

**MINUTES  
TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING  
of the  
UNITED STATES AMATEUR SOCCER ASSOCIATION  
Boston, Massachusetts  
July 30th & 31st, 1993**

Chairman Gianfranco Borroni opened the twelfth Annual General Meeting of the United States Amateur Soccer Association at 1:00 PM, July 30, 1993.

**CREDENTIALS REPORT - ROLL CALL**

Dick Burns, Chairman of the Credentials Committee reported the following National State Association: "Not in Good Standing": Vermont.

The following National State Associations, not having the required minimum number of teams affiliated were not able to vote: Mississippi, North Dakota and Wyoming (provisional member).

The following National State Associations were not represented: Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, South Carolina, Vermont and Wyoming.

The total eligible votes were: 121; total votes present were: 118.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the eleventh Annual General Meeting of August 22, 1992 in New Orleans, Louisiana were adopted as distributed.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Chairman Gianfranco Borroni asked Federation Executive Vice-President Hank des Bordes to conduct the election.

Mr. des Bordes asked the Credentials Committee to assist him in counting ballots.

Roger Faulkner, President of the Michigan Soccer Association placed the name of Gianfranco Borroni in nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Hank des Bordes asked for a motion to close the nominations. It was moved, seconded and adopted to close the nominations.

Hank des Bordes then asked if there was any objection to accept the election of Gianfranco Borroni by acclamation. Hearing no objection, he did declare Gianfranco Borroni re-elected by acclamation.

Chairman Borroni again took the chair of the meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Administrator reported that no communications were received pertaining to this meeting.

REPORTS

The reports of officers and committees were accepted as printed in the book of Annual Reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The fiscal report for the 1991/92 fiscal year, as audited by the outside auditing firm of Jacobs, Siegel and Company (mailed to all state associations in December 1992) was accepted by the delegates as distributed.

AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS AND RULES

Bruno Trapikas, Chairman of the Rules Committee took the chair to present the rule change proposals and the recommendations of the Rules Committee.

First he thanked his fellow committee members for their efforts: Anthony Falcone, Helmut von Oetinger, Charles Robinson and Robert McGee. He then outlined the procedures to be used in the discussions and voting on the rule changes.

Chairman Borroni introduced the parliamentarian: Tom Baigley.

The following Rule changes were adopted:

As a matter of housekeeping it was agreed that in all instances, where appropriate the name of National State Association shall be used.

Rule 5011. MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Types of Membership

(g) USASA Divisional Leagues

- (1) Members shall consist of properly constituted leagues meeting the criteria outlined herein, and whose rules and regulations are in accordance with minimum standards as established by the Executive Board of the Division, having a minimum of six (6) teams in at least three (3) National State Associations.

- (2) Members shall be divided into the following classifications:

National League - A league having teams in three or four regions; these leagues shall be administered by the Amateur Division and its players shall register with the Division.

Inter-Regional League - A league having teams in two regions; these leagues shall be administered by the Amateur Division and its players shall register with the Division.

Regional League - A league having teams in one region; these leagues shall administer themselves and its players

shall register through the National State Association in which the team is domiciled. Teams domiciled in a National State Association immediately adjoining another region may participate in a league in that adjoining region with the permission of the following:

- the National State Association in which the team is domiciled;
- the Regional Council in which the league is located; and
- the Regional Council in which the team is domiciled.

The classification of Divisional Leagues shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

### Section 3. Members Qualifications and Duties

- (c) (1) All clubs, leagues, associations, and organizations affiliated with a National State Association or a Divisional League must register every soccer player and every team that is sponsored, financed, coached, or administered by the club, league, association, or organization.
- (3) All National State Associations and Division Leagues are responsible for ensuring that all of their affiliated member teams, leagues, clubs, associations, and organizations adhere to this rule. Failure to enforce this rule may result in the National State Association or Divisional League being declared not in good standing by the Federation National Board of Directors.
- (4) Temporary exceptions to this rule may be granted only by the Federation Amateur Division Executive Board upon written explanation by the respective National State Association or Divisional League.
- (5) Each National State Association and Divisional League shall ensure that all registered teams are provided liability insurance coverage.
- (d) A National State Association must set its fees for all of its members on an equal basis and may not charge any team/club additional fees because the team/club may play in a Divisional League (as defined in Rule 3018).

### Section 4. Member Voting Rights

- (c) NEW Divisional Leagues consisting of a minimum of 10 active teams shall have voting powers, as set forth in these Bylaws and Rules, as follows:
  - (1) Each National League: one (1) vote
  - (2) Each Inter-Regional League: one (1) vote

- (3) Each Regional League: one (1) vote at the Regional Council, within the Region comprising a majority of its teams, and non-voting membership on the Amateur Division Council

Section 5. Member Dues

(e) Fifty percent of Divisional League fees (see Chapter 8 - Fees) shall be distributed to the region(s) in which its teams are domiciled, on a pro-rated basis. All team affiliation fees (see Chapter 8 - Fees) shall be equally distributed (50% each) to the region(s) and National State Association(s) in which those teams are domiciled. These fees shall be paid to the Amateur Division at least thirty (30) days prior to the first league game of the year.

(f) Divisional Leagues shall also post a performance bond equal to its league fees with the Amateur Division. The performance bond shall be paid to the Amateur Division at least thirty (30) days prior to the first league game of the year.

(g) A National State Association or Divisional League that has not paid its fees, fines, or performance bond, if applicable, or has not forwarded its affiliation form, shall be considered delinquent and will have no voice or vote at any regional, divisional, or national meetings.

RULE 5014. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Section 1. Duties of the Chairman

NEW

(1) administering the affairs of the Division with the concurrence of the Executive Committee and ensuring the proper administration of Federation, Division, State Association and Divisional Leagues Rules and Regulations.

all other paragraphs to be re-numbered accordingly

RULE 5016. NATIONAL AMATEUR COUNCIL

The National Amateur Division Council shall consist of the Executive Committee, the Deputy Regional Directors, and the Representatives from affiliated National State Associations and Divisional Leagues.

RULE 5019. VOTING

At all meetings under Rule 5017, the designated representative of National State Associations shall vote as authorized. Regional Directors and Deputy Directors shall be entitled to one (1) vote each, where applicable. The respective Chairman of a meeting may vote in the case of a tie vote. The Secretary/Amateur Administrator shall not vote.

1993 AGM Minutes, page 5

RULE 5020. PROTESTS, APPEALS, AND FEES

Section 1.

- (1) the National State Association/Divisional League.
- (2) The Amateur Division Regional Appeals Committee, except for National and Inter-Regional Divisional Leagues.

delete subparagraph 5

RULE 5021. AMENDMENTS

Section 2

NEW

- (2) affiliated Divisional Leagues

all other paragraphs to be re-numbered accordingly

Section 3. Advance Notice

Any proposals or motions to amend the Bylaws and Rules of this Division must be made, in writing, to the Secretary one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

RULE 5025. AMATEUR DIVISION STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 3. Duration

(a) Committee appointments including the chairmanship will be for a term of one year and may be repeated.

(b) Appointees may only be made from National State Associations or Divisional Leagues which have paid their USASA affiliation fees for the current seasonal year.

(c) Committee members may be replaced at any time for cause (i.e., non participation or nonperformance of duties, but not for differences or opinion) by the Amateur Division Chairman or the respective Regional Director.

Section 4. Committee Responsibilities

(g) Referee Committee

(1) (E) identify those qualified and available referees for any sanctioned USASA tournament or cup competition to the appropriate appointing authority and to the respective National State Association.

1993 AGM Minutes, page 6

RULE 5032. ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General

(a) To be eligible to enter any of the competitions, a team must be a registered Premier Member or an affiliated National State Association, or a member of a Professional League, or Divisional League.

RULE 5033. ENTRIES AND ENTRY DEADLINES

Section 5. The entry fees shall be as follows:

(1) U.S. National Open Cup Competition \$200.00

RULE 5034. ADMINISTRATION

Section 1 (c)

NEW

(3) The National Cup Commissioner shall also furnish all National and Inter-Regional Leagues with entry forms, referee, financial and game reports, and Rule Books for every team that enters the Cup.

Section 2. Regional Cup Commissioners

(b) The Regional Commissioner shall be responsible for administering Interstate games. Furnish the Regional Referee Administrator with game schedules and referee report forms with request for referees to be appointed to all Interstate games and for completed referee forms to be returned to the Regional Commissioner immediately following the games. Administer any suspensions as necessary. Handle any protests according to Rule 5054. He shall report to the National Commissioner on the progress of the competition periodically.

Section 3. State Cup Commissioner

The State Cup Commissioners shall be responsible for administering the Cup competitions among teams headquartered within the National State Association for which he/she is selected. He/she shall furnish all teams within the National State Association with an entry form, have it returned with the proper fee within the established deadline. Check them out and make sure they comply with the Cup Entry Rules. Make copies for his/her use, and forward the original with the fee to the Regional Commissioner before Intrastate competition shall commence. Furnish all teams entering the Cup with a schedule, game financial reports and a Rule Book. Furnish the State Referee Administrator with game schedules and referee report forms with request for referees to be appointed to all games and for completed forms to be returned to him/her immediately following the game. Administer player suspensions if needed. Collect scores. Forward them to the Regional Commissioner the same day that the competition occurred. Make sure that every home team fills out and forwards a financial report whether a collection is made or not. Receive all Intrastate protests. Handle them according to Rule 5054.

RULE 5035. COMPETITIONS - STATES AND REGIONS

Section 1. Except for Divisional League internal competition, the competitions shall be divided into states. The geographical boundaries of each National State Association shall constitute the boundaries of one National State, and/or two National State Associations within a state.

Section 3. Interstate games shall be under the jurisdiction of the Regional Cup Commissioner, as set forth in Rule 5038.

RULE 5036. FORM OF COMPETITION

NEW

Section 2. Providing that the Divisional League championships are completed no later than the scheduled dead-line, divisional leagues may organize their own internal competition in a fashion preferred by the respective Divisional League.

next section to be renumbered "3".

RULE 5038. INTRASTATE, DIVISIONAL LEAGUE, AND INTERSTATE COMPETITIONS

NEW HEADING

NEW

Section 2. Divisional League Competition

- (a) Each Divisional League may conduct its own internal competition, leading to a single cup champion, who shall then be eligible to advance to interstate competition, provided that all of its teams enter such competition. Only the winner of that league competition shall be eligible for interstate competition. Alternatively, individual teams may enter the competition through their National State Association.
- (b) Divisional League competition shall be administered and may be sponsored by the league.
- (c) The National Cup Commissioner and Regional Cup Commissioners shall set the date by which the Divisional League winners must be determined.

Section 3. Interstate Competition

- (a) All winners of National State Association competitions shall participate in interstate competitions.
- (b) Each Divisional League cup champion shall be seeded in interstate competition, within the region in which that team is domiciled, as follows:

<u>Regional League</u>	-	<u>Enters interstate competition at the same level as National State Association champions</u>
<u>Inter-Regional League</u>	-	<u>Enters interstate competition at the regional quarterfinal level</u>

National League - Enters interstate competition at the regional semifinal level

However, in the event that there are more than four teams from Inter-Regional Leagues or two teams from National Leagues, thus qualifying for the competition in a particular region, an additional elimination game or games shall be played among such teams, at the respective level, to determine advancement.

(c) Scheduling of all interstate games shall be conducted during a Regional Meeting to facilitate communication with all National State Associations.

(d) A team, representing a national state association in both competitions (U.S. National Open and U.S. National Men's Amateur) at Regional Finals, that wins both competitions will only be able to play in the U.S. National Open in the National Finals, if both the U.S. National Open and the U.S. National Men's Amateur Cup Finals are played at the same time and/or the same venue.

RULE 5039. INTRASTATE AND INTERSTATE COMPETITIONS GAME RECEIPTS

Section 2

(A) Games in which the visiting team does not receive a travel subsidy from the Division: Fifteen percent (15%) of the gross game receipts (after taxes) shall be paid to the Division. The remaining balance, BEFORE EXPENSES, shall be equally divided between the teams.

(B) Games in which the visiting team receives a travel subsidy from the Division: The net game receipts (after taxes and legitimately documented game expenses recovered by the host) to be divided as follows: Fifteen percent (15%) to the Division and the remainder equally divided between the teams.

RULE 5040. INTERSTATE COMPETITION - TEAM BOND

Section 1. The winning team from each National State Association/Divisional League shall be required to post a bond in the amount of \$500.00 in the form of a certified cashier's check or money order or National State Association/Divisional League check payable to USASA and send it to the Regional Cup Commissioner within seven (7) days after the state championship is determined. No inter-state games shall commence without the Regional Cup Commissioner holding the bond.

RULE 5041. REGIONAL FINALS - TRAVEL EXPENSES

NEW

Section 5. Notwithstanding the above, subsidies for Divisional League teams shall be as follows:

Regional League teams:                      The same as participants from National State Associations.

Inter-Regional League teams: 50% of the amount they would be eligible for as participants from National State Associations.

National League teams: None.

RULE 5042. SEMIFINALS AND GRAND FINALS

NEW

Section 4. Notwithstanding the above, subsidies for Divisional League teams shall be as follows:

National League teams: The same as participants from National State Associations.

Inter-Regional League teams: 50% of the amount they would be eligible for as participants from National State Associations.

National League teams: None.

RULE 5044. FORFEITS - GENERAL

NEW (second paragraph)

Section 1. A team using an ineligible player shall forfeit the game in which the player played to the opposing team, and shall be expelled from the competition.

Ineligibility claims/protests shall be resolved by the State Cup Commissioner after obtaining a copy of the certified roster.

Section 3.

Delete Entire section

RULE 5047. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Section 1. General

(b) A player shall not actually play for more than one team in the same competition. A registered player who has not actually played may transfer to another team in the same individual competition. A player may be registered and play in different competition eg: Women's Amateur and Over-30. Men's Amateur. Over-30 and Open.

(c) (1) Any team eligible for Regional Finals shall submit a roster of a maximum of eighteen (18) players seven (7) days prior to the Regional Finals to the Regional Cup Commissioner.

(c) (2) This roster shall be signed by a team official and certified by the State Registrar.

(c) (3) Those players appearing on these rosters then shall be eligible in all remaining games of the competition.

RULE 5051. GAME OFFICIALS

The selection of game officials shall be subject to the following limitations:

(1) Only officials registered with the Federation shall be eligible to be selected as referee or linesmen for games in these competitions.

(2) Neither a member of the USASA Referee Committee nor a member of the National Cups Committee shall be eligible as game officials. Present or past members of either of the competing teams shall not be eligible as game officials for the game between the two teams, unless both teams waive the restriction in writing.

(5) In Regional semi-finals and finals, and National semi-finals, the referee must be from a neutral state. In National finals, the referee and linesmen must be from a neutral state.

RULE 5052. PLAYER DISCIPLINE

Suspension of ejected players shall be for a minimum of the two (2) following pre-scheduled league or cup competition games. Exhibition games or indoor games do not count. Ejected player passes together with referee report(s) must be promptly sent to the player's home State Association or Divisional League which has the authority to increase the period of suspension.

RULE 5053. TEAM AND PLAYER BREACHES OF RULES

Section 1. The National Cup Commissioner shall have the power to disqualify and remove from further participation in the competition any team, team official or player(s) of any competing team who may be proven to be guilty of any breach of the rules of the Federation-Amateur Division.

RULE 5055. AWARDS - TEAMS AND PLAYERS

Section 1. Regional Finals

Regional winning and second place teams shall be awarded trophies.

Section 2. National Finals

(a) National Finals winning and second place teams shall be awarded trophies and player medals.

(b) The winning teams shall be entitled to call themselves the United States Soccer Federation-Amateur Division U.S. NATIONAL OPEN, U.S. NATIONAL MEN'S AMATEUR, U.S. NATIONAL MEN'S OVER 30, U.S. NATIONAL WOMEN'S AMATEUR and U.S. NATIONAL WOMEN'S OVER 30 champions.

SOCCKER FOUNDATIONS

The proposal of Eastern New York regarding the election of the Board of Directors of the Soccer Foundations was discussed. The delegates held a straw vote to get a feeling of the Amateur Division Council, as to the strongest possible candidate at the Federation level. After the ballots were counted in a separate room, the results were announced to the membership, they were in order of finish: Werner Fricker, Roger Faulkner and Gene Edwards.

RECESS

Chairman Gianfranco Borroni recessed the meeting at 6:00 PM.

RECONVENE

Chairman Gianfranco Borroni reconvened the meeting at 2:00 PM on July 31, 1993.

NEW BUSINESS

A roll call by Credentials Committee Dick Burns showed the following state associations not present: Alaska, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Carolina, Vermont and Wyoming.

Director Frank Rojas introduced USSF Life Member John Best.

\* MEDICAL INSURANCE:

The delegates received two presentations regarding medical insurance.

The first presentation was made by Thomas R. Hayes of Des Champs & Gregory, our current insurance broker for liability and D & O Insurance. His policy would be a mandatory policy with a \$ 5,000.00 maximum, which could be increased to \$ 10,000.00. Exceptions would be made for any state association that currently has medical insurance and would like to continue their plan. These states will have to submit a certificate of insurance at the beginning of the fiscal year. The cost of the policy would be \$ 4.85 per player for the \$ 5,000.00 plan or \$ 6.00 for the \$ 10,000.00 plan. The insurance company will be Gulf Atlantic Insurance Company.

Tom Hayes also pointed out that in the future liability insurance will be difficult to obtain, if no medical insurance is in place for the participants.

The second presentation was made by Anthony Franklin of the Emar Group. He was asked by the Executive Committee to present a non-mandatory plan. He did present such a plan, in which while there is no minimum participation required, it was hoped that at least 50,000 players would be participating in the first year. The cost of his plan would be \$ 7.85 per player for \$ 5,000.00 maximum insurance and \$ 9.00 for a \$ 10,000.00 maximum plan. The insurance company will be Mutual of Omaha.

1993 AGM Minutes, page 12

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adopt a mandatory insurance plan. The membership decided that to adopt a mandatory plan, a three quarter vote must be obtained. On a roll call vote the delegates voted 89:21 for the mandatory plan. The delegates then voted to accept the plan offered by Des Champs & Gregory for a maximum of \$ 5,000.00.

\* RULE CHANGE RECONSIDERATION

Bruno Trapikas, Chairman of the Rules Committee moved that all rule changes pertaining to Vice-Chairman and Treasurer be reconsidered. After a discussion it was established if these rule changes will be reconsidered, they must be reconsidered individually as originally submitted.

On a roll call vote, the delegates voted 45 for, and 60 against suspending the rules, so that a motion for reconsideration could be made. The motion failed.

\* BUDGET

Foster Perry, Chairman of the Budget Committee took the chair to present the 1993/94 budget.

He explained the budget process and thanked his colleagues on the committee for their help. He pointed out that it is essential that we raise more funds, such as additional teams and players, find sponsorships or at the last resort raise fees. He pointed out that we have a shortfall of \$ 30,000.00 in the expected sponsorship (contributions) from the Federation towards the cup competitions. We have \$ 80,000.00 listed, while the Federation budget only allows \$ 50,000.00.

Various motions to change budget items were made, all failed. It was pointed out however that item E6.13 "medical insurance for tournaments" was not needed, in view of the mandatory medical plan adopted previously. The sum of \$ 8,100.00 will be available for other funding.

A motion was made, seconded and adopted that the George F. Donnelly Cup be the first funded item, and that no funds be expended for other line items until the George F. Donnelly Cup is funded.

With the above stipulations, the budget was adopted as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gianfranco Borroni adjourned the twelfth Annual General Meeting at 5:00 PM.