

**USASA Executive Committee Meeting  
Loew's Hotel  
Philadelphia, PA  
January 16-17, 2010**

Meeting called to order: 8:00 am EST

**Roll Call:** President, Brooks McCormick; Vice President, Marge Madriago; Treasurer, Toni Briggs-McGee; Secretary, Valerie Blanchenay; Region I Director, Richard Groff; Region II Director, Bruno Trapikas; Region III Director, Carlos Rodriguez; Region IV Director, Bill Bosgraaf; Region I Deputy Director, Fritz Marth; Region II Deputy Director, George Chazaro; Region III Deputy Director, Darius Eljali; Region IV deputy Director, Mike Maloney.

**Guests:** Stephanie Walker, Steve Addington, Werner Fricker, Jim Hamilton

Steve Addington provided an overview of the IT Task Force work to date and he handed out a copy of their report. He indicated the following Online Registration Vendors would be presenting to the EXCO today: Demosphere, current provider; Sports Logic; Affinity; and First Sports International. Each group is allotted 90 min presentation slot and there is a 30 min break in between each.

ENY joined the meeting during break to present the details of a referee issue occurring in their state. Sal asked for USASA support on the matter of US Soccer policies on the duties of an assignor.

Meeting moved in to Executive Session to discuss the vendor presentations and next steps.

Meeting recessed: 6:31 EST

Sunday, January 17, 2010 meeting re-convened 8:09 am EST

**Approval Minutes:** Marge Madriago motioned, and Carlos Rodriguez seconded to approve the minutes from December 21, 2009 conference call. Bruno Trapikas requested correction to Hall of Fame report. He also noted typos to be corrected. Motion carried.

EXCO discussed the minutes from November Seattle meeting, corrections were made and approved.

**NSSL:** It was reported that Daniel Cortez is in good standing, the organization have paid all fees. They have teams across 3 states in two regions. Daniel Cortez would have to take coaching course again to be allowed to coach.

**Competitions Committee Update:** The report is distributed in the AGM books. All Committees are reminded that contracts need to go thru USASA Office. Any sponsorship proposals should be cleared thru the national office as well to ensure alignment with current sponsor deals. The Competitions Committee would like the opportunity for dialogue with the Budget Committee.

**Bylaw Proposal to change fiscal and seasonal year calendar:** With upcoming AGM meeting, there was discussion on this item. Toni Briggs-McGee commented that voting strength by number of player registration won't change. She also noted that the calendar year change will impose a premium for USASA audit to be completed during tax season (approx. \$ 5-6K more), and it will add a burden on the National Treasurer to do an audit during tax season, and when the AGM is held. Bruno Trapikas commented that changing to a calendar year would make the budget process easier and our annual budget approval would take place at the MYM for upcoming year.

**Stub Budget:** Brooks McCormick explained the rationale and process behind creating an operating budget that would allow USASA to get thru end of year 2010 should calendar year proposal be adopted. He also commented that the Women's Task Force has requested the inclusion of funding for a National Recreational Tournament this fall. If it is to be considered, they were asked to provide a plan, budget and recommendation for such by the AGM.

**Updated Financials and Audit Report:** Toni Briggs-McGee commented that the audit is not final nor published yet. Stephanie reported that several bank accounts were consolidated. Stephanie Walker was asked to investigate interest bearing accounts. Stephanie indicated she had new signature cards to be signed by Brooks and Toni due to the account consolidations.

**Grant/Loan for CSSA:** A letter dated 1.10.10 was shared with the EXCO whereby CSSA was requesting financial assistance to continue to operate and re-establish their State Association. Marge Madriago motioned, Valerie Blanchenay seconded to approve CSSA request for \$10,000 grant to assist with their re-organization process. Richard Groff suggested USASA pay CSSA office rent of \$900 for up to 6 months, as emergency funding, Makers of the motion agreed to amendment. Motion carried. Additionally it was suggested to investigate making a claim against D& O policy. Brooks McCormick stated that Mike Edwards of USSF had advised that they would not pursue recovery of the missing funds, as the amount in question would not be worth pursuing .

**U-23 National Finals:** Werner Fricker, Jr. reported that this event will take place in Lawrence, KS. He hopes to send out packets of information shortly as details are still being finalized and they need to resolve sponsor conflicts. There is a \$30,000 allocation for this event, and \$10,000 is for hosting. USYSA is looking to sub-contract with USASA to fit overall competition into their program. Richard Groff has requested a detailed budget from Cup Committee.

**2009 U-20 National Final Expense:** Richard brought up the fact that Region I was not reimbursed \$2500 for this event. Richard Groff stated the referee fees and field rental for the event exceeded \$10,000. It seems that neither receipts nor invoices have been submitted to the office for reimbursement. Mike Maloney motioned, Carlos Rodriguez seconded to reimburse Region I for 2009 U-20 National Final expenses to amount allocated. This motion passed.

**Governance Task Force:** Stephanie Walker provided a report on the work of the group to date. There was discussion regarding additional assistance from a consultant to more effectively guide the group. Valerie commented that the Summit Wrap up report recommended a consultant work with the board and staff on summit objective implementation. Stephanie proposed bringing in a consultant to work

with the EXCO during the April planning meeting. The EXCO felt waiting until April would not be a good action to take. Stephanie was asked to investigate the availability of Mark Hass for a meeting either February 19-21 or March 13-14 with location to be either Dallas, TX or Chicago, IL.

**Referee Issues:** Richard Groff reported that Region I had formed a committee to submit policy changes for current SRA practice. Brooks asked to consider expansion of the Committee to include more representation from the rest of the country. There was additional discussion regarding the concern of the local assignor coordinator not working with the structure of the state association.

**Insurance Committee:** Fritz Marth commented that Paul Scherer is the new Region IV representative, and Bill Sweeney is the new Region III representative. His report was shared at the meeting in Seattle and he intends to meet with his committee at the AGM. They are looking at developing a tiered structure and waiting for feedback, however they feel a complete opt-out should not be offered. They are proceeding to work with Tom Hayes as current USASA insurance broker. He also commented on a survey of Region I membership where 15% like current offering, indicated 'don't change'. Two State Associations didn't like current insurance offering at all, and there were 11-12 that had not replied. Fritz was asked to prepare language to send to the membership stating that D&O coverage does not cover theft. He will investigate cost of Employee Fidelity Insurance and what incremental costs there would be to D&O to cover theft.

**Late Registration Payments:** Toni Briggs-McGee commented that 08-09 checks received on 1.4.10 caused auditors to re-do audit since these are material items. This added incremental \$1,300 to USASA expenses to re-do audit. Darius suggested as part of Best Practices review the process, and possibly don't issue player pass until Leagues have submitted monies to State Association. States in question were EPA, FL and MN for 1,408, 462, and 19 players respectively. Richard asked that USASA verify if the registration and insurance monies for EPA are for Fall '09 season. There was discussion regarding referring Bylaw 215 to Rules Committee for clarification and possible re-write. Toni Briggs-McGee motioned to fine FL and EPA for late payment until investigation is completed. This item will be clarified and brought back for discussion at a subsequent EXCO meeting. Richard Groff suggested to investigate further and report back. No motion

**Team Leader Recommendation:** Valerie presented the process undertaken by the Selection Team: Team Leader Task Force. The EXCO was reminded of the criteria set forth by the Summit Task Force: utilize the volunteer questionnaire and job descriptions as a means to encourage, screen and select the right talent for these important roles. It was also the recommendation of the Summit Task Force, Consultants, and approved by EXCO in Seattle, that the team leader candidates needed to have the benefit of their first-hand experience at the Summit, in order to assure a more successful transition from that weekend. Additionally, it was preferred that a team leader exhibit more leadership skill set than specific competency in a given area. It was deemed that team members can fill in with subject matter expertise in a given objective. After a lengthy question and answer, and survey review period, the overall team leader implementation manager, Robert Kepner was approved along with the team leaders for the following categories: Sponsorship Team – Cara Rooney, Education and Development – Gianfranco Barroni, Database Team – Barb Trainor, Diversity Development – Richard Muellar, and Best Practices –

Kevin Anderson. It was also decided to re-open the volunteer survey to garner additional applicants for open team leader roles as well as a larger pool of team members. The timing on this will be very tight as there is an initial timeline to have the team leaders announced and in place by the AGM. The USASA office will re-open the survey and collect any new applications to forward to the review team for consideration. In the meantime, Valerie will contact the six individuals to notify them of their role and confirm they accept. The team leaders will also be surveyed for availability of possible meeting dates with the EXCO and Consultant. All the Team Leaders will be announced at the AGM along with an implementation status report.

**Adult Council Budget Proposal:** Richard Groff reported he had a 3 hour conversation with Dan Flynn regarding this agenda item. USSF's current policy will not pay for Werner Fricker, Jr (At Large Adult Council position) to attend AGM. Should USASA propose a plan for an educational program, USSF will entertain to provide staff assistance. There was additional discussion regarding funding for At-Large member to attend MYM, AGM, and other USASA board meetings.

**WPSL Proposal** : Mike Maloney presented Jerry Zanelli's proposal regarding the Women's Open Cup, to EXCO via email and verbally reviewed it again. There was discussion on the matter. Members of the board would like to see a detailed budget for this proposal.

**Open Cup:** Adult Council currently has 16 teams that advance to the Lamar Hunt Open Cup. A proposal would be made to Open Cup Committee to add 4 slots from the 16 to 20 slots for 2011 Competition; and that the 4 extra slots would go to NPSL. Werner Fricker, Jr. suggested development of a formula to determine how the slots are allocated so as to support proportional representation.

**Director's Award Budget:** Richard presented the concept that he'd like to honor a State Association for participation in all competitions. Richard Groff motioned, and Bill Bosgraaf seconded to support the 'Director's Award' concept that \$500/region and \$50 for a plaque be approved as an expenditure for a total of \$2,200. The award would be presented at the MYM. There was discussion whether this should be trialed before adopting it as a national award. Motion carried. Bruno Trapikas, Toni Briggs-McGee recorded as no vote.

**2010-11 Budget:** This has been sent to the membership. There was discussion regarding the 2009-10 budget especially on the topic of the Elite Player Program. Bruno Trapikas motioned and Carlos Rodriguez seconded to appoint Bill Bosgraaf as the Board Liaison to the Elite Program Committee until a Chair is named and approved.

**National Cups Logo:** Bruno Trapikas questioned the logo usage and terminology for National Cups Program. Fritz Marth motioned and Toni Briggs-McGee seconded to approval the 2010 National Cup logo to be used at Regional events. Motion failed. There was discussion on the matter. The item was referred to be handled by the National Cups committee.

**IT Task Force:** There was a recommendation to move Tom Moore to the Best Practices implementation team where his skill set can be better utilized. Kyle Langenwaller was added to the current IT Task Force.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm EST

Respectfully submitted for review and correction,

Valerie Blachenay  
USASA Secretary