

USASA National Board of Directors March 06th, 2019 Meeting Minutes

9:04pm (EST) Meeting called to order by President John Motta

Welcome to all our guest and John asks that they save their comments or questions until the end of the meeting

Roll Call – Karon Beyer

All invited NBOD members and guest are on the call with the exception of Cezar Wasecki and Werner Fricker.

2. Approval of February 14 Board Minutes by acclamation.

3. Presidents Report: John Motta

A. By-law Change – US Soccer recommendation to extend the Officers term limits from 2 years to 4 year. Discussion:

Tony Falcone: If USASA decides to make a change, US Soccer would need to change their by-laws first. This would also mean that the Adult Commissioner bylaws would also be impacted and would have to be changed.

Paul Scherer: If we are looking at align our elections with US Soccer, who has term limits, should we also look at term limits for our board.

Richard Moeller: let's keep in mind that this is a request from Carlos Calderon, president of US Soccer.

Tony suggested that we, USASA NBOD & Rules Committee, would have to look at all the ramification before presenting to the USASA membership.

Bill Davey: Due to the change that USASA has now changed our Annual General Meeting, if the Federation changed their bylaws, we would still have a six month differential.

Further discussions at the 2019 April Meeting

B. Board seat for affiliated members –

John is making a recommendation that USASA dedicate a seat either through the 2nd independent Direction position that is still vacant, or to create a new seat on the board for USASA Other Association members. Discussion:

The independent position was created to bring new (outside) perspective to the Board from someone not associated with soccer.

The USASA Other Associations do not have enough members to have a dedicated seat on the board.

The USASA Other Associations can still have representation by running for either a US Council Position or one of the seats.

Paul Scherer Paul opposes the removal of one of the independent director positions and pointed out that we have too many on the board now per recommendations previously made.

*Currently, there are nine members under USASA Other Associations with a total membership of 35,675 members

UWS – 654 members
WPSL – 1,000 members
NPSL – 3,202 members
AYSO – 6,881 members
EDP – 2,040 members
SAY- 239 members
ASL – 125 members
US Club – 12,403 members
WCSA – 5,276 members
UPSL – 3,855 members

Further discussion at the 2019 April NBOD Meeting

C. Jim Sadowski's Bylaw change: John is asking the Board for their thoughts on this issue.

Tony Falcone: the Credentials Committee would not buy into this as it gives bonus points

Lori Stoneburner: suggestion that this go through proper policy and be submitted to the USASA Rules Committee

Further discussion at the 2019 April meeting

4. Executive Directors Report: Duncan Riddle

A. National League Policy - approve amended policy. Tony Falcone & Duncan

There was still some confusion on the wording so a new revision was emailed out to the Board this morning.(see attached)

Motion 1: Motion made by Paul Scherer, and 2nd by Bill Davey, That the Premier Leagues Policy Section 4, changing a State Premier League to a Multi-State League. Motion approved

Tony pointed out that the bond has been removed Section 8. Financial Viability

Motion 2: Motion made by Bill Davey, and 2nd by Karon Beyer to approve the revised National League Policy as amended, motion passes

B. Discipline procedures –

- 1) The Discipline Committee now has ten members.
- 2) The Governance Committee pointed out that National and Regional Leagues are not direct members of US Soccer. They will need to go through their State Association for disciplinary action and then they can appeal to USASA.

example: NPSL is an independent league that registers directly with USASA so they can hold their own hearings, but USASA hold jurisdiction over NPSL because they register directly with USASA. State Leagues register with their state association, so the state association would hold the hearings.

- 3) Paul Scherer asked that the Discipline Policy to be moved from the Policys page to the resource page for our USASA Members.

3. Referee Assault Notification:

Motion 3: Motion made by Paul Scherer, 2nd by Tony Falcone That: All USASA affiliate members need to report a referee assault to Duncan Riddle, USASA, within 48 hours of the incident. Motion passes.

C. State Consultation meetings – the last meetings were held at the Mid-year Meeting in Scottsdale AZ and were very successful.

D. Board Meeting in April: The Board Retreat & Strategic Planning Session will be Friday April 5th through Sunday April 07th, 2019 in Seattle Washington. The board will attend a Seattle Sounders game on Saturday April 6th.

5. Talks with Asociacion Nacional Futbol En EU - Richard Moeller

Richard has had two phone conference calls with them, and each call has lasted about an hour.

The League has 1,550 to 2,000 members and they are currently affiliated directly with US Soccer.

Atlantic City is where their home office is located but they would host tournaments in New Jersey.

Their teams would like to participate in the Lamar Hunt Open Cup.

They are aware that the cost to affiliate directly with US Soccer is \$10,000.00 whereas if the affiliate with USASA for \$1,000.00 there would be a huge savings for their league.

They are interested in the 2020 UFEA Cup.

Their membership is multi-cultural with both adult and youth teams.

Discussion:

Since they have youth participants it was suggested that Tony (Region I) reach out and get them in touch with either US Youth or US Club Soccer.

6. Update on alignment with United States Youth Soccer – Karon Beyer

Karon has been in touch with Kathy Zolad from US Youth Soccer and chatted for about an hour with preliminary ideas. As Kathy is in Florida, they

are going to try having an in person with in the next two weeks.

7. Update on Women's Task Force – Karon Beyer

Karon sent out an email earlier today with updates from Kali Blackshear and the Womens Task Force. They have identified three objectives:

1. Establishing Date/Location of Tournament of a two level Womens Tournament, Elite & Premier.
2. Establishing a USASA Womens League Directory
3. Work with the Regional Directors on establishing a Womens committee of their own to help establish and maintain a successful Regional Tournament that includes women.

Duncan asked that Karon go back to the Task Force to drop the tournament at the moment and to focus on the Women's National league directory.

8. Unfinished Business

A. USASA Budget & Finance Committee – Lorie Stoneburner

- 1) Lori asked if the Regional Directors had submitted names to Duncan. Bill George, Jim Hamilton and Rob Lavielle were suggested.
- 2) The Budget should be created by Duncan and Lori and then submitted to the Budget Committee for review before being released to the membership.
- 3) Reminder that the investment Committee is not the USASA Budget Committee

B. Review of Committees and Task Force: Paul Scherer suggested that we take a look at Committees and Task Force (ad hoc committees) that are no longer needed.

9. Other Matters:

A. USASA Concussion Policy: Paul Scherer

Paul Scherer has presented a Concussion Policy that has been reviewed and recommended by our insurance agents. Paul would like the Policy to be added to the resource page for our USASA Members.

B. Check List from US Soccer: Paul asked that we review the annual requirements from US Soccer along with the time line requirements.

C. *Safe Sport: Paul Scherer is working with Robin Runstein on a USASA Policy for adult states and league in reference to the Safe Sports Act.

*In 2018 Congress passed the S.534 - Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017

D. Governance Committee: Tony announced that Matthew Krywonos has declined the offer to serve and Ludovico Aprigliano has accepted

Motion 4: Motion made by Tony Falcone, 2nd by Bill Daveys to: approve Ludovico Aprigliano as a member of the USASA Governance Committee. Vote and motion passes

E. USASA Provisional Status Leagues:

Previous approved provisional leagues need to be brought to the National Council so the membership can vote at the USASA Annual General Meeting. New State Leagues applying for USASA affiliation will need to submit their application prior to September so that the membership can vote at the USASA Annual General Meeting.

Duncan was asked to provide a list to formalize who is already provisionally approved at the April Meeting.

F. Deputy Directors: John asked if any of the Deputy Directors had a question for the Board.

Chaz Ballish Reguero, Region III Deputy Director asked for clarification about the Military/Coaches Association. They have voting rights within US Soccer, but they cannot vote for their Board representative. They are not looking for a US Soccer Board seat. What John is proposing, is to give our affiliated members a seat on the USASA Board.

US Soccer Bylaw 202. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES 1.F Other Affiliates

US Soccer Bylaw 302. COMPOSITION AND VOTING Section 1 A (6) delegates from each National Association, National Affiliate, Other Affiliate, Indoor Professional League, Disabled Service Organization and Associate.

G. UPSL: Bill Davey posed a question to the board. UPSL has never been formally approved as a member so how will this impact the Hank Steinbrecher Cup? John said this is a discussion for the Adult Council.

10. Adjourned at 10:25pm

Those in attendance March

President – John Motta

Vice President – Richard Moeller

Treasurer – Lori Stoneburner

Region I Director – Tony Falcone

Region 2 Director – Bill Daveys

Region 3 Director – Darius Ejlaili

Region 4 Director – Paul Scherer

At Large Director – Cezar Wasecki - excused

At Large Director – Werner Fricker - excused
Independent Director – Brett Hurwitz
Executive Director – Duncan Riddle

Guest:

Region 1 - Deputy Director – Andy Weiss
Region 2 - Deputy Director – Claudio Frigo
Region 3 - Deputy Director – Chaz Ballish Regueiro
Region 4 - Deputy Director – Robin Runstein
Governance Committee Representative – Fritz Marth

Identified Action Items for the 2019 April Meeting:

1. USASA Term Limits
2. Board Seat for USASA Other Associations
3. Jim Sadowski's Bylaw change
4. Review of Committees and Task Force

UNITED STATES ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

USASA LEAGUE POLICY

1. USASA League Categories

a. USASA National League

b. USASA Multi-State League

2. USASA State Premier Leagues

USASA State Premier League is not an Organization Member category as defined under USASA Bylaws but recognition of top amateur leagues among our Member State Associations. These leagues are affiliated through their State Associations and are included in this policy for the sole purpose of distinction and honor. Organization Member benefits are not granted to these leagues including votes at National or Regional Councils.

3. Organization Requirements

The following are the minimum requirements for each League category. A league may fall under more than one category and select the category that best fits its needs.

a. USASA National League

1) Minimum of 36 teams

2) Teams must be located among all four (4) time zones of the continental United States (Eastern, Central, Mountain & Pacific).

3) Minimum season length of three (3) months

b. USASA Multi-State League

1) Minimum of 16 teams

2) Teams must be located in at least among four (4) State Associations.

3) A minimum of two (2) teams must be located in at least three (3) separate State Associations.

4) Minimum season length of three (3) months

c. USASA State Premier League

1) League administered or registered by at least one State Association.

2) League has teams that participate in high level competitions and/or has a significant history as a USSF/USASA member.

3) Minimum season length of three (3) months

4. Team & Player Registration

All registration data and fees as required under USASA Bylaws and Policies shall be

submitted as follows:

a. USASA National Leagues and USASA Multi-State Leagues

- 1) All teams, players and coaches will be registered directly with USASA, including the registration of trial players and their waivers.
- 2) All fees will be submitted to USASA by required deadlines.
- 3) All players of each team will have their registration numbers assigned to the respective State Association of where the team is based.

b. USASA State Premier League

- 1) All teams, players and coaches will be registered directly with the respective State Association of where the team is based.
- 2) Every player must be registered in the Premier Player category. For leagues with multiple divisions, the top flight must meet this requirement.

STANDARDS & CRITERIA

USASA National Leagues & USASA Multi-State Leagues

5. Composition & Play

- a. League must determine a champion each year based on seasonal play or by means of a postseason tournament/playoff.
- b. League playing rules must comply with all relevant USASA & FIFA guidelines and Laws of the Game.

6. Markets, Stadia & Fields

- a. League stadiums/arenas must have controllable ingress & egress.
- b. The length of the field for league matches may not be more than 120 yards nor less than 110 yards and the width of the field may not be more than 80 yards nor less than 65 yards.
- c. Playing surface must be FIFA approved.
- d. Not later than 90 days prior to the start of each season, each team shall have a lease for at least one full season with its home stadium.
- e. League specific stadium seating requirements:
 - 1) USASA National League – 500 minimum capacity
 - 2) USASA Multi-State League – 100 minimum capacity

7. Referees

a. All matches require the use of the diagonal system of control, which consists of one referee and two assistant referees. Use of a fourth official is recommended.

b. Referee Assignments:

1) USASA National League – Assignments will be managed through the USSF assigning system. Each league must appoint a referee coordinator.

2) USASA Multi-State League– Each league must appoint a USSF certified referee assignor.

8. Financial Viability

USASA League Policy

a. Every team will be required to post with its league or, if directed with USASA, an adequate performance bond to secure the performance of the team's obligations for the current season.

1) Obligations include stadium lease commitments, third party vendor obligations, player registration fees, team registration fees and/or referee fees.

2) The performance bond shall be set aside by the league as a liability account or in an escrow account.

3) The performance bond will be used to offset any fees, costs or operating expenditures that were incurred due to the default of a team. It may also be used to offset expenditures of other teams within the league that were adversely affected by the offending team's default.

4) Any team withdrawing from a league in good standing shall be entitled to refund of any unused portion of their performance bond.

5) Any team whose performance bond is used during the season will be required to replenish it at least 90 days prior to the next season.

b. Leagues will furnish to USASA prompt written notice of the following:

1) Any violation of the standards

2) Filing or commencement of or any written threat or notice of intention of any person to file or commence any action, suit, litigation or proceeding whether at law or in equity or by or before any governmental authority, against the League or one or more teams in the League that could foreseeably result in a Material Adverse Effect.

3) Any development that has resulted in or could foreseeably result in a Material

Adverse Effect.

4) "Material Adverse Effect" shall mean (a) a material adverse change in or effect on the business, condition, results of operation, assets or liabilities of the League or teams in the league; (b) the ability of the league or its teams to perform any of its obligations under these Standards; (c) the ability of the league or its teams to meet any of their financial obligations.

9. League Office & Administration

a. USASA National and Multi-State Leagues must have year-round a designated/registered postal address able to receive mail during regular business hours.

b. Each USASA National and Multi-State League shall have an executive committee consisting of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

c. USASA National Leagues must have the following:

1) Central office operating year-round during regular business hours.

2) At minimum one full-time employee who performs the duties of chief executive officer, executive director or commissioner

3) Designated staff or volunteer who performs the duties of a media/public relations officer.

4) Designated staff or volunteer who performs the duties of marketing/sponsorship officer.

USASA League Policy page 4

d. USASA Multi-State Leagues must designate at least one staff member or volunteer who performs the duties of commissioner and media/public relations officer.

USASA Womens Task Force update:

We have decided to call the tournament the Michelle Akers Cup.

It will be comprised of 2 Divisions:

Elite: which will consist of 4 teams from the likes of WPSL, United Womens Soccer League, etc.

Premier: which will consist of 4 teams; 1 team from each of USASA's Regions.

As of now our we have 3 points of focus:

1. Establishing Date/Location of Tournament
2. Establishing a USASA Womens League Directory
3. Work with the Regional Directors on establishing a Womens committee of their own to help establish and maintain a successful Regional Tournament that includes women.

Once the date and location has been established we can then begin working on a budget for what the tournament will cost and will submit our Tournament Proposal to the Board.

Again I would like to remind John and Duncan that they did accept our invitation to come to the Region 3 tournament.

I decided not to include the mission statement as it would be redundant since they are aware of our purpose and it will be included in the proposal.

Let me know if you think I need to add anything.