right. Peter next, sorry. MR. VERMES: I think the memorial to Glenn Myernick was incredible. And obviously, I played for him and so did Marcello, and just
obviously somebody that we want to remember forever, because of his legacy to the game. From the athletes and for everybody in this room, there was a player this past year that we had a chance -- myself had a chance to play with in the '88 Olympics, and also in the '90 World Cup. His name was Dave Vanole. He was a goalkeeper for the U.S. national team for many years. He was there before I actually got there. Goalkeeper. Fierce competitor. Extremely talented goalkeeper. Tremendous person. Somebody who was a fantastic leader on and off the field. Treated everybody extremely fairly on his team, and unfortunately, he passed away through, unfortunately, again just the same thing that happened with Glenn Myernick and that is a heart attack on a ski slope. I believe he was 43 years old. I would just like to say to all of you, that obviously for everyone to make sure that they do their checkups, but to remember guys like this, because Glenn, David Vanole, Doug Hamilton, over a year ago now; tremendous people for the game, and unfortunately we're losing some of them, but to continue to remember how much they had put forth to make this game successful.

I think all of us are in positions now, as a Federation, whether you are in your local state or your local community, what have you, it's because of people like that for the federal. Treated everybody extremely fairly on his team, and unfortunately, he passed away through, unfortunately, again just the same thing that happened with Glenn Myernick and that is a heart attack on a ski slope. I believe he was 43 years old. I would just like to say to all of you, that obviously for everyone to make sure that they do their checkups, but to remember guys like this, because Glenn, David Vanole, Doug Hamilton, over a year ago now; tremendous people for the game, and unfortunately we're losing some of them, but to continue to remember how much they had put forth to make this game successful.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BOLLINGER: Jim Bollinger from Eastern Pennsylvania Adult. I'm also speaking on behalf of our sisters with youth. I'm also, like Tony, going to ask U.S. Soccer, Mr. President, to step up on something.

On March 7th, I sent a letter to the Federation with regards to the ChampionsWorld debacle, that affected many of our state organizations with regards to the international games that were held in 2004. I received a very nice response from Gregory Fike of your staff on March 20th, and it's been about a year, and we have heard nothing. This is something, that the Federation is in good shape financially with $50 million in the bank is what I heard. This would help some of our organizations with tens of thousands of dollars into our coffers for those venues that hosted these games. What I would like the Federation to do is step up and give us a current update on the status of this. Push hard to get our money back from these deadbeats.

Give us the annual updates on what's going on and let us know what procedures that have been changed within the Federation to prevent this from happening again.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT GULATI: Thank you. Happy to do that for you, Jim. I think we can do that right after the meeting.


Although arrangements are still being finalized, I just wanted to remind everybody or let everybody know the Annual General Meeting next year is scheduled to be in Hawaii on the Big Island at the Hilton Waikola Villages.

On behalf of the Adult Association, as well as the Youth Association in Hawaii, we want to make sure we extend our invitation to everybody. It's a long way to go, it is expensive, but we're confident that it will be a wonderful time.

If there's anything that I can do,
1 Sergio Bolioli, Jack Sullivan, Michelle Schreiner from youth is here; if there's anything we can do, any questions you have, anything we can help you try to make arrangements for, please feel free to give us a call.

     Mahalo for your time. I hope you can enjoy us. And again Aloha.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. JORGENSEN: And we will be handing out some little individual macadamia nut candies, as you leave the room.

10 PRESIDENT GULATI: My guess is that given a couple of the important rules that got postponed until next year, people are going to make the effort because they want to follow up on it.

11 That treasurer issue is going to bring people back to that next meeting.

12 Any other good of the game? Brooks?

13 MR. MC CORMICK: Due to the lateness of this meeting, the adult council meeting will be moved to 1:30. It's in the Santa Monica room.

14 My right; your left, 1:30.

15 PRESIDENT GULATI: Anything else? Let me end with two comments.

16 MR. GARBER: Are you going to the board?

17 PRESIDENT GULATI: If anyone wants to make a comment.

18 MR. GARBER: If I can just make a comment or two. I want to commend Sunil for leading us so well over the past year. I think it bodes well for all of our futures, not just the future of the league, but the future of the whole organization. And this is very positive times for all of us, and it's particularly positive for Major League Soccer where we're going through some really unprecedented growth.

19 It does put us in a position to do some things that over our previous 10 or 11 years, we weren't in a position to do. And prior to the start of this season, the league will announce a new philanthropic campaign, that's called MLS Works, which will encapsulate all of the programs that are going on currently at our team levels and add several new national philanthropic efforts that will focus on the areas of wellness, of youth education, supporting the local Youth Soccer programs and field development, and really concentrating on the areas of diversity and the youth leadership.

21 And you are starting to see MLS Works promoted on our ABC and ESPN, Univision and Fox broadcast and in our stadiums and allow us to do what we have been doing for so many years with our players and giving back to the communities and allowing them to have an even broader platform for them and our teams to do some good in the communities where we live and where we work.

22 So I thank you for all your support.

23 Without all of you, we wouldn't be where we are today, to be able to do a lot of the positive things that you will start seeing in the years to come. So thank you.

24 PRESIDENT GULATI: Mavis.

25 MS. DERFLINGER: I would just like to thank Asher and the people from the Federation who have done all the work to put this together. They never seem to get any thanks.

26 (Applause.)

27 PRESIDENT GULATI: Okay.

28 A couple of last comments. First, let me thank my fellow board members for their work, along with the rest of you over the last year. Certainly, Dan, and his staff, over the course of the year, as well as in particular this weekend for making this happen.

29 The Myernick video, Peter has touched on Dave Vanole, Lamar Hunt, and others that we lost. The video -- I sent a note to the board members, a few of them were there the night that we honored Glenn in New Jersey.

30 It was an evening that, of all of the years I have been involved in the Federation, it was sort of a prouder moment of anything the Federation was involved in, as anything I have been involved in; World Cups, national teams or anything else, because Glenn got it. And it was just the fact that we had spent money, and put that together, and all the people that were involved in that.

31 Since I was involved in the game, and it was kind of backwards -- early in the '80s -- which was youth stuff and so on -- but pretty early was involved in the national team.

32 And for me, the national team, and now its teams, is what links us, aside from the personal stuff, the camaraderie, some of us involved in...
referee programs, some in coaching, and
obviously, the sport links us, but it's the
national team that we rally around. And so when
we beat Mexico, when we're in the World Cup,
when we're watching the game on Univision, and
the women winning the World Cup, that's what we
rally around. And so the league ties us
together in certain ways, but it's always been,
for me, the national team that brings us really
together.

So, when we asked a bunch of
national team players that played for us in the
past, or some coaches to go to strange places
like Nigeria, they all say yes. They don't know
what they're getting into. They just say yes.
And some of them are on our payroll. And we got
a new coach coming in, so, they were more likely
to say yes. I understand that part of it. But
others just say yes. Not paying them and they
say yes.

And I'm particularly touched by an
e-mail exchange I had a couple of weeks ago with
one of our former national team players who sent
me an e-mail about something. I don't even
remember what that was about -- one of our very
prominent players -- and I sent him a note back
thanking him for his e-mail. And said if, by the
way, I'm going to be writing to you soon about
we're going to need your help with something,
and we're going to need a lot of time. And this
is a guy, in this case, that's very busy. And he
sent a note back to me saying, yeah, done. I'm
on board.

And I sent a note back saying, I
haven't told you what it is yet. And he sent a
note back, saying the Federation is asking. I'm
saying yes, which to me is extraordinary. His
commitment -- and it wasn't to me, personally,
that wasn't what he was saying yes to. It
wasn't Sunil Gulati, it happens to be a friend,
but that's not what he was saying yes to. It was
the sport that he was saying yes to. It was the
national team. It was the crest, if you will.

So that's what links us for me.
It's the one common element in all of us, so
support that team.

But the other message, and Peter
touched on it, Glenn Myernick was a very, very
healthy guy. Fit as a fiddle. So, enjoy
yourself. Take care. Enjoy yourself this
weekend. Enjoy all of this. Because what we're
doing throughout all of this, including winning
world cups or hosting world cups, there's a lot
of other important stuff out there. So have a
good time this weekend.

We'll keep having these fun events,
although Dan is not real happy that John Murphy
clipped his wings on the ability to call board
meetings, I'm sure.

Thanks for all of you being here
this weekend. We'll see you all at dinner
tonight, enjoy the rest of the weekend. Thanks
for the last year.

(Applause.)

(Adjourned at 12:45 p.m.)