

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

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PROCEEDINGS

UNITED STATES ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Hyatt Regency, Indian Wells, California

September 28th, 2019

12:30 p.m. - 3:21 p.m.

Reported by Rebecca L. DiBello, CSR, RPR

**USASA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

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16
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19
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21
22
23**AGENDA**

	PAGE	LINE
1. Moment of Silence	3	11
And Pledge of Allegiance	3	15
2. Roll Call	4	4
3. Credentials Report	19	9
4. Confirmation of Minutes	11	9
5. Communication		
(No Communications)		
6. Nominations and Elections	51	16
7. Unfinished Business	63	21
8. Budget Approval	65	8
9. Amendments to the Charter,		
Bylaws and Policies	75	14
10. New Business	65	4
11. For the Good of the Game	93	21
12. Adjournment	103	23

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 gotten them, step up there please and grab
2 them.

3 Aside from that, we'll get started with
4 the roll call.

5 **(The following represents the roll call**
6 **being called by Mr. Eisenbraun; the answers by**
7 **the respective parties.)**

8 Q. John Motta.

9 A. Present.

10 Q. Richard Moeller?

11 A. Here.

12 Q. Karon Beyer, absent. Lori Stoneburner?

13 A. Here.

14 Q. Werner Fricker, absent. Cezar Wasecki?

15 A. Here.

16 Q. Brett Hurwitz?

17 A. Here.

18 Q. Now for the Regional Officers.

19 Region 1 Director, Tony Falcone?

20 A. Here.

21 Q. Region 1 Deputy Director, Andy Weiss?

22 A. Here.

23 Q. Region 1 Secretary, Scott Mapes, is

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 present, but is voting in the State Association.

2 Region 1 Treasurer, John Kahmke, is
3 present, but also voting in the State Association.

4 Region 2 Director, Bill Davey?

5 A. Here.

6 Q. Region 2 Deputy Director, Claudio Frigo,
7 is present, but voting in the State Association.

8 Region 2 Secretary, Diane Pugliese?

9 A. Here.

10 Q. Region 2 Secretary, Wayne Wilson? Not
11 present.

12 Region 3 Director, Darius Ejlali?

13 A. Present.

14 Q. Region 3 Deputy Director, Chaz Ballish?

15 A. Here.

16 Q. Region 3 Secretary, vacant. Region 3
17 Treasurer, Nick Calabro?

18 A. Here.

19 Q. Region 4 Director, Paul Scherer?

20 A. Here.

21 Q. Region 4 Deputy Director, Robin Runstein?

22 A. Here.

23 Q. Region 4 Secretary, Roy Carlson?

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 A. Here.

2 Q. Region 4 Treasurer, Roger Hamilton?

3 A. Here.

4 Q. Past presidents. Gianfranco Barone. Mike
5 Edwards?

6 A. Here.

7 Q. Richard Groff? Brooks McCormick? Okay.

8 Now for the state associations. These you
9 signed for your packets. I'll still call your
10 name out for the voting strength. Region 1,
11 Connecticut, four votes.

12 A. Here.

13 Q. Delaware has one vote. Eastern New York,
14 four votes.

15 A. Here.

16 Q. Eastern Pennsylvania, four votes.

17 A. Andy Hall. I stand for Betsy Ross.

18 Q. Maryland, two votes. Maine?

19 Massachusetts, five votes.

20 A. Here.

21 Q. Metro DC/Virginia, five votes.

22 A. Here.

23 Q. New Hampshire, one vote.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

- 1 A. Here.
- 2 Q. New Jersey, four votes.
- 3 A. Here.
- 4 Q. Pennsylvania West, three votes.
- 5 A. Here.
- 6 Q. Rhode Island, two votes.
- 7 A. Here.
- 8 Q. Vermont, two votes.
- 9 A. Here.
- 10 Q. West Virginia, one vote.
- 11 A. Here.
- 12 Q. Western New York, four votes.
- 13 A. Here.
- 14 Q. Region 2, Illinois, four votes.
- 15 A. Here.
- 16 Q. Indiana, three votes.
- 17 A. Here.
- 18 Q. Iowa, three votes.
- 19 A. Here.
- 20 Q. Kansas, two votes.
- 21 A. Here.
- 22 Q. Kentucky, three votes.
- 23 A. Here.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Q. Michigan, four votes.

2 A. Present.

3 Q. Minnesota, four votes.

4 A. Here.

5 Q. Missouri, three votes. Not present.

6 Nebraska, two votes. Not present. North Dakota,
7 one vote. Not present. Ohio North, two votes.

8 A. Here.

9 Q. South Dakota, two votes.

10 A. Here.

11 Q. Southern Ohio, three votes.

12 A. Here.

13 Q. Wisconsin, two votes.

14 A. Here.

15 Q. Region 3, Alabama, two votes. Not
16 present. Arkansas, two votes.

17 A. Here.

18 Q. Florida, five votes.

19 A. Here.

20 Q. Georgia, four votes.

21 A. Here.

22 Q. Louisiana, four votes.

23 Mississippi, zero votes. Not present.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 North Carolina, four votes?

2 A. Here.

3 Q. North Texas, six votes.

4 A. Here.

5 Q. Oklahoma, three votes.

6 A. Here.

7 Q. South Carolina, four votes.

8 A. Here.

9 Q. Tennessee, four votes.

10 A. Here.

11 Q. Texas South, four votes.

12 A. Here.

13 Q. Region 4, Alaska, three votes.

14 A. Here.

15 Q. Arizona, three votes.

16 A. Here.

17 Q. California North, four votes.

18 A. Here.

19 Q. California South, four votes.

20 A. Here.

21 Q. Colorado, three votes.

22 A. Here.

23 Q. Hawaii, four votes.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 A. Here.

2 Q. Idaho, three votes.

3 A. Here.

4 Q. Montana, two votes.

5 A. Here.

6 Q. Nevada, one vote. Not present. New
7 Mexico, four votes.

8 A. Here.

9 Q. Oregon, four votes.

10 A. Here.

11 Q. Utah, three votes.

12 A. Here.

13 Q. Washington, four votes.

14 A. Here.

15 Q. Wyoming, zero votes. Not present.

16 All right. For our regional and national
17 leagues. AYSO, four votes.

18 A. Here.

19 Q. EDP, three votes.

20 A. Present.

21 Q. NPSL four votes. Not present. WPSL, two
22 votes.

23 A. Here.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Q. SAY, one vote. Not present.

2 U.S. Club, five votes.

3 A. Yes, here.

4 Q. West Coast Soccer Association, four votes.

5 Not present.

6 United Women's Soccer, one vote.

7 A. Here.

8 Q. And GCPL is provisional with zero votes.

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Next on the agenda
10 would be the approval of our last AGM. Motion
11 to approve?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

14 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any corrections or
15 additions? Seeing none, minutes are passed.

16 **(Minutes confirmed.)**

17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: We're going to have a
18 couple of speakers speak, so I would like to
19 call on Brian Remedi who is with U.S. Soccer.
20 He's the current Chief Administration Officer
21 for the Federation. So Ryan?

22 **(Applause.)**

23 MR. REMEDI: Good afternoon. Thank you,

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 John. Really appreciate the opportunity to
2 attend your meeting today and to be present
3 here for your AGM weekend, so thank you very
4 much.

5 I'd really like to also thank your entire
6 Board for calling us here. I'll introduce a
7 couple of my colleagues in a second, but it
8 underscores certainly the good partnership
9 that U.S. Soccer has with U.S. Adult Soccer
10 and, again, very grateful to be with you here
11 today.

12 I want to acknowledge a few of my
13 colleagues who are here this weekend. I'm not
14 sure if they are all in the room today. To my
15 right in the corner I think you all know
16 Caitlin Carducci. Raise your hand.

17 **(Applause.)**

18 MR. REMEDI: And on a personal note, if
19 you can stop coming up to me and telling me
20 how great Caitlin is, that would be much
21 appreciated. While it's great for her
22 self-worth, it's a little bit damaging to my
23 own.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 I have two other colleagues that I don't
2 see here now, but Rick Eddy and Dan Russell
3 were both here yesterday and they may both be
4 around, so I want to acknowledge and thank
5 them also for being here.

6 Just for a couple of minutes I just want
7 to tell you something that I have witnessed.
8 I've been coming to your Amateur National
9 Championship events for the last few years. I
10 have attended the Steinbrecher Cup for the
11 last few years and I want to just tip my hat
12 to you because what I see in those moments
13 when people are coming together for the
14 athletes, and by athletes I certainly mean the
15 players, the coaches and the referees.

16 It's been very inspiring to me to see the
17 hard work that goes into the event and I
18 certainly see the pride that you all have in
19 the work that you do. I was at your national
20 championship event which happened to be in
21 Chicago, so you made it very easy for me, so
22 thank you for that.

23 And just the effort that I witnessed, it

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 certainly underscores the commitment and the
2 passion that you all have for this game and I
3 certainly recall -- I don't know where Duncan
4 is right now.

5 PRESIDENT MOTTA: He's right here.

6 MR. REMEDI: So sorry, Duncan. I
7 thought you did a great job that weekend.
8 Claudio, I saw you hustling around the whole
9 time, whether it was moving bags of ice out to
10 the field or coordinating with the referees
11 and the teams that you both have with you to
12 make that event great.

13 I want to just tell you, I thought you all
14 did a great job with that and certainly
15 something that everyone in this room should be
16 proud of, so thank you.

17 **(Applause.)**

18 MR. REMEDI: U.S. Soccer is very excited
19 to work with USASA and to partner with you. I
20 want to just call out quickly two things that
21 are coming up, both of which you're well aware
22 of.

23 The first is, as you know, we have a grant

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 program called Innovate to Grow. This is now
2 a third cycle that we're in. The application
3 window is still open for another few weeks. I
4 know that there are members in this room that
5 have applications.

6 If you are considering, maybe you've
7 already started the application process, I
8 would really encourage all of you to think
9 closely and carefully and hard about what you
10 can put on the table.

11 There is real money here for you to put
12 programs together that have a likely outcome
13 of growing the number of players, coaches and
14 referees that we have in our organization. I
15 don't know one person here that doesn't want
16 to see our organization grow and Innovate to
17 Grow and the funding that's there will help
18 you do that, so I would strongly encourage all
19 of you to continue to look at what
20 applications, what projects and proposals you
21 might put on the table for that.

22 And the second thing I wanted to talk
23 about was or is, rather, a very unique

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 opportunity that we all have and we are going
2 to be working collaboratively with you to
3 stage for the first time a championship event
4 that pits your Adult National Champion against
5 the UEFA European Amateur Champion and that is
6 a great opportunity for all of us.

7 It's a great opportunity to highlight the
8 level of play and quality and commitment of
9 amateur players from across the U.S. against
10 amateur players in Europe, so I would like to
11 thank John and Richard, in particular, who
12 have worked closely with Carlos Cordeiro and
13 some of our staff to bring that to fruition,
14 so congratulations.

15 We're really looking forward to working
16 with you on that, so thank you.

17 **(Applause.)**

18 MR. REMEDI: I probably should have
19 opened with this. I'm addressing you on
20 behalf of U.S. Soccer's President, Carlo
21 Cordeiro who, as you know, was here and with
22 us all last year in Buffalo. He asked me to
23 express his regrets for not being here with

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 you today.

2 He is most certainly aware of all of the
3 things that we have going on together and what
4 your agenda looks like and he sends through me
5 his best regards to all of you.

6 I want to close with just one more thing
7 related to the summer that we've had as a
8 federation on the field and I want to
9 acknowledge the great results that we had in
10 France for the Women's World Cup.

11 **(Applause.)**

12 MR. REMEDI: The U.S. Women's team
13 obviously is a tremendous source of pride for
14 all of us. I know it is for Caitlin and I who
15 go to work, as many of you do, everyday
16 thinking about how to grow the sport and to
17 have a team like that that has now won the
18 World Cup four times, and to go along with the
19 four Olympic gold medals that it has, it's
20 just a truly remarkable achievement and
21 accomplishment and the results that we have
22 had on the field are due in no small part to
23 all of the members that we have across the

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 country and I certainly mean that inclusive of
2 everyone in this room, so this isn't an us or
3 a we.

4 This is all of us should be very proud of
5 our team, the great accomplishment they had in
6 France and the bright future our Women's
7 program has moving forward, so congratulations
8 to all of us, to you and certainly to the 23
9 players and coaches that went on the field and
10 did the job this summer, so congratulations to
11 all of you and all of them.

12 And then, lastly, I just want to
13 acknowledge I'm really looking forward to
14 being with you all tonight for your Hall of
15 Fame induction ceremony. I certainly want to
16 congratulate all of your incoming inductees,
17 Richard to my right, Angelo, Alex and Wally.

18 I've been told by multiple people here
19 that this is one of the finest classes to go
20 into the USASA Hall of Fame, so I want to
21 congratulate all of you and wish you all best
22 for your meeting today.

23 Caitlin and I aren't going anywhere, so

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 we're happy to engage one-on-one after the
2 meeting or certainly this evening if there is
3 anything more specific you want to talk to any
4 or either of us about, so best of luck with
5 your meeting and thank you very much.

6 **(Applause.)**

7 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you very much,
8 Brian. Scott?

9 MR. EISENBRAUN: Okay. For general
10 business voting today we have 184 total votes
11 possible. Half plus one is 93 and two-thirds
12 is 123 votes.

13 For the election there is a possible 167
14 votes. Obviously, you have to have a majority
15 to win, so there are your numbers, Mr.
16 President.

17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you for the
18 credentials. Motion to accept the credentials
19 report?

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

21 PRESIDENT MOTTA: And second?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

23 PRESIDENT MOTTA: So moved. Okay. So

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 good afternoon again, members of USASA. Once
2 again, welcome to Palm Springs. It's always
3 great to get together as a group to discuss
4 soccer and to see how we can all grow the game
5 together.

6 As many other organizations, including all
7 your organizations out there, we all look for
8 ways to continue to grow and better ourselves
9 and what we can do better to grow our
10 organizations. It's not an easy task. If we
11 had that silver bullet we would have used it.

12 That doesn't mean we don't continue to
13 look at ways of doing it. Your wonderful
14 Directors, all sitting up here with myself, we
15 work tirelessly looking at how we can better
16 this game and how we can grow the game at the
17 next level.

18 I hear the rumblings that we don't get
19 things done, but I will stand here before the
20 National Council and say that is furthest from
21 the truth. This Board, when we meet, we work
22 tirelessly looking at ways of growing this
23 game.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 We held a strategy session a while ago and
2 we all agreed that USASA needed to be
3 proactive in working with state associations
4 and all our members. We have concluded that
5 in order to grow we must assist members who
6 need our resources and the help from our
7 National office.

8 We will be reorganizing our staff in
9 Chicago and we will dedicate a person as a
10 member service person at the office and that
11 person will focus on working with every one of
12 you to help you where you need the most help.

13 In addition, many of you saw yesterday Tom
14 Moore's presentation on tools in a box or
15 State Association in a Box. We put that
16 together to put all the necessary tools in
17 there that will help you run an effective
18 organization.

19 This is a work in progress. It is not
20 complete. It's only the beginning, but we
21 have established the first steps and we will
22 begin that process.

23 Last year I heard the cry about the lack

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 of communication between us and the members.
2 To try to fix that issue, I have been sending
3 all the members the meeting notes of all U.S.
4 Soccer meetings and all our Board meetings,
5 hopefully in a timely manner so that hopefully
6 you are all being kept informed as to what is
7 happening both at our level and at the
8 Federation level.

9 There are still ways to improve the
10 communication between us and the members and
11 we will be also looking at ways to better do
12 that. We are very close, very close in
13 bringing back a Women's National Tournament
14 which was one of the promises I made last year
15 when I ran for re-election.

16 We are looking at a kickoff of a new
17 Women's Tournament in the Spring of 2020. We
18 are finishing up the details of our committee
19 and once we have all the details set, we will
20 announce them to the membership.

21 This year with the partnership of U.S.
22 Soccer, as Brian alluded to, together we will
23 host the first ever UEFA/USASA Amateur Cup.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 It will be held in May also, so we're going to
2 have a busy May next year and USA will host
3 the team called Dolny Slask from Poland.

4 They were the European UEFA amateur
5 champion and they will be coming to the United
6 States to play against Newtown Pride from
7 Connecticut. This game will be a very high
8 exposure event for USASA.

9 We are in the planning stages and are
10 working closely with U.S. Soccer, Connecticut
11 Adult Soccer and the Newtown Pride to ensure
12 that this will be a highly successful event
13 for USASA and U.S. Soccer.

14 This year we once again held some very
15 successful events, beginning with the
16 Steinbrecher Cup which was played at the
17 Bavarian Club in Milwaukee. I again want to
18 reiterate and say thank you and shout out to
19 the Bavarian Club for putting on a first class
20 event.

21 We want to congratulate the Michigan Bucks
22 who won their third consecutive Steinbrecher
23 Championship. Being that they won three

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 championships, we have told them that we will
2 host the event in Flint, Michigan next year as
3 a reward for being a three-time champion, so
4 the Steinbrecher Cup next year will be held in
5 Flint, Michigan.

6 The next event we held was Soccer Fest and
7 it was brought back to Massachusetts. Again,
8 with the hard work of our staff, the hard work
9 of the team and players playing there, it was
10 a very successful event. I want to thank
11 Cezar and Andy White from Mass Soccer for
12 hosting the great event for us once again.

13 The Amateur Cup was our next event which
14 was hosted by the Illinois State Soccer
15 Association. I want to thank Claudio, as
16 Brian also did. Claudio did a -- I caught
17 Claudio running his butt off at that
18 tournament and they did a great job in hosting
19 the event and the facility was a first class
20 facility.

21 It was a new college that we had
22 negotiated with which really gave the event a
23 good exposure to the teams, the players and

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 the referees that the facility was a first
2 class facility.

3 And again, I want to congratulate the
4 Newtown Pride for being crowned our National
5 Amateur Champion.

6 Again, one of the buzzwords that we've all
7 been hearing which would be challenging for a
8 lot of us is Safe Sport. Unfortunately, it's
9 something that we have to deal with. There is
10 no ifs, ands or butts. It's a federal law
11 that was passed by Congress, so we all have to
12 adhere by its mandates.

13 I know there are a lot of questions
14 surrounding Safe Sport and we continue to work
15 closely with U.S. Soccer to see how we can
16 make it easier for our members to meet those
17 requirements and to understand them better.

18 As I stated also at the Board meeting for
19 those of you that were there, that our
20 liability rates for our insurance have gone up
21 for the second year in a row. The premiums
22 this year for USASA are approximately an
23 additional \$65,000 or \$70,000 on our budget.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 hands on some extra cash to do something nice
2 with it, to grow our sport, so I plead with
3 you think of some ideas.

4 I'm sure everyone in this room has ideas.
5 Put it down on paper. Send it into the
6 Federation because we had \$6 million available
7 last few year. I think we used up \$1.8
8 million, so there's a lot of money being left
9 on the table that you all can take advantage
10 of, so let's do it, right?

11 Tonight we will recognize four great
12 individuals for their contributions for the
13 game of soccer. This year's class is a great
14 group of individuals. I want to thank Mike
15 Edwards and the Hall of Fame Committee for all
16 their hard work and putting the program
17 together and to get the nominations out there.
18 They did a fantastic job.

19 And before I conclude, I also want to
20 congratulate some of the newly-elected
21 officials that were elected this morning at
22 the Regional level. Bill George,
23 congratulations and to John Kahmke, thank you

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 for your service as President of Region 1.

2 I know an election is a tough, tough
3 sport, but you have proven that you did the
4 job well in your year in that position.

5 **(Applause.)**

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: I don't think there
7 were any changes in Region 2, so
8 congratulations to all the returning elected
9 officials. In Region 3 I'd like to
10 congratulate Kali Blackshear for being the new
11 Secretary.

12 **(Applause.)**

13 PRESIDENT MOTTA: And she replaced Karon
14 Beyer who as you all know has elevated to
15 being Secretary of USASA, and for those that
16 don't know Karon, Karon is not here with us
17 because she underwent some difficult times in
18 her life with a couple of major surgeries, and
19 just keep her in your prayers.

20 She is one of us. She would have loved to
21 have been here but, unfortunately, things
22 cross in our lives that we're not anticipating
23 and keep Karon in your prayers. We all need

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 all the help we can get.

2 And Region 4, I want to congratulate Robin
3 Runstein who replaces Paul Scherer as the
4 Region 4 director.

5 **(Applause.)**

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: And also on Region 3
7 Otey. I'm sorry, Otey. I don't have my
8 glasses on, but Otey who is the new Deputy
9 Director in Region 3. So congratulations.

10 **(Applause.)**

11 PRESIDENT MOTTA: And also in Region 4
12 as Robin became the new Regional Director and
13 left a vacancy in the Deputy Director's spot,
14 I would like to congratulate Kendra Halterman
15 as the new Deputy Director.

16 **(Applause.)**

17 UNIDENTIFIED PERSON: Is that the first
18 time two women are in power in the region?

19 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Two women are running
20 Region 4.

21 **(Applause.)**

22 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Guys, you know, better
23 watch it. They're coming after us.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 All right. So to conclude my speech, I
2 also don't want to end my speech without
3 making a comment about Zack, about Jen, Nick,
4 Pierre who are always behind the scenes making
5 sure the events get off without a hitch. They
6 did a fantastic job throughout the whole
7 weekend, so let's give them a round of
8 applause.

9 **(Applause.)**

10 PRESIDENT MOTTA: With that I will end
11 my speech. I want to thank everyone again
12 from the bottom of my heart for being here.
13 It's great being with a group of friends like
14 you.

15 So without further ado, we will continue
16 with the program. So I will call on Duncan,
17 our Executive Director, to give his report.

18 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Can
19 everybody hear me? I'm going to touch on some
20 of the things John already spoke, so just bear
21 with me.

22 As always, welcome. Hope you enjoyed the
23 sunshine here. I have to say a big thank you

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 to Cal South State Association for providing
2 the food at last night's events.

3 **(Applause.)**

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Thank you.
5 Much appreciated.

6 So I have a question for you. Raise your
7 hands if you have been to more than five USASA
8 AGMs or Mid Year Meetings. That's a lot of
9 people. You can put them down. Looking
10 around, I would say it's some 90 percent of
11 you in this room.

12 So my next question to you is this: Why
13 are you here? Why do you keep coming back and
14 what brings you back? What is it that brings
15 you back? Think about that for a little while
16 because sometimes that answer is not always
17 immediately apparent.

18 Now, the reason I start with that question
19 is this: As you know, we had a Board retreat
20 before Christmas and we started that retreat
21 with a session that started with that
22 question. Why does USASA exist and why are
23 you involved?

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 That was the question to the Board. Now,
2 as we said, that is not easy and, in fact, we
3 wrestled with this question, all the staff and
4 I, and we had to stop the debate eventually
5 because it went on and on and we returned to
6 it actually the next morning.

7 Now, everyone in the room was able to
8 identify what we do and how we do it, but they
9 couldn't get to the why. Those who came to
10 Thomas's presentation yesterday, everybody
11 knew what we do and how we do it. And the
12 Board knew that, but they didn't know why they
13 did that.

14 Now, in the end, one member of the Board,
15 out of sheer frustration, slammed his fist on
16 the table and said, "I got in this game to
17 meet nice people and have a good time".

18 Bingo. Bingo. That started a ripple
19 effect. Somebody then says, "I've been
20 involved in this for 20 years because I have
21 made friends with people all over the
22 country". Somebody else said, "I've stayed
23 involved because I love the camaraderie", and

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 it went on and on and on for a few minutes.

2 So we finally got to our why. Why do we
3 exist? We offer opportunities through soccer
4 for people to have fun and develop lifelong
5 friendships. It's a bit more detailed than
6 the game of Life, right? It's a little bit
7 more than that.

8 And this statement is so important because
9 it should effect all of the decisions that we
10 make regarding our competitions, our meetings,
11 our IT systems. Anything and everything that
12 we do should relate back to will this help us
13 bring people together to have fun and make
14 lifelong friendships.

15 The statement runs true throughout the
16 organization, whether you're an administrator,
17 a recreational player, a highly competitive
18 player. Being part of something, to
19 socialize, to make friends, meet up with old
20 friends is vitally important and the root
21 cause of why you are all in this room.

22 Now, we live in the age of social media.
23 What is social media trying to do? Bring

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 people together, connect people, and on the
2 surface that works, but it has a major flaw.
3 It doesn't bring people together like this in
4 person so we can't build deep and meaningful
5 relationships with people if you can't see
6 their eyes, you can't see their body language.
7 There's no way you can experience life
8 together.

9 I'll give you some examples. Think about
10 last year we're in Niagara Falls. I was
11 actually talking to Bill Bosgraaf just a
12 couple weeks ago. Bill has great memories of
13 last year. His folks from Utah took an extra
14 excursion and he has these fond memories and I
15 think we all have these fond memories that
16 relate to a soccer game or soccer meeting you
17 went to somewhere.

18 You can't put a price on those
19 experiences. That's why we're here. So what
20 I'm trying to convey to you is the fact that
21 soccer brings people together and it's far
22 more important than the results on the field
23 or winning a cup.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 and how we do it because they are the why
2 we're here. That's why we're here. We're
3 here for those people. And we do this to
4 bring smiles to their faces and to provide
5 them with memories that will last a lifetime
6 and I know many of you will agree with that
7 statement.

8 I mentioned this team operates on a
9 shoestring budget. So tight are the purse
10 strings for that team, they couldn't actually
11 afford to travel to the final in Chicago.
12 However, the Connecticut State Association has
13 always placed their players and teams at the
14 center of their organization.

15 Dan and Jack stepped in and provided the
16 necessary funds, the travel funds, and
17 actually Jack traveled with the team and acted
18 as their admin manager. It was an amazing
19 gesture from the State Association.

20 **(Applause.)**

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Without the
22 State's help, that team would not now be
23 national champions. That's how important it

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 is.

2 Now, I'm not saying that you have to spend
3 all of your money on paying for team travel,
4 but think about it as you go away from here,
5 think about what you do to invest in your
6 teams and your players and that is actually
7 why we're here, to bring those people
8 together.

9 Now, from a national perspective -- John's
10 mentioned some of this already -- we've been
11 making some adjustments over the past couple
12 of years. Our attention has been focused on
13 the player first because without them there is
14 nothing to administer, officiate or support.

15 So for the 2019 Soccer Fest, we made it
16 easier for the teams to register by including
17 the player pass fee into the tournament entry
18 fee. Now, many of the teams that participate
19 in Soccer Fest are not regular teams. They
20 are tournament teams.

21 By that I mean they come together once a
22 year to play Soccer Fest. For example, we
23 have a men's team that comes out of

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Philadelphia, but it's a mix of Philadelphia
2 and Boston. They are old college buddies or
3 business associates. We have a women's team
4 that supplements its predominantly Hawaiian
5 base with players in North California and
6 Southern California and some other states. In
7 fact, the leader of that team is in the room.

8 Soccer Fest is a place where they
9 reconnect with old friends. They develop new
10 relationships and, as you heard Buddy talk
11 about his love of the tournament, it gives
12 many of these players a focus and a purpose
13 because this year we ran a division for Men's
14 Over 75 and Women's Over 70.

15 They take it so seriously. It's one of
16 the biggest parts of their lives. They've
17 already booked their hotel for next year.

18 Now, it's a tough job when you're a team
19 captain or manager to get all of those players
20 signed up and organized. It's over 2000
21 players that come to that venue, so we help
22 them by having all of the players upload their
23 personal details into our system.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 They click on the insurance waiver box and
2 they are all registered. We're taking a huge
3 headache taken away from those team managers.

4 In 2020 we're also going to be imparting
5 our website, the Soccer Fest website that is,
6 which will allow us to improve the
7 opportunities for individual players to
8 actually find teams to play at Soccer Fest.
9 We want to be there to facilitate, actually
10 helping people to connect.

11 Now, we saw action from the National
12 Amateur Cup Final a few moments ago. We
13 continue to improve the player experience year
14 after year. In 2019, this year, we added
15 field boards and a victory arch. We improved
16 the whole locker room environment to make it a
17 more professional experience for those amateur
18 players.

19 Now, I spoke to some of those players that
20 Matt Svanda referenced with his quote earlier
21 and they did come from some tough backgrounds.
22 Many of them only lived in America for a short
23 period of time, but that experience for them

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 was one of the best things that's happened in
2 their lives and they have this camaraderie and
3 it was a beautiful thing to see.

4 Now, you heard Buddy also talk about
5 driving from Long Island to Boston every
6 Sunday to play in the Over the Hill League.
7 Now, he had to drive through Connecticut to
8 get there.

9 Newtown this year wanted to host the
10 National Cup Final and we said no. Well, I
11 don't want Dan and Jack to start thinking that
12 we have something against the State of
13 Connecticut. We don't. It's quite the
14 opposite because in 2020 Connecticut will host
15 the first ever match between the U.S. Amateur
16 Champions and the UEFA Champions.

17 As John said, in partnership with U.S.
18 Soccer and UEFA, we will see Newtown Pride
19 versus Dolny Slask from Poland.

20 This game takes us back to our why. Why
21 are we here, and also why soccer can play such
22 an important role for bringing not just people
23 together, but also help to heal wounds and

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 build bridges. The game will be played close
2 to the Sandy Hook school who suffered at the
3 hands of a reckless shooter.

4 We pray that the game will be a conduit
5 uniting the community so they can celebrate,
6 not commiserate.

7 On the theme of uniting, I also want to
8 introduce the concept for a new Premier Over
9 40's Competition, a model that we need to
10 discuss, but it could work across the various
11 forums that we do.

12 We currently have an Over 40 Men's
13 Division within the Adult Soccer Fest. Under
14 the original tournament documents, they are
15 categorized as the Over 40 National Champions.

16 The Regions have been organizing a
17 competition for Over 40 where their winners
18 characterize themselves as National Champions.
19 Now, this is causing some confusion in the
20 marketplace and prevents the most competitive
21 teams from playing against each other.

22 So the following concept for you to start
23 thinking about next time you get together is

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 this: We want to get the best Over 40 teams
2 into one competition and this concept will
3 combine the elements of direct entry and
4 knockout competition.

5 So the competition format will be this.
6 Eight teams to compete in a Premier Division
7 within Adult Soccer Fest. The eight teams
8 will be divided into two groups of four teams
9 decided by a draw.

10 The teams will play three group matches
11 Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening with the
12 two group winners playing the final on Sunday.
13 Competition will be based on a three point
14 system. For those of you who are not aware,
15 in Soccer Fest we use a competitive ten point
16 system. This will be FIFA three point system
17 because it's a competitive competition.

18 Now, the eight teams to be selected to
19 compete next year, 2020, will be those
20 outlined on the chart. It will be the Region
21 1 Champions, the Region 2 Champions, the
22 Region 3 Champions. Region 4 didn't have a
23 champion, so we would ask that Cal South would

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 put a select team in and then we will invite
2 the four teams that are in the semifinals in
3 this year's Adult Soccer Fest from that region
4 into that group. All right. And then you
5 will get a champion in that Premier League
6 group.

7 Now, in 2021 the format and selection will
8 be exactly the same, only the fourth placed
9 direct entry team, the traditional Soccer Fest
10 team, will actually be relegated to go into
11 the Division 1 because we will have another
12 division within the Adult Soccer Fest.

13 The team that won the Division 1 title
14 will be promoted into the eight team Premier
15 Division. And if any region doesn't actually
16 enter a team, then an extra spot will be open
17 to the Region in which the Adult Soccer Fest
18 takes place that year.

19 The four regions will always get four
20 slots as the prior team and then we'll fill
21 the other four spots at the Soccer Fest.

22 Now, this format allows the regions to run
23 their own competitions, but provides a higher

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 level for the winning team to aspire to
2 something while simultaneously provides
3 competition amongst the traditional Soccer
4 Fest teams as it includes promotion and
5 relegation.

6 So that's something we need for the
7 regions to go back and think about whether
8 that will work for their team.

9 2020 will also see us re-launch the
10 women's competition. It will be played in May
11 2020. Remember, this first year will be a
12 transition year where we're also trying to
13 build out and strengthen regional competition.

14 Now, our focus is not just the national
15 competitions. Following the Strategic
16 Meetings held in a mix of States who were
17 chosen by the Regional Directors, we were able
18 to compile a list of common issues and needs
19 from you and it's clear that many state
20 associations need help in meeting minimum
21 requirements before they even consider
22 expanding their services.

23 To that end, we have started a process of

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 producing these generic documents that will
2 help States with their player registrations,
3 accounting and organizing hearings.

4 Tom Moore stepped up to assist in this
5 process and many of you saw him present
6 yesterday. The feedback on that was amazing.
7 Tom, thank you.

8 But, Tom is like you. He's a volunteer,
9 so as John said, starting in January we're
10 going to be realigning Jen's duties. She will
11 be taking on a new title of Member Services
12 Manager and she will be your main point of
13 contact and her focus will be on assisting all
14 of the members of the organizations with
15 administrative issues, ensuring submission of
16 player registrations, data, insurance claims
17 are all done in a timely and accurate manner.

18 She will be setting up monthly calls with
19 each of you where you can discuss issues,
20 share ideas and, more importantly, finding
21 solutions.

22 We also hope to appoint, if you approve
23 the budget, an Events Operation Director whose

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 focus will be on improving national events and
2 increasing revenue generating opportunities
3 within there.

4 Adult Soccer continues to grow in America
5 and we need to adjust how and what we do to
6 remain at the center of the game.

7 I started talking about developing
8 lifelong friendships and I will finish with
9 this: The fun pickup games we played
10 yesterday and tonight we get to celebrate with
11 old friends as we induct our new members into
12 the Hall of Fame, but on a somber note, we
13 also lost a dear friend this year, Ken
14 Conselyea, and Sal Rapaglia couldn't attend
15 having suffered a nasty fall and we wish a
16 full recovery and hope to see him in
17 Nashville.

18 We are in this game together and we are
19 here to help you. If you have a concern or an
20 issue, if I hear something I am here. My
21 phone remains very silent in my office. I am
22 here. If you have a problem, call me.

23 Hopefully we don't have to call Jen as we

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 go forward, but we are here to help. We are
2 in this together. Thank you.

3 **(Applause.)**

4 MS. BEVAN: Can I have an opportunity to
5 ask some questions?

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any speaker that comes
7 up, please announce who you are and where
8 you're from.

9 MS. BEVAN: Marti Bevan, Metro D.C./
10 Virginia Soccer Association. I want to make
11 sure I understood you correctly. This year is
12 the first year that you have players
13 registered directly with you all for the U.S.
14 Soccer Fest?

15 MR. RIDDLE: No. It's been for three
16 years, but this year we have built it into the
17 one fee.

18 MS. BEVAN: Right. I recall in the past
19 that state associations were involved in
20 helping verify player registration status and
21 verify the roster and this year we were not,
22 so I was wanting to understand how you were
23 verifying if the player was registered or did

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 I hear you say that you just went ahead and
2 charged everybody the \$5 turn-in capacity?

3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: We charged
4 the entrance fee of \$650. We built in a
5 margin for tournament player passes. As they
6 were registering they have to put in an ID so
7 the ones for a player pass put their ID and
8 the other ones, instead of making them buy a
9 separate pass into a separate system which
10 takes a lot of time, they just put in their
11 driver's license so they are registered.

12 MS. BEVAN: But how did you verify that
13 they were already a registered player at the
14 state association or whether they are a guest
15 player and needed to pay into the tournament?

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Because they
17 have to put in their player pass or their
18 driver license ID.

19 MS. BEVAN: The player pass that the
20 state issues?

21 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Yes.

22 MS. BEVAN: But that could be old and
23 expired. So how are you verifying?

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Well, when
2 you take a picture of it it has the face on
3 it.

4 MS. BEVAN: When all this occurred how
5 many new players would you say were brought in
6 as a result of this?

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Anywhere
8 between 600 and 700.

9 MS. BEVAN: Okay. And were those
10 players then allocated back from the state
11 association in their counts or how were those
12 players allocated for structure and stuff like
13 that?

14 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: They haven't
15 been going back to the States.

16 MS. BEVAN: Because normally they would.
17 If they came through me and I have to process
18 it as a guest player and I state them to be in
19 my count, right?

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: So 654
21 divided by 54, it's about 12 players per
22 state. You win.

23 MS. BEVAN: I'm just seeking

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 clarification. No judgment here. I'm just
2 trying to understand since the process has
3 changed and nothing was ever really
4 communicated to us how this was all going
5 down. We really had no communication at all,
6 so we didn't know which players from our state
7 were participating, so I do feel like we need
8 to at least understand where our players are
9 going.

10 Some state associations we actually
11 provide some subsidy for our players to
12 travel, so we had no knowledge of rosters or
13 anything that was going on, so I think we do
14 need to get that two-way communication back.

15 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Okay.

16 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you. So
17 now that will take us into the elections of
18 Officers. So first on the docket would be the
19 office of Vice President of U.S. Adult Soccer.
20 Any nominations for Vice President?

21 MR. HALL: Larry Hall, North Texas
22 Soccer. I'd like to place a nomination of
23 Richard Moeller from the wonderful State of

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Florida in Region 3. I've known Richard for
2 many years. He is a wonderful person.

3 For folks that don't know, he is very
4 bilingual which is part of the magic when he
5 stands up and goes in front of you, but he
6 works tirelessly. He is one of those that not
7 only walks the walk, but talks the talk.

8 I guess that's backwards, but he actually
9 works very hard for us not only here, but on a
10 Federation level and we'd like to place a
11 nomination for him as Vice President of USASA.

12 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any other nominations
13 for Vice President of U.S. Adult Soccer?
14 Seeing none, I will declare Richard the winner
15 by acclamation. Congratulations.

16 **(Applause.)**

17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Next we will have the
18 Office of Treasurer of U.S. Adult Soccer. Any
19 nominations for Treasurer?

20 MS. RICHARDSON: Karissa Richardson,
21 Minnesota Soccer Association. All of you know
22 Lori Stoneburner has served as our treasurer
23 for the last several years. During the time

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 she's been on the Board as Treasurer, she's
2 worked hard to ensure the ongoing successes of
3 the organization by handling all of the
4 accounting needs that we have.

5 She's knowledgeable, she's skilled, she's
6 dedicated and I have utmost confidence in her
7 ongoing commitment to this organization and
8 I'm proud to nominate her for USASA Treasurer.

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Karissa.
10 Any other nominations for Treasurer? There
11 being none, congratulations Lori. By
12 affirmation, you are now the Treasurer.

13 **(Applause.)**

14 PRESIDENT MOTTA: So next we will go on
15 to the At-Large position. And any nominations
16 for At-Large? Mike Edwards.

17 MR. EDWARDS: Mike Edwards, Past
18 President, and Chairman of the USASA Fashion
19 Committee.

20 **(Laughter.)**

21 MR. EDWARDS: From the time I have been
22 here since I had connective tissue and brown
23 hair, we've had some successful events like

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 the '94 World Cup, the '99 World Cup. I just
2 have the sensation that we should feel
3 especially successful and it just seems like
4 for all the successes our sport has engaged
5 in, we just seem to be cut and stalled these
6 days with membership organizations.

7 It's really frustrating and I say that as
8 my introduction to nominate my friend, Werner
9 Fricker, to be retained on the Board of USASA.
10 We've gotten some explosive growth in the
11 sport of people watching it, of people buying
12 shirts for teams that they have no idea what
13 city they are in in Europe, but I can't seem
14 to get them to come out and actually play
15 soccer and I know a lot of you feel the same
16 way.

17 I nominate my friend Werner to stay in
18 this position because he's been involved in
19 helping run a team, the United German
20 Bavarians. His club has hosted our
21 championship since the 1980s. First time I
22 saw a Youth Cup was at the UGH in 1988 and the
23 AGM.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 He's been involved with the leagues in
2 Pennsylvania with the State Associations in
3 the region. He served in positions with U.S.
4 Soccer, as I have, over our time. He's
5 created thoughtful value. He understands the
6 breadth of the sport and has a clear
7 understanding of the shortcomings we're trying
8 to deal with and I would encourage you to
9 retain him in his position on the Board with
10 USASA.

11 I think his contribution will continue to
12 be known.

13 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Mike.

14 MS. RICHARDSON: Again, Karissa
15 Richardson, Minnesota Soccer Association. I'm
16 here today to nominate Chaz Ballish for
17 position of the At-Large member. Chaz has
18 served the last two and a half years as Deputy
19 Director of Region 3 and throughout that time
20 he volunteered to help with the tournaments
21 throughout his region, made himself available
22 to support the states, including working with
23 Alabama to rewrite bylaws.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 He is also currently on the Rules
2 Committee for USASA. He's previously been on
3 the Governance and the Appeals Committee and
4 currently sits on the U.S. Soccer Federation
5 Appeals Committee.

6 Chaz is an attorney with a lot of
7 experience in business organization and
8 associations, a skill that would support this
9 organization and serve the Board. He
10 currently plays actively with the Charleston
11 Masters League, which he also runs, and based
12 on his professional experience, his playing
13 experience, I believe he offers to the sport a
14 unique perspective. I'm proud to nominate
15 him.

16 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Karissa.
17 Claudio?

18 MR. FRIGO: Claudio Frigo, Illinois
19 State Soccer Association President. I would
20 like to nominate Paul Scherer for the At-Large
21 position. For last year Paul and I have
22 become pretty good friends and I realize that
23 we have a lot of similar thoughts and

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 interests with how the game should be run.

2 I think that we need to give him a chance
3 to continue to be on the Board to give the
4 rest of the Board a nice crosscheck of what we
5 need to be doing. Thank you.

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Claudio.
7 Any other nominations for the At-Large
8 position of U.S. Adult Soccer? Being none,
9 nominations are now closed and I will turn it
10 over to -- if you look up on the screen -- did
11 you want to speak?

12 Okay. I'll give you the opportunity for
13 anyone if they would like to speak. I'll
14 start with Chaz.

15 MR. BALLISH: Good morning. I live in
16 Charleston, South Carolina and I would very
17 much like to ask everyone here for their vote
18 today. I'm a player. I've played in the
19 Charleston Masters League, one of the greatest
20 leagues with over 30 or over 50 old guys who
21 like to drink beer.

22 I have run that league. I can't run it by
23 myself. We have a great Board of Directors

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 and an overall great group of guys playing,
2 actively involved in running leagues for a
3 long time. As Karissa said, I'm also an
4 attorney and this is kind of what I do.

5 I do want to take one second. I talked to
6 everybody in the regions and I forgot in two
7 regions to say something and I just want to
8 say it now. As John said, Karon Beyer, our
9 Secretary, she is battling cancer. I have
10 spoken to her and she is okay with me bringing
11 this up today and everybody knowing what she's
12 going through.

13 She's had two major surgeries and she
14 could use your love, so shoot her a quick
15 email. Everyone don't do it today, but please
16 sometime over the next couple of months, she
17 could really just use an email saying hey, I
18 love you, I'm thinking about you, can't wait
19 to have you back.

20 As Duncan said, we do this because we make
21 great friends. Karon is a great friend to all
22 of us, so please reach out to her over the
23 next couple of months, send her a quick note,

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 I'm praying for you.

2 So again, back to this whole thing. I
3 very much want to be a part of the Board and I
4 want to be a part of the Board because I
5 believe I offer new perspective. I'm the
6 grand underdog here. I never sat on the U.S.
7 Soccer Board of Directors. I don't have
8 20 years experience up here, but I still play.

9 I still play every single week in and out
10 and those are our constituents, the players.
11 That's why we do this is for the players and I
12 have been here long enough to see a pattern, a
13 pattern of things that we need to do and those
14 things aren't always completely accomplished.

15 Sometimes we come back to the same thing
16 on our list. Maybe a new perspective, some
17 fresh ideas, it might be time to get some new
18 blood in there and that's why I put my name
19 forward and I stand behind it and I appreciate
20 all of you who've come up here and asked me to
21 run, inspired me to run and who have supported
22 me in this.

23 I wouldn't be sad if I lose because I'm

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 running against two legends within USASA who
2 either one would be a great choice, but I
3 would like the opportunity. So thank you very
4 much for your time.

5 **(Applause.)**

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Chaz.
7 Paul?

8 MR. SCHERER: I have already asked you
9 for your vote. I hope that everybody knows
10 that I'm dedicated. I'll be there for you.
11 You can email me, call me. All my information
12 is available. I am ready to help you. Thank
13 you.

14 **(Applause.)**

15 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Paul. So
16 now nominations are closed. You've heard the
17 speeches. Voting is now open and there are
18 the directions. If anybody needs any
19 assistance, let us know and we have Nick here
20 who will assist you in getting the voting
21 done, so it is now open.

22 If nobody gets a 50 percent on one vote we
23 would have to go to a second ballot, so just

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 an FYI.

2 **(Votes being cast.)**

3 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Everybody please have
4 a seat. Okay. We do not have a majority
5 winner, so we'll need to go to a second
6 ballot. First ballot, Werner Fricker with
7 39 percent of the votes, Chaz Ballish with 38
8 percent of the vote and Paul Scherer with
9 23 percent of the vote. So we need to go on
10 with a second ballot.

11 The same three nominees are eligible again
12 unless any of them would like to drop out, so
13 we're voting on the same three nominees,
14 unless anybody withdraws.

15 You cannot vote yet. The voting will open
16 in approximately five minutes. I guess it has
17 to reboot the system.

18 **(Brief recess.)**

19 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Voting is now
20 open, so place your votes.

21 **(Votes being cast.)**

22 MR. FALCONE: Do not click Member
23 At-Large. That was the first ballot. There's

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 another thing for ballot two.

2 **(Votes being cast.)**

3 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Can I have everyone's
4 attention. The vote tally came in. Out of a
5 total of 167 votes, we have Chaz Ballish with
6 44 percent, Werner Fricker with 40 percent and
7 Paul Scherer with 16 percent.

8 So we need to do a third ballot. Do you
9 need five minutes to reboot? So we have to
10 wait five minutes again.

11 Paul Scherer?

12 MR. SCHERER: Obviously, my percent is
13 going down. It doesn't make much sense for me
14 to continue to run. I certainly appreciate
15 all of you that have supported me and voted
16 for me. At this point I will go ahead and ask
17 you to go ahead and support Chaz and see how
18 that comes out. Thank you.

19 **(Applause.)**

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Begin voting again.

21 **(Votes being cast.)**

22 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Can I have everyone's
23 attention. Please have a seat. Following the

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 third ballot, I'd like to congratulate Chaz
2 Ballish with out of 167 votes he got
3 58 percent of the vote. Congratulations.

4 **(Applause.)**

5 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Now we have one
6 final election that I would like you to
7 basically ratify. The Board of Directors had
8 their meeting yesterday. Our Independent
9 Director's seat is up for re-election, which
10 when we elected Brett we said at the AGM 2019
11 it would be up for re-election, so it's
12 technically a year and a half. He's been
13 elected for a year and a half.

14 So the Board has or will put up a
15 nomination for the re-election of Brett as
16 Independent Director. All those in favor say
17 aye. Anybody opposed?

18 Congratulations, Brett.

19 **(Applause.)**

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Now that we're done
21 with the elections, next we have Unfinished
22 Business.

23 At this time I would like the Council to

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 ratify the actions of the Board for the last
2 year or since our last AGM.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

4 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: All those in favor say
7 aye. Anybody opposed? Thank you.

8 **(Motion passed.)**

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Next on the agenda I
10 would also like the National Council to ratify
11 all of the National Leagues that we have voted
12 in as provisional members which is the UPSL,
13 NPSL. We all changed them over to USASA
14 leagues from National and Regional leagues, so
15 we would like you to ratify that these teams
16 now will be a full member under those
17 guidelines.

18 Okay. So can I get a motion to approve?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Approved.

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second?

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

22 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any discussion? All
23 those in favor? Aye. Anybody opposed? Thank

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 you.

2 **(Motion passed.)**

3 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Next we'll go on to
4 New Business. And I would like to call up
5 Lori. Not Lori. I'm sorry. Bill George who
6 is the Budget Chairman to come up and do the
7 budget with the National Council.

8 MR. GEORGE: Good afternoon, everyone.
9 Bill George on behalf of the Budget Committee
10 for us to approve the budget, which you'll
11 find on Pages 12 and 13 of your Book.

12 We're actually going to do two things. We
13 have to make an amendment first and once we
14 approve that amendment, which we will share
15 with you shortly, then we will look to approve
16 the budget.

17 The amendment relates to Row 29 which I
18 think John and Duncan spoke to these. We have
19 just gotten recent information on the updating
20 of the increase in insurance, so to reflect
21 this change that's resulting in a -- and Lori
22 correct me if I'm wrong -- an increase of
23 \$63,896 which would effectively be added to

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Row 29 which would give us a new, if my math
2 is correct, \$1,990,387 total, so do I have a
3 motion to approve that amendment?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Moved.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

6 MR. GEORGE: All in favor? Aye. So
7 moved.

8 Now we will move on to the budget and with
9 the new amendment now -- first we'll go the
10 motion to approve. Is there a motion to
11 approve?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

14 MR. GEORGE: Any discussion? Please
15 identify yourself.

16 MS. CAMPBELL: I'm Janet Campbell with
17 North Texas Soccer and I had a couple of
18 questions on budget. I was actually reviewing
19 it a little bit with Lori and ran out of time
20 here, but so just to start with, I'm trying to
21 understand.

22 I'm actually a little new to this.

23 Line 16, why do we have \$38,000 in income from

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 USASA league team fees in the past and we have
2 none in the budget for this year, this next
3 year?

4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: We got rid
5 of team fees but upped the player registration
6 fees.

7 MS. CAMPBELL: I'm not seeing any place
8 else in the player registration to account for
9 that. Has it been added somewhere else?

10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: It's
11 included in that line and there's a line
12 further down which equates for the \$3 per
13 player, if I'm right.

14 MS. CAMPBELL: Okay. And then I had a
15 question on Line 32 why we have the \$39,000 in
16 expenses that we did not have in the past and
17 Lori was telling me that it was something that
18 was coming in above and then we are refunding
19 it to them; is that correct? Is that what you
20 were saying?

21 MS. STONEBURNER: We're giving back to
22 States, \$3 a player.

23 MS. CAMPBELL: Then something came up in

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 our regional meeting. We were asking about
2 the Women's Cup that is budgeted at \$30,000
3 and as to whether or not that is actually
4 something that is under planning because
5 someone on the Women's Committee told us that
6 they have not done anything with that and we
7 want to make sure that there's actually
8 something that's planned to happen there with
9 that money.

10 MR. GEORGE: I think what John and
11 Duncan discussed is the \$30,000 has been
12 earmarked. There are two competitions planned
13 for 2020 in May and in August. Now, of
14 course, there would be some recommendations
15 coming from the Women's Committee in terms of
16 how it will be executed, but that \$30,000 has
17 been earmarked for that.

18 MS. CAMPBELL: Then on the -- there's a
19 line item called State Support, Line 49, that
20 is \$20,000. What is that? Is that something
21 we're going to get?

22 MR. GEORGE: Correct. My understanding,
23 and Duncan and John, feel free to chime in,

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 but coming out of the strategic sessions that
2 took place earlier this year, \$20,000 was
3 recommended by the Board to earmark for a
4 variety of state support issues.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's per state,
6 right?

7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: That goes
8 along with what I said earlier about the
9 member services, so as we find out where
10 there's issues where some states are
11 struggling, maybe we can use some of that
12 money for whatever is needed to help that
13 state to complete its task.

14 MS. CAMPBELL: So it's not some kind of
15 grant program or just in general for --

16 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: This is so
17 when there's a need, at least there's money
18 there to actually cure that problem.

19 MS. CAMPBELL: Okay. And then I was
20 wondering on Line 61 that is Staff Travel and
21 Transportation, it's almost in half, but I
22 understand you're hiring another person, so
23 I'm just trying to figure out how you're going

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 to be able to cut your travel in half.

2 MR. GEORGE: I don't know if Duncan may
3 want to speak to this. It was recommended
4 from the National office that they anticipated
5 an ability to reduce travel expenses.

6 MS. CAMPBELL: So you feel confident
7 you'll be able to stick to that then?

8 MR. GEORGE: If they didn't feel
9 confident they would not have recommended that
10 reduction.

11 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: In today's
12 technology world we can make that change
13 because we can use various other forms of
14 communication. One of the other things we're
15 going to do is the last few years we've
16 traditionally gone to the Coach's Convention
17 in January where we have a booth.

18 It's not really the audience for us. We
19 always send three staff. It's a lot of
20 expense, so there's a huge savings there.

21 MS. CAMPBELL: So you've identified some
22 things. And then I believe it's the next to
23 last question here is Line 68, Legal Expenses.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Why are legal expenses --

2 MR. GEORGE: A few things. It was the
3 committee and collaboration with Lori and we
4 thought it was prudent to put a larger amount
5 than had currently been budgeted. With Safe
6 Sport there have been some specific tangible
7 items that we anticipate spending on, whether
8 it's reaching out to an outside counsel law
9 firm that has experience with the Amateur
10 Athlete Safe Sport to get some advisory
11 opinions of best practices, so there are some
12 discreet tangible expenditures that are
13 expected this year and as has been discussed
14 in some prior budget conversations and prior
15 AGMs, it was felt that the \$5000 we previously
16 had put in that spot was just simply too low.

17 MS. CAMPBELL: Well, I see this year so
18 far we've only reached \$6000, so that seemed
19 to be exorbitant.

20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RIDDLE: Obviously,
21 the Safe Sport issue we're going to have to
22 get some legal counsel and everybody will
23 agree in the room it's going to be a huge

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 problem for us. It's already a problem that
2 the insurance has already gone up, so there
3 will be some expense over the next budget year
4 that starts in January.

5 The other one is, for those that came to
6 the presentation with Tom yesterday, we need
7 to have our own bylaws actually looked at by a
8 legal counsel in Illinois, which we changed
9 from Tennessee to Illinois three years ago and
10 we didn't actually get that done, so that's
11 just a thing we need to do which we've never
12 done before, so there will be some extra legal
13 expenses.

14 MR. GEORGE: These are some tangible
15 legal expenses that we are anticipating. To
16 address the revisions to bylaws we have to
17 engage counsel and to get some best practice
18 guidance, and if anyone has engaged a lawyer,
19 just getting a will is going to cost \$5000.

20 We have to put it in place. It doesn't
21 necessarily mean we'll spend all \$37,000, but
22 these were some discreet items that we felt
23 was necessary to allocate money for.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 MS. CAMPBELL: I understand. With what
2 you're telling us about the change in that one
3 line item, so we're now going to be at
4 \$200,000 in the hole; is that right?

5 MR. GEORGE: Approximately \$193,000,
6 which is -- again, this is a budget of about
7 \$3.6 million so --

8 MS. CAMPBELL: Okay, but we're going to
9 be -- where does that put us if we're \$200,000
10 in the hole with the other significant
11 amounts?

12 MR. GEORGE: We have a substantial
13 amount of reserves. It doesn't mean we're
14 going to spend all of it. I should point out,
15 from 2016 to 2018 we've actually operated in
16 the black and utilized our budget anywhere
17 from 92 percent to 95 percent, so I think that
18 should be reassuring that we were diligent in
19 trying to anticipate expenses, but there's a
20 likelihood, given past practices, that we
21 probably won't meet or exceed.

22 MS. CAMPBELL: And I just want to make
23 one suggestion, being relatively new to this.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 I didn't really want to bring this up in front
2 of this whole group. It might be good if --
3 rather than spend the time in this meeting, it
4 might be good in the future if maybe prior to
5 this session you have just a question and
6 answer session on the budget so we don't need
7 to do that.

8 MR. GEORGE: A year ago I think we did
9 that.

10 MR. CALLOWAY: Lance Calloway from
11 Washington State. One thing that can easily
12 simplify this is a statement of the financials
13 of the budget and the explanation of it. If
14 you did that, put that in writing, made it
15 transparent and provide a balance sheet so we
16 know how much money is in reserves because we
17 are looking at -- I know you said it was sent
18 out, but I as a member did not receive it, so
19 we have a book here and there's a lot of other
20 stuff in here, we can easily take one more
21 page, insert it in there and it's clear and it
22 gives you guys a far better level of
23 transparency.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 MR. GEORGE: Thank you for the
2 suggestion.

3 Without seeing anyone else at the
4 microphone, do we have with a motion to
5 approve the budget?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

8 MR. GEORGE: All in favor say aye. Any
9 opposed? And thank you, all.

10 **(Budget approved.)**

11 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Karissa, please step
12 up to the microphone and we will do Bylaw
13 amendments.

14 MS. RICHARDSON: We have four Bylaw
15 proposals. Mr. Scherer has withdrawn his two,
16 the one with regard to the voting strength and
17 the one with the change to the Committee
18 language. Paul Scherer and Dan Trainor are
19 going to work on a new proposal for our next
20 meeting with regard to the Committee and there
21 will be some additional future discussions
22 about voting strength as well, depending on
23 what happens today.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 So we're going to start first with Bylaw
2 107. As a reminder, I need a motion to
3 consider the Bylaw amendment and a second and
4 then we'll have discussion.

5 On 107 which is the Definitions section,
6 this came from the Rules Committee itself.
7 They would like to add one piece of language
8 in there. Mr. Trainor pointed out to us that
9 we don't have a definition in there of the
10 USASA League, so they would like to at Number
11 15 add this language: USASA League, a league
12 classified as a USASA League under Bylaw 202,
13 Section 2.

14 So, may I have a motion to consider Bylaw
15 107?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

17 MS. RICHARDSON: Second?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

19 MS. RICHARDSON: Any discussion? All in
20 favor of the proposed provision to Bylaw 107
21 please say aye. Any opposed? All right.

22 **(Motion passed.)**

23 MS. RICHARDSON: The second proposal from

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Jim Sadowski with Metro D.C. with regard to
2 changes to Bylaw 302, Section 1, on the voting
3 strength. Do I have a motion to consider?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

5 MS. RICHARDSON: Do I have a second?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

7 MS. RICHARDSON: Any discussion? Mr.
8 Sadowski?

9 MR. SADOWSKI: Jim Sadowski, Metro
10 D.C./Virginia. Without objection, I'd like to
11 remove the language consistent with the Rules
12 Committee's what I'll call recommendations
13 about the first Bonus Votes category, as
14 discussed at the Regional Meeting as well, so
15 the language "A State Association or USASA
16 affiliate" all the way to "additional vote",
17 I'd like to remove that without objection.

18 MS. RICHARDSON: I believe because it is
19 his proposal, we don't need to vote on his
20 proposed amendment. Any further discussion on
21 the proposal?

22 MR. SADOWSKI: I'm not going to say a
23 lot because we talked a lot at the Regional

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 meetings and I thank the Regional Directors
2 and we had a lot of good questions. One of
3 them was how would this effect me later and
4 what would the voting strength look like?

5 So I did just now calculated what it would
6 look like if my proposal passes, and the total
7 number of votes -- this does not include the
8 Board of Directors -- would be 418. Even if
9 one were to carry two regions, we still would
10 not have a majority.

11 North Texas would be the largest vote
12 counter. They would have 23 and that's only
13 5.5 percent of the total vote for North Texas,
14 even though North Texas is contributing to the
15 organization 8 percent of the players.

16 If you took the top 11 state associations,
17 and these are not in order, but Washington,
18 North Texas, Mass, D.C./Virginia, Florida,
19 Illinois, Cal North, North Carolina, Eastern
20 New York, Texas South, Cal South, you will
21 still have only 152 total votes, so even if
22 somebody is a candidate or a proponent, we'd
23 need nearly all 11 votes of the organizations.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 They are still not there, so I say that
2 because there was some concern, rightfully so,
3 that the smaller state associations would be
4 jipped. They wouldn't have a voice. They
5 wouldn't have a vote.

6 To the contrary, they've still got to get
7 the smaller state associations and more
8 importantly, the middle state association --
9 not more importantly, but also those
10 associations would benefit greatly by this
11 proposal, so I don't think this is a big win
12 for the big states for those reasons.

13 And then lastly, there was a valid concern
14 expressed at our regional meeting that this
15 was radical. I wouldn't say that word is
16 valid, but the small state vote would be
17 diluted.

18 No matter how you vote on this proposal, I
19 think it would be helpful to stop thinking
20 about everything in terms of the me and rather
21 the us. So if you change your perspective,
22 you ask yourself three questions. Is this
23 proposal better than what we have? I think

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 the answer is yes.

2 Does this proposal reward and encourage
3 growth? I think the answer to that is yes.
4 Will this help the organization? I think the
5 answer to that is yes.

6 So if you change your perspective and come
7 a little bit out of the, gosh, how will I
8 benefit from this, I think it would be helpful
9 to think about my perspective not only on this
10 proposal, but everything that we have up here
11 for the vote. Is it going to help the
12 organization grow and is it going to be
13 rewarding and if you think about that in a
14 little different perspective I think you'll
15 vote yes on this. Thank you.

16 MR. CATALDI: Dan Cataldi from Iowa and,
17 Jim, I appreciate the idea. I think this is
18 just not well thought out. In fact, I don't
19 think there's been enough care and enough
20 planning on it yet.

21 The fact that I asked how many total
22 number of votes, there wasn't even an
23 understanding of that. It just shows there's

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 not a true understanding of the magnitude of
2 making these changes at this point. The fact
3 is it will more than double the number of
4 delegates and it grossly favors the larger
5 states.

6 Not that the current system is right. To
7 your question is this better? I would argue
8 probably not. Are we in the right spot right
9 now? Maybe not, but we need to think about it
10 differently.

11 You mentioned the top 11 states. I'll
12 look at it this way: The top five states,
13 plus U.S. Club control nearly 25 percent of
14 the votes. That's a pretty significant
15 portion from a pretty small group of people.

16 Admittedly, they provide the most players,
17 most funding, we get that, but from the vast
18 majority of small states I think if you do the
19 math, and I have done it, 10 of 12 states saw
20 a decrease in their representation of the full
21 Council.

22 I think there needs to be made some
23 revisions, but I think we need to more

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 thoroughly think through this large gap of no
2 caps of 24 votes. I mean, we're going to need
3 to invest in more red tape just for the votes.

4 So I think there needs to be more care in
5 counting the number of delegates. We need to
6 have a better idea. Not that there shouldn't
7 be changes, but we really need a plan than it
8 more well thought out than just coming in
9 without even knowing the total number of votes
10 that are being represented. Thank you.

11 MR. BORTS: Good afternoon. Dave Borts,
12 State of Rhode Island. I'll work a little
13 backwards here. I'll take Jim Sadowski
14 talking about us first and then work back to
15 the proposal.

16 There are a number of reasons why smaller
17 states in this organization have suffered over
18 the years and it's because of the lack of us.
19 Just to give a prime example, the larger
20 states in this organization, most of them have
21 access to large international soccer venues
22 and they are in receipt of receipts from those
23 games which are not shared with the smaller

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 states.

2 So talking about us, there's lot of us to
3 talk about, first of all. Just as an example,
4 my own state, we actually happen to be nine
5 and a half miles from Foxboro Stadium, but we
6 don't get any revenues. The State of
7 Massachusetts gets them from international.

8 So talking about this proposal, it really
9 doesn't analyze the fact that larger
10 organizations actually have greater resources,
11 so I'm sure they do a great job in D.C. and
12 Virginia and I applaud Jim. Jim is a good
13 administrator, but they also generate that
14 revenue and they are able to reinvest it, so
15 the smaller states with the smaller
16 populations don't have the revenues.

17 The lower their vote percentage becomes,
18 the less influence they have in this
19 organization and I think really we should
20 reward success, but success isn't where you're
21 born, your jurisdiction. Your success is how
22 you improve, so we should be rewarding anybody
23 in those states that are growing in an

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 efficient way. Reward efficiency.

2 So whether that is vote totals or in
3 grants or sharing, as I say, of the resources
4 that come into this organization in a more
5 efficient way, I think that's a better way of
6 going about rewarding what we all should be
7 doing which is improving. Thank you.

8 **(Applause.)**

9 MR. FALCONE: Tony Falcone, Region 1
10 Director. I speak against the proposal.
11 Looking at the numbers, I think we need the
12 current voting structure that we have now and
13 making the changes, it's very easily three of
14 the four regions where anywhere from three to
15 four state associations would have complete
16 control of the voting power.

17 That means a few states can control what
18 goes on in each region. I haven't really
19 looked at it at the National level, but that
20 would be a concern as well where power would
21 be for a few.

22 I don't think the current system is wrong.
23 There's a good reason why there's a cap.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 There's a good reason why the numbers are
2 limited so that you can't have a strength of
3 power with just a few people. It helps get
4 everyone to have an opportunity to have a
5 voice in this organization.

6 The other thing is I personally want to
7 see growth in my state. Having an extra vote
8 is not an incentive for that. I want growth
9 because I like to get more participants in my
10 state playing soccer and I don't think there's
11 too many who are here who are worried about
12 adding more votes as an incentive for them to
13 grow. Thank you.

14 MR. BUSH: Thank you, Tony. Tim Bush
15 from Washington State. Couple observations.
16 The reason in part that North Texas has six
17 votes is that was my proposal 18 years ago
18 because of their size. And clearly, the range
19 of what we have to do as an organization
20 eventually is decide what's in the best
21 interest of the organization, not in the best
22 interest of us individually.

23 I think under Jim's proposal, and I very

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 much appreciate Jim's work on this, there's a
2 hell of a lot of difference between 3200
3 players and 8500 players and that's the range
4 for four votes. It's not reasonable. It
5 really is unreasonable.

6 So, if we continue to worry about it, I
7 don't think it's going to pass and it's not
8 because we all have self-interests and we have
9 nothing else and I'm not being critical of
10 that. We have to do something with the voting
11 strength and we also have to do something that
12 is for the good of the game, not for our turf.

13 And finally, on the international games
14 money, if you guys want to put the bigger
15 states out of business, just keep battling
16 about it and the Federation will take the
17 money away and it will all be done because if
18 you think because we're a bigger state we have
19 all the resources in the world, we struggle
20 like hell to stay in business.

21 So there's nothing easy about all this,
22 but we need to talk about growth and we need
23 to reward that and this was probably an

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 imperfect way to try to deal with it, but Jim
2 cares about it. We have to do better. We
3 have to fix it and we have to stop talking
4 about and it and reject it because it's all
5 about me.

6 I can get 14 votes. I don't know what
7 that will do for me. I don't want to rule the
8 world. I don't want to run the organization,
9 but we have to address that and we don't ever
10 do it.

11 **(Applause.)**

12 MR. BALLISH: Chaz Ballish, Region 3
13 Deputy Director. As a member of the Rules
14 Committee, I would like to ask if this doesn't
15 pass -- there's been some negative comments
16 about it -- but if it doesn't pass, the Rules
17 Committee has discussed this and we believe it
18 to be a good idea for John to create an ad hoc
19 committee so if this doesn't pass to put it
20 into -- because clearly not everyone is happy
21 with voting structure as it exists right now
22 and this may or may not be the answer.

23 We'll see if it passes, but if it doesn't

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 we would ask John to create an ad hoc
2 committee and putting some of the people who
3 spent a lot of time with Jim on this to
4 brainstorm about re-approaching it and come
5 back with something.

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If I may, I
7 request we use the cards when we vote on this,
8 please.

9 MS. RICHARDSON: Sure. Any further
10 discussion?

11 MR. DAVEY: Bill Davey, Director of
12 Region 2. I have just one quick question for
13 Jim, and another comment. So when and in what
14 criteria would we begin using this if it gets
15 passed based on what we do at with the U.S.
16 Soccer voting strength now?

17 MR. SADOWSKI: It would not take effect
18 until the end of this calendar year, so we
19 recount registration and then we get it back
20 at our next meeting. That would be my
21 understanding.

22 MR. DAVEY: The only concern I have,
23 quite honestly, and I think we need to do

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 something to reward growth, participation and
2 we need to figure that out and I agree with
3 Chaz about getting an ad hoc committee and I
4 thank you, Jim, for bringing this up, but at
5 this point in time with the stuff that we do
6 in the office, I'm not so sure that we need to
7 place the burden of tracking all this in the
8 office at the current time. That's my other
9 comment.

10 MS. RICHARDSON: Seeing no other
11 discussion, if you are in support of adopting
12 this proposal, please hold up your green card
13 and if you're opposed please hold up your red
14 card.

15 **(Voting cards held up.)**

16 MS. RICHARDSON: It appears that the
17 amendment -- the Bylaw provision will not be
18 adopted. Thank you, guys, for your help and
19 we'll see you next time.

20 **(Applause.)**

21 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. I read the
22 recommendations and when we appoint new
23 committees and I will take Chaz's

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 recommendation and we will put on an ad hoc
2 committee to look into this, so that will
3 happen.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So when you ask
5 for that ad hoc committee, will you be
6 offering for anybody who wants to participate
7 to do that or is that anticipating you all --

8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: I would say this: If
9 you're interested in serving, notify your
10 Regional Director and then when we have a
11 discussion on committees they will bring it up
12 then.

13 Is there any other New Business? This is
14 not Good of the Game, not yet.

15 MS. CAMPBELL: I have one other
16 question. Janet Campbell from North Texas
17 again on the budget. I know it's passed and
18 it's on its way and we're good, but my
19 question is we're showing player registration
20 going at four and a half percent next year on
21 standard players. Has our player registration
22 been going up?

23 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Well, it fluctuates.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 It goes up, it goes down, it goes up, it goes
2 down.

3 MS. CAMPBELL: I thought it had recently
4 been going down. I just wanted to find out if
5 we were basing a budget on an inflated player
6 registration number. That was my only
7 question.

8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you. Tom?

9 MR. MOORE: So for those state
10 associations now using the Digital Learning
11 Center for the recertification and new
12 registration of referees, in order to obtain
13 your referee registration you are required now
14 to sign away all rights to your images for the
15 current and future to the Federation. No
16 further permission is required for them to
17 make images of you as referee and to use the
18 power they so chose, as I understand the
19 language in this waiver.

20 I would urge the Board to strongly convey
21 a message to the Federation that they really
22 need to completely strike that language or at
23 least substantially modify it. When I asked

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 the Referee Association yesterday why that
2 language was in there, as far as I can tell
3 what they said was, well, we're not really
4 going to be taking any images of most of our
5 referees. We promise not to use that stuff,
6 but we may be using images from say
7 development academy and in the past when we
8 have done that we've had to actually go out
9 and get permission from those referees and
10 that's a burden on us, so we're just going to
11 make all referees sign away all their rights
12 in this regard.

13 I would urge opposition to that and
14 certainly encourage you to ask the National
15 Council here today if they would also like to
16 see that language opposed.

17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Would you like to get
18 a temperature of the room?

19 MR. MOORE: Sure.

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: So you heard what Tom
21 said. The Federation is now asking for
22 signatures to waive their rights on using
23 their images. Is it a concern of this body

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 that we would go back to U.S. Soccer and ask
2 them to reconsider?

3 All those in favor say yes. Yes. Anybody
4 opposed? Okay. Well, Brian Remedi, can I
5 have your attention?

6 **(Laughter.)**

7 PRESIDENT MOTTA: We just got a
8 unanimous response from this body that they
9 would like the Federation to reconsider the
10 use of images of referees, that they sign a
11 waiver that the Federation has a right to
12 their images and that's all referees.

13 They are asking the Federation to
14 reconsider that and not ask for all referees
15 to sign that waiver.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay.

17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. I went to the
18 Federation.

19 **(Laughter.)**

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Anybody else? Seeing
21 none, we're going to go to The Good of the
22 Game. Anybody have any? Okay. Just line up.

23 MR. BUSH: Tim Bush from Washington

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 State. I wanted to do a bit of a Walk Soccer
2 update, and while I'm here I have had contacts
3 from various other states and if you want
4 information on how to grow the game, get the
5 information, the rules and all the rest, I'll
6 be happy to provide it to us guys.

7 The good news is that we've expanded
8 significantly beyond my state. We currently
9 have five planned sites in Washington. I'm
10 now looking at the possibility of starting the
11 program in Vancouver, Washington which is
12 obviously right across river from Portland,
13 but currently on those five sites we have
14 between 200 and 300 players a month that play
15 generally in the drop-in games where people
16 take two different types of candidates into
17 play.

18 In discussions Massachusetts now has
19 walking soccer, Georgia, Oregon, Idaho.
20 Arizona is working on it. New Mexico is
21 working on expanding the program. It's really
22 easy to do and it takes you less than five
23 minutes to setup and tear down and it's a

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 great opportunity for the social aspect, so if
2 you want any more information if I could be
3 helpful at all, please contact me.

4 MR. MENGEL: My name is Gerhard Mengel
5 from the State of Michigan. I'd like to
6 entertain a motion to have in 2021 the USASA
7 AGM in Alaska.

8 **(Applause.)**

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Do we have a second
10 for that motion?

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

12 **(Laughter.)**

13 PRESIDENT MOTTA: I thought you didn't
14 want us to travel to exotic places. Do I have
15 a motion? I got a second. All those in favor
16 for Alaska? Aye. Opposed? Nobody. Okay.
17 Better get a good deal.

18 **(Applause.)**

19 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Tom?

20 MR. MOORE: I'd just like to say that I
21 was very, very pleased at the turnout at
22 yesterday's workshop at the State Association
23 in a Box, so for those are you were able to

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 attend, it was an excellent turnout, but more
2 importantly, as we pointed out, this is a
3 future team effort and it's crowd sourcing.

4 We hope there is stuff that helps all of
5 us, so I was very, very heartened at the
6 number of folks who've come up to me and said
7 yeah, we got a document on a particular topic
8 that we can share with you. Please send to it
9 Jen who now has the torch to carry this
10 forward, but thank you very much for those of
11 you who have volunteered to provide things and
12 those of you who think about that, please get
13 in touch with Jen who will get in touch with
14 me and we hope to have a very good product
15 going forward.

16 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you. Chaz?

17 MR. BALLISH: I just wanted to thank
18 everyone. I'm truly humbled by the votes and
19 I want to thank Werner Fricker for all that he
20 has done. He's not here, but he's a legend
21 and I have huge shoes to fill and I'll try my
22 best, I can promise you that, and I want to
23 thank Paul publicly. It was a good race. It

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 was clean. There was nothing behind anybody's
2 back and I'm proud to be part of this
3 association and I hope to make you proud.
4 Thank you.

5 **(Applause.)**

6 MR. FALCONE: Tony Falcone. So while we
7 had the election for the At-Large member, I
8 have been texting black and forth with Werner.
9 Werner and I go back a long time ago when we
10 were both very young. They say the 50's are
11 the new 30's, so I guess the two of us didn't
12 really age too much, did we?

13 First of all, congratulations to you,
14 Chaz, on winning the election. And he thanks
15 everyone for allowing him to serve this
16 association. So, you know, I wish my good
17 friend Werner good luck and health and I'm
18 pretty sure we'll be seeing him.

19 The other thing I did want to bring up is
20 that last month Region 1 and the Maryland
21 State Soccer Association hosted the
22 Championship of Regions and it was the three
23 cups, Werner Fricker Open Cup, the Werner

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 Fricker Cup, Gerhard Mengel Cup and the Over
2 40 National Cup.

3 We had the Lansdowne Yonkers FC from
4 Eastern New York who were the winners of the
5 Werner Fricker Cup. The Maryland Bays from
6 Maryland was the winner of the Gerhard Mengel
7 Cup and Jake Stars Punishers from Illinois won
8 the National Over 40 Cup and it was a pretty
9 good year for Region 1.

10 I'm happy for my teams to do well, but a
11 lot of great competition out there. Really
12 good teams and we really should be proud of
13 the efforts that our team has put out there
14 and I think we as an organization, whether it
15 be USASA or whether it be USASA Regions, state
16 associations, do a lot to promote our teams
17 and our leagues for what they do in providing
18 and playing this great game to so many
19 players. Thank you.

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Since I see no
21 one else, I just want to -- are you waiting to
22 speak? Come on up.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I want to mention

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 that we have some states that have already
2 been to the Florida classic and it's a great
3 weekend. It runs very smooth. Don't worry
4 about it. Everybody come out. Check out the
5 website. Bring some teams out. We're over
6 40, over 50, 65, 70. Come on and enjoy the
7 weekend with us.

8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Say the date again.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Martin Luther
10 King weekend in January. January 17th through
11 the 20th.

12 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.

13 MR. MOELLER: Hello. First of all, I'd
14 like to say thank you very much personally for
15 your support for me for re-election. I'll do
16 the best I can and I will be there for you.

17 Just like John said, I'm available. You
18 can call me or email me and text me. I'm
19 always there. I want to congratulate all
20 today's newly elected officials not only on
21 the Board, but also in the Regions.

22 I look forward to working with you all.
23 Those who did not win the election today,

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 there's a place for you. There are a lot of
2 resources in the room, so don't hesitate to
3 come to us and say you want to participate on
4 a committee.

5 One other thing, I can't enforce it
6 enough. John mentioned it earlier. And that
7 is that the U.S. Soccer Federation has a
8 \$3 million Innovative To Growth fund. They
9 only gave out the last few years \$1.8 million.
10 Last year we had three applications from the
11 adults. Not acceptable.

12 We have money out there that's available.
13 All you need to do is have an idea. If you
14 don't know anything else on what to do, let me
15 know, but the Federation, Brian is here to let
16 us know. Brian and Caitlin and their
17 department are there to help us out and they
18 can walk you through it. The deadline is
19 October 15th.

20 We as an organization are also going to be
21 working together diligently in the next few
22 weeks putting something together as an
23 organization, so if you have any questions

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 about it call me and I'll let you know how
2 it's done.

3 PRESIDENT MOTTA: I guess I get the last
4 word. First of all, I want to thank everyone
5 for being here. I think it was a great
6 weekend. We're going to finalize it tonight
7 with what I think is the most important part
8 of this weekend is recognizing the people who
9 have contributed to our association for many
10 years, so hope to see everyone there.

11 I would like to thank and congratulate
12 Richard, Lori and Brett on their re-election.
13 Chaz, welcome to the Board, but I also want to
14 thank Paul for his years of service on the
15 Board as Regional Director and Paul is not
16 going away.

17 I already had a conversation with him
18 earlier today. I already got a position for
19 HR things to do, which I know he'll do an
20 absolutely great job and that is everything
21 that we talked about, looking at our bylaws
22 and our policy and I think he will do a
23 fantastic job.

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

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(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MOTTA: And also I'm going to ask Paul to get an attorney so we can make sure that all our bylaws conform with the state laws and all that so we'll get it and do it right.

Also on that note, I want to thank Werner Fricker. As Tony said, I think we all came into this association just about the same time as all state association presidents. So he's a dear friend of mine. I'm going to miss him on the Board.

He has a wealth of knowledge and, again, I will have to find a position to keep Werner in the loop because he's too valuable not to keep in this association, so I will do that.

To conclude my speech, and I mentioned this at the Board meeting the other night, I am thinking or contemplating running for the office of Vice President of the U.S. Soccer Federation.

It's a position I won in 1998 and I have done the position before and I'm contemplating

September 28th, 2019

Indian Wells, CA

1 doing it again, but I will only do it if I
2 could get the support of this group because
3 you are my family, the people I would need for
4 initial support, so in the next few weeks I
5 probably will call some of you or most of you
6 to get your opinions on that.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You want honest
8 feedback?

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Honest feedback
10 because we know how elections are. We've all
11 been through that, so tell me honestly what
12 you feel. I will make a decision in the next
13 few weeks, so I'm hoping to get the support
14 from this group which I have had the honor to
15 lead the last few years, so stay tuned for
16 that.

17 So with that, motion to adjourn?

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.

20 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you very much.
21 We're adjourned.

22

23

(Adjourned at 3:21 p.m.)

R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3 I, REBECCA L. DIBELLO, RPR, CSR,
4 appointed to take the meetings of the United
5 States Adult Soccer Association, do certify
6 that the within proceedings of the Annual
7 General Meeting were taken by me
8 stenographically in Indian Wells, CA on
9 September 28th, 2019, then reduced to
10 typewritten form consisting of 103 pages
11 herein; that the foregoing is a true
12 transcript of the proceedings had.

13 In witness hereof, I have hereunto set
14 my hand this 14th day of October, 2019.

15
16
17
18
19
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21 -----
22 Rebecca L. DiBello, RPR, CSR
23

\$	1998 [1] - 102:22	49 [1] - 68:19	52:15	ADULT [1] - 1:3
\$1,990,387 [1] - 66:2	2	5	accomplished [1] - 59:14	adults [1] - 100:11
\$193,000 [1] - 73:5	2 [10] - 2:6, 5:4, 5:6, 5:8, 5:10, 7:14, 28:7, 43:21, 76:13, 88:12	5 [2] - 2:9, 49:2	accomplishment [2] - 17:21, 18:5	advantage [1] - 27:9
\$20,000 [2] - 68:20, 69:2	20 [2] - 32:20, 59:8	5.5 [1] - 78:13	account [1] - 67:8	adventure [1] - 36:16
\$200,000 [2] - 73:4, 73:9	200 [1] - 94:14	50 [3] - 57:20, 60:22, 99:6	accounting [2] - 46:3, 53:4	advisory [1] - 71:10
\$30,000 [3] - 68:2, 68:11, 68:16	2000 [1] - 39:20	50's [1] - 97:10	accurate [1] - 46:17	affiliate [1] - 77:16
\$37,000 [1] - 72:21	2016 [1] - 73:15	51 [1] - 2:11	achievement [1] - 17:20	affirmation [1] - 53:12
\$38,000 [1] - 66:23	2018 [1] - 73:15	54 [1] - 50:21	acknowledge [4] - 12:12, 13:4, 17:9, 18:13	afford [1] - 37:11
\$39,000 [1] - 67:15	2019 [7] - 1:14, 36:2, 38:15, 40:14, 63:10, 104:9, 104:14	58 [1] - 63:3	acted [1] - 37:17	afternoon [5] - 3:18, 11:23, 20:1, 65:8, 82:11
\$5000 [2] - 71:15, 72:19	202 [1] - 76:12	6	action [1] - 40:11	age [2] - 33:22, 97:12
\$6000 [1] - 71:18	2020 [7] - 22:17, 40:4, 41:14, 43:19, 45:9, 45:11, 68:13	6 [2] - 2:11, 27:6	actions [1] - 64:1	AGENDA [1] - 2:1
\$63,896 [1] - 65:23	2021 [2] - 44:7, 95:6	600 [1] - 50:8	actively [2] - 56:10, 58:2	agenda [3] - 11:9, 17:4, 64:9
\$65,000 [1] - 25:23	20th [1] - 99:11	61 [1] - 69:20	ad [5] - 87:18, 88:1, 89:3, 90:1, 90:5	AGM [6] - 11:10, 12:3, 54:23, 63:10, 64:2, 95:7
\$650 [1] - 49:4	21 [2] - 2:12, 2:17	63 [1] - 2:12	add [2] - 76:7, 76:11	AGMs [2] - 31:8, 71:15
\$70,000 [1] - 25:23	23 [4] - 2:18, 18:8, 61:9, 78:12	65 [3] - 2:13, 2:16, 99:6	added [3] - 40:14, 65:23, 67:9	ago [8] - 21:1, 26:4, 34:12, 40:12, 72:9, 74:8, 85:17, 97:9
'	24 [1] - 82:2	654 [1] - 50:20	adding [1] - 85:12	agree [3] - 37:6, 71:23, 89:2
'94 [1] - 54:1	25 [1] - 81:13	68 [1] - 70:23	addition [1] - 21:13	agreed [1] - 21:2
'99 [1] - 54:1	28th [2] - 1:14, 104:9	7	additional [3] - 25:23, 75:21, 77:16	ahead [3] - 49:1, 62:16, 62:17
1	29 [2] - 65:17, 66:1	7 [1] - 2:12	additions [1] - 11:15	Alabama [2] - 8:15, 55:23
1 [14] - 2:4, 4:19, 4:21, 4:23, 5:2, 6:10, 28:1, 43:21, 44:11, 44:13, 77:2, 84:9, 97:20, 98:9	3	70 [2] - 39:14, 99:6	address [2] - 72:16, 87:9	Alaska [3] - 9:13, 95:7, 95:16
1.8 [2] - 27:7, 100:9	3 [18] - 2:4, 2:5, 2:7, 5:12, 5:14, 5:16, 8:15, 28:9, 29:6, 29:9, 43:22, 52:1, 55:19, 67:12, 67:22, 87:12, 100:8	700 [1] - 50:8	addressing [1] - 16:19	Alex [1] - 18:17
10 [2] - 2:16, 81:19	3.6 [1] - 73:7	75 [4] - 2:15, 35:7, 35:20, 39:14	adhere [1] - 25:12	Allegiance [3] - 2:5, 3:14, 3:15
103 [2] - 2:18, 104:10	30 [1] - 57:20	8	adjourn [1] - 103:17	allocate [1] - 72:23
107 [4] - 76:2, 76:5, 76:15, 76:20	30's [1] - 97:11	8 [3] - 2:13, 78:15	adjourned [1] - 103:21	allocated [2] - 50:10, 50:12
11 [6] - 2:4, 2:8, 2:17, 78:16, 78:23, 81:11	300 [1] - 94:14	8500 [1] - 86:3	Adjournd [1] - 103:23	allow [1] - 40:6
12 [5] - 2:18, 26:19, 50:21, 65:11, 81:19	302 [1] - 77:2	9	Adjournment [1] - 2:18	allowing [1] - 97:15
123 [1] - 19:12	32 [1] - 67:15	9 [3] - 2:7, 2:8, 2:14	adjust [1] - 47:5	allows [1] - 44:22
12:30 [2] - 1:15, 3:1	3200 [1] - 86:2	90 [1] - 31:10	adjustments [1] - 38:11	alluded [1] - 22:22
13 [1] - 65:11	38 [1] - 61:7	92 [1] - 73:17	admin [1] - 37:18	almost [1] - 69:21
14 [2] - 2:15, 87:6	39 [1] - 61:7	93 [2] - 2:17, 19:11	administer [1] - 38:14	Amateur [9] - 13:8, 16:5, 22:23, 24:13, 25:5, 36:3, 40:12, 41:15, 71:9
14th [1] - 104:14	3:21 [2] - 1:15, 103:23	95 [1] - 73:17	Administration [1] - 11:20	amateur [4] - 16:9, 16:10, 23:4, 40:17
15 [2] - 2:5, 76:11	4	A	administrative [1] - 46:15	amazing [2] - 37:18, 46:6
152 [1] - 78:21	4 [14] - 2:6, 2:8, 2:16, 5:19, 5:21, 5:23, 6:2, 9:13, 29:2, 29:4, 29:11, 29:20, 43:22	ability [1] - 70:5	administrator [2] - 33:16, 83:13	amendment [8] - 65:13, 65:14, 65:17, 66:3, 66:9, 76:3, 77:20, 89:17
15th [1] - 100:19	40 [8] - 42:12, 42:15, 42:17, 43:1, 62:6, 98:2, 98:8, 99:6	able [6] - 32:7, 45:17, 70:1, 70:7, 83:14, 95:23	admittedly [1] - 81:16	Amendments [1] - 2:14
16 [3] - 2:11, 62:7, 66:23	40's [1] - 42:9	absent [2] - 4:12, 4:14	ado [2] - 3:7, 30:15	amendments [1] - 75:13
167 [3] - 19:13, 62:5, 63:2	418 [1] - 78:8	absolutely [1] - 101:20	adopted [1] - 89:18	America [3] - 36:13, 40:22, 47:4
17th [1] - 99:10	44 [1] - 62:6	academy [1] - 92:7	adopting [1] - 89:11	
18 [1] - 85:17		accept [1] - 19:18	adult [1] - 47:4	
184 [1] - 19:10		acceptable [1] - 100:11	Adult [13] - 12:9, 16:4, 23:11, 42:13, 43:7, 44:3, 44:12, 44:17, 51:19, 52:13, 52:18, 57:8, 104:5	
19 [1] - 2:7		access [1] - 82:21		
1980s [1] - 54:21		acclamation [1] -		
1988 [1] - 54:22				

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amount [2] - 71:4, 73:13
amounts [1] - 73:11
analyze [1] - 83:9
ands [1] - 25:10
Andy [2] - 4:21, 24:11
andy [1] - 6:17
Angelo [1] - 18:17
announce [3] - 22:20, 26:2, 48:7
Annual [3] - 3:3, 3:5, 104:6
ANNUAL [1] - 1:6
answer [6] - 31:16, 74:6, 80:1, 80:3, 80:5, 87:22
answers [1] - 4:6
anticipate [2] - 71:7, 73:19
anticipated [1] - 70:4
anticipating [3] - 28:22, 72:15, 90:7
apparent [1] - 31:17
Appeals [2] - 56:3, 56:5
applaud [1] - 83:12
Applause [31] - 11:22, 12:17, 14:17, 16:17, 17:11, 19:6, 26:12, 28:5, 28:12, 29:5, 29:10, 29:16, 29:21, 30:9, 31:3, 37:20, 48:3, 52:16, 53:13, 60:5, 60:14, 62:19, 63:4, 63:19, 84:8, 87:11, 89:20, 95:8, 95:18, 97:5, 102:1
applause [1] - 30:8
application [3] - 15:2, 15:7, 26:18
applications [4] - 15:5, 15:20, 26:19, 100:10
appoint [2] - 46:22, 89:22
appointed [1] - 104:4
appreciate [5] - 12:1, 59:19, 62:14, 80:17, 86:1
appreciated [2] - 12:21, 31:5
approaching [1] - 88:4
Approval [1] - 2:13
approval [1] - 11:10
approve [10] - 11:11, 46:22, 64:18, 65:10, 65:14, 65:15, 66:3, 66:10, 66:11, 75:5
approved [2] - 64:19,

75:10
approximately [3] - 25:22, 61:16, 73:5
arch [1] - 40:15
argue [1] - 81:7
Arizona [2] - 9:15, 94:20
Arkansas [1] - 8:16
aside [1] - 4:3
aspect [1] - 95:1
aspire [1] - 45:1
assist [3] - 21:5, 46:4, 60:20
assistance [1] - 60:19
assisting [1] - 46:13
associates [1] - 39:3
Association [18] - 5:1, 5:3, 5:7, 11:4, 21:15, 24:15, 31:1, 37:12, 37:19, 48:10, 52:21, 55:15, 56:19, 77:15, 92:1, 95:22, 97:21, 104:5
association [9] - 49:14, 50:11, 79:8, 97:3, 97:16, 101:9, 102:9, 102:10, 102:16
ASSOCIATION [1] - 1:3
Associations [1] - 55:2
associations [13] - 6:8, 21:3, 45:20, 48:19, 51:10, 56:8, 78:16, 79:3, 79:7, 79:10, 84:15, 91:10, 98:16
At-Large [7] - 53:15, 53:16, 55:17, 56:20, 57:7, 61:23, 97:7
Athlete [1] - 71:10
athletes [2] - 13:14
attend [3] - 12:2, 47:14, 96:1
attended [1] - 13:10
attention [4] - 38:12, 62:4, 62:23, 93:5
attorney [3] - 56:6, 58:4, 102:3
audience [1] - 70:18
August [1] - 68:13
available [5] - 27:6, 55:21, 60:12, 99:17, 100:12
aware [3] - 14:21, 17:2, 43:14
aye [7] - 63:17, 64:7, 64:23, 66:6, 75:8, 76:21, 95:16

AYSO [1] - 10:17

B

backgrounds [2] - 36:11, 40:21
backwards [2] - 52:8, 82:13
bags [1] - 14:9
balance [1] - 74:15
Ballish [6] - 5:14, 55:16, 61:7, 62:5, 63:2, 87:12
BALLISH [3] - 57:15, 87:12, 96:17
ballot [8] - 60:23, 61:6, 61:10, 61:23, 62:1, 62:8, 63:1
Barone [1] - 6:4
base [1] - 39:5
based [3] - 43:13, 56:11, 88:15
basing [1] - 91:5
battling [2] - 58:9, 86:15
Bavarian [2] - 23:17, 23:19
Bavarians [1] - 54:20
Bays [1] - 98:5
bear [1] - 30:20
beautiful [1] - 41:3
became [1] - 29:12
become [1] - 56:22
becomes [1] - 83:17
beer [1] - 57:21
begin [5] - 3:7, 3:8, 21:22, 62:20, 88:14
beginning [2] - 21:20, 23:15
behalf [2] - 16:20, 65:9
behind [3] - 30:4, 59:19, 97:1
benefit [2] - 79:10, 80:8
benefits [1] - 35:2
best [12] - 17:5, 18:21, 19:4, 36:17, 41:1, 43:1, 71:11, 72:17, 85:20, 85:21, 96:22, 99:16
Betsy [1] - 6:17
better [14] - 20:8, 20:9, 20:15, 22:11, 25:17, 26:21, 29:22, 74:22, 79:23, 81:7, 82:6, 84:5, 87:2, 95:17
between [6] - 22:1, 22:10, 41:15, 50:8, 86:2, 94:14

BEVAN [10] - 48:4, 48:9, 48:18, 49:12, 49:19, 49:22, 50:4, 50:9, 50:16, 50:23
Bevan [1] - 48:9
Beyer [3] - 4:12, 28:14, 58:8
beyond [1] - 94:8
big [3] - 30:23, 79:11, 79:12
bigger [2] - 86:14, 86:18
biggest [1] - 39:16
bilingual [1] - 52:4
bill [5] - 27:22, 34:12, 65:5, 65:9, 88:11
Bill [2] - 5:4, 34:11
bingo [2] - 32:18
bit [7] - 12:22, 33:5, 33:6, 36:8, 66:19, 80:7, 94:1
black [2] - 73:16, 97:8
Blackshear [1] - 28:10
blood [1] - 59:18
Board [31] - 12:6, 20:21, 22:4, 25:18, 26:3, 26:8, 31:19, 32:1, 32:12, 32:14, 53:1, 54:9, 55:9, 56:9, 57:3, 57:4, 57:23, 59:3, 59:4, 59:7, 63:7, 63:14, 64:1, 69:3, 78:8, 91:20, 99:21, 101:13, 101:15, 102:12, 102:18
boards [1] - 40:15
body [3] - 34:6, 92:23, 93:8
Bonus [1] - 77:13
Book [1] - 65:11
book [1] - 74:19
booked [1] - 39:17
booth [1] - 70:17
born [1] - 83:21
BORTS [1] - 82:11
Borts [1] - 82:11
Bosgraaf [1] - 34:11
Boston [2] - 39:2, 41:5
bottom [1] - 30:12
box [2] - 21:14, 40:1
Box [2] - 21:15, 95:23
brainstorm [1] - 88:4
breadth [1] - 55:6
Brett [5] - 4:16, 63:10, 63:15, 63:18, 101:12
Brian [11] - 11:19, 19:8, 22:22, 24:16, 26:14, 26:15, 26:16, 26:17, 93:4, 100:15,

100:16
bridges [1] - 42:1
Brief [1] - 61:18
bright [1] - 18:6
bring [12] - 16:13, 33:13, 33:23, 34:3, 35:1, 35:18, 37:4, 38:7, 74:1, 90:11, 97:19, 99:5
bringing [4] - 22:13, 41:22, 58:10, 89:4
brings [4] - 31:14, 34:21, 35:12
Brooks [1] - 6:7
brought [2] - 24:7, 50:5
brown [1] - 53:22
Bucks [1] - 23:21
buddies [1] - 39:2
Buddy [6] - 35:6, 35:9, 35:12, 35:19, 39:10, 41:4
buddy [1] - 35:7
Budget [4] - 2:13, 65:6, 65:9, 75:10
budget [19] - 25:23, 36:22, 37:9, 46:23, 65:7, 65:10, 65:16, 66:8, 66:18, 67:2, 71:14, 72:3, 73:6, 73:16, 74:6, 74:13, 75:5, 90:17, 91:5
budgeted [2] - 68:2, 71:5
Buffalo [1] - 16:22
build [3] - 34:4, 42:1, 45:13
built [2] - 48:16, 49:4
bullet [1] - 20:11
burden [2] - 89:7, 92:10
BUSH [2] - 85:14, 93:23
Bush [2] - 85:14, 93:23
Business [5] - 2:12, 2:16, 63:22, 65:4, 90:13
business [6] - 3:6, 19:10, 39:3, 56:7, 86:15, 86:20
busy [1] - 23:2
butt [1] - 24:17
butts [1] - 25:10
buy [1] - 49:8
buying [1] - 54:11
buzzwords [1] - 25:6
Bylaw [9] - 75:12, 75:14, 76:1, 76:3, 76:12, 76:14, 76:20,

77:2, 89:17
Bylaws [1] - 2:15
bylaws [5] - 55:23,
 72:7, 72:16, 101:21,
 102:4

C

CA [1] - 104:8
Caitlin [5] - 12:16,
 12:20, 17:14, 18:23,
 100:16
Cal [4] - 31:1, 43:23,
 78:19, 78:20
Calabro [1] - 5:17
calculated [1] - 78:5
calendar [1] - 88:18
California [5] - 1:13,
 9:17, 9:19, 39:5,
 39:6
CALLOWAY [1] -
 74:10
Calloway [1] - 74:10
camaraderie [2] -
 32:23, 41:2
CAMPBELL [15] -
 66:16, 67:7, 67:14,
 67:23, 68:18, 69:14,
 69:19, 70:6, 70:21,
 71:17, 73:1, 73:8,
 73:22, 90:15, 91:3
Campbell [2] - 66:16,
 90:16
cancer [1] - 58:9
candidate [1] - 78:22
candidates [1] - 94:16
cannot [1] - 61:15
cap [1] - 84:23
capacity [1] - 49:2
caps [1] - 82:2
captain [1] - 39:19
card [2] - 89:12, 89:14
cards [2] - 88:7, 89:15
Carducci [1] - 12:16
care [2] - 80:19, 82:4
carefully [1] - 15:9
cares [1] - 87:2
Carlo [1] - 16:20
Carlos [1] - 16:12
Carlson [1] - 5:23
Carolina [4] - 9:1, 9:7,
 57:16, 78:19
carry [2] - 78:9, 96:9
cash [2] - 26:5, 27:1
cast [4] - 61:2, 61:21,
 62:2, 62:21
CATALDI [1] - 80:16
Cataldi [1] - 80:16
categorized [1] -
 42:15

category [1] - 77:13
caught [1] - 24:16
causing [1] - 42:19
celebrate [2] - 42:5,
 47:10
center [2] - 37:14,
 47:6
Center [1] - 91:11
ceremony [1] - 18:15
certainly [13] - 12:8,
 13:14, 13:18, 14:1,
 14:3, 14:14, 17:2,
 18:1, 18:8, 18:15,
 19:2, 62:14, 92:14
certify [1] - 104:5
Cezar [2] - 4:14, 24:11
Chairman [3] - 3:17,
 53:18, 65:6
challenging [1] - 25:7
Champion [3] - 16:4,
 16:5, 25:5
champion [4] - 23:5,
 24:3, 43:23, 44:5
Champions [7] -
 41:16, 42:15, 42:18,
 43:21, 43:22
champions [1] - 37:23
Championship [3] -
 13:9, 23:23, 97:22
championship [3] -
 13:20, 16:3, 54:21
championships [1] -
 24:1
chance [1] - 57:2
change [6] - 65:21,
 70:12, 73:2, 75:17,
 79:21, 80:6
changed [3] - 51:3,
 64:13, 72:8
changes [5] - 28:7,
 77:2, 81:2, 82:7,
 84:13
characterize [1] -
 42:18
charged [2] - 49:2,
 49:3
Charleston [3] -
 56:10, 57:16, 57:19
chart [1] - 43:20
Charter [1] - 2:14
Chaz [12] - 5:14,
 55:16, 57:14, 60:6,
 61:7, 62:5, 62:17,
 63:1, 87:12, 89:3,
 96:16, 97:14
chaz [3] - 55:17, 56:6,
 101:13
Chaz's [1] - 89:23
check [1] - 99:4
Chicago [3] - 13:21,

21:9, 37:11
Chief [1] - 11:20
chime [1] - 68:23
choice [1] - 60:2
chose [1] - 91:18
chosen [1] - 45:17
Christmas [1] - 31:20
city [1] - 54:13
claims [1] - 46:16
clarification [1] - 51:1
class [4] - 23:19,
 24:19, 25:2, 27:13
classes [1] - 18:19
classic [1] - 99:2
classified [1] - 76:12
Claudio [8] - 5:6, 14:8,
 24:15, 24:16, 24:17,
 56:17, 56:18, 57:6
clean [1] - 97:1
clear [3] - 45:19, 55:6,
 74:21
clearly [2] - 85:18,
 87:20
click [2] - 40:1, 61:22
close [4] - 17:6, 22:12,
 42:1
closed [2] - 57:9,
 60:16
closely [4] - 15:9,
 16:12, 23:10, 25:15
Club [4] - 11:2, 23:17,
 23:19, 81:13
club [1] - 54:20
Coach's [1] - 70:16
coaches [4] - 13:15,
 15:13, 18:9, 36:22
Coast [2] - 11:4, 36:12
collaboration [1] -
 71:3
collaboratively [1] -
 16:2
colleagues [3] - 12:7,
 12:13, 13:1
college [2] - 24:21,
 39:2
Colorado [1] - 9:21
combine [1] - 43:3
coming [11] - 12:19,
 13:8, 13:13, 14:21,
 23:5, 29:23, 31:13,
 67:18, 68:15, 69:1,
 82:8
Commencing [1] - 3:1
comment [3] - 30:3,
 88:13, 89:9
comments [1] - 87:15
commiserate [1] -
 42:6
commitment [3] -
 14:1, 16:8, 53:7

Committee [13] -
 27:15, 53:19, 56:2,
 56:3, 56:5, 65:9,
 68:5, 68:15, 75:17,
 75:20, 76:6, 87:14,
 87:17
committee [8] - 22:18,
 71:3, 87:19, 88:2,
 89:3, 90:2, 90:5,
 100:4
Committee's [1] -
 77:12
committees [2] -
 89:23, 90:11
common [1] - 45:18
communicated [1] -
 51:4
Communication [1] -
 2:9
communication [5] -
 22:1, 22:10, 51:5,
 51:14, 70:14
Communications [1] -
 2:10
community [1] - 42:5
compete [2] - 43:6,
 43:19
Competition [1] - 42:9
competition [10] -
 42:17, 43:2, 43:4,
 43:5, 43:13, 43:17,
 45:3, 45:10, 45:13,
 98:11
competitions [4] -
 33:10, 44:23, 45:15,
 68:12
competitive [4] -
 33:17, 42:20, 43:15,
 43:17
compile [1] - 45:18
complete [3] - 21:20,
 69:13, 84:15
completely [2] -
 59:14, 91:22
concept [3] - 42:8,
 42:22, 43:2
concern [6] - 47:19,
 79:2, 79:13, 84:20,
 88:22, 92:23
conclude [3] - 27:19,
 30:1, 102:17
concluded [1] - 21:4
conduct [1] - 3:5
conduit [1] - 42:4
confidence [1] - 53:6
confident [2] - 70:6,
 70:9
Confirmation [1] - 2:8
confirmed [1] - 11:16
conform [1] - 102:4

confusion [1] - 42:19
congratulate [11] -
 18:16, 18:21, 23:21,
 25:3, 27:20, 28:10,
 29:2, 29:14, 63:1,
 99:19, 101:11
congratulations [11] -
 16:14, 18:7, 18:10,
 27:23, 28:8, 29:9,
 52:15, 53:11, 63:3,
 63:18, 97:13
Congress [1] - 25:11
connect [2] - 34:1,
 40:10
Connecticut [7] -
 6:11, 23:7, 23:10,
 37:12, 41:7, 41:13,
 41:14
connective [1] - 53:22
consecutive [1] -
 23:22
Conselyea [1] - 47:14
consider [4] - 45:21,
 76:3, 76:14, 77:3
considering [1] - 15:6
consistent [1] - 77:11
consisting [1] -
 104:10
constituents [1] -
 59:10
contact [2] - 46:13,
 95:3
contacts [1] - 94:2
contemplating [2] -
 102:19, 102:23
continue [10] - 15:19,
 20:8, 20:12, 25:14,
 30:15, 40:13, 55:11,
 57:3, 62:14, 86:6
continues [1] - 47:4
contrary [1] - 79:6
contributed [1] -
 101:9
contributing [1] -
 78:14
contribution [1] -
 55:11
contributions [1] -
 27:12
control [3] - 81:13,
 84:16, 84:17
Convention [1] -
 70:16
conversation [1] -
 101:17
conversations [1] -
 71:14
convey [2] - 34:20,
 91:20
coordinating [1] -

<p>14:10 Cordeiro [2] - 16:12, 16:21 corner [1] - 12:15 correct [4] - 65:22, 66:2, 67:19, 68:22 corrections [1] - 11:14 correctly [1] - 48:11 cost [1] - 72:19 Council [6] - 20:20, 63:23, 64:10, 65:7, 81:21, 92:15 counsel [4] - 71:8, 71:22, 72:8, 72:17 count [1] - 50:19 counter [1] - 78:12 counting [1] - 82:5 country [1] - 18:1 country" [1] - 32:22 counts [1] - 50:11 couple [10] - 11:18, 12:7, 13:6, 28:18, 34:12, 38:11, 58:16, 58:23, 66:17, 85:15 course [2] - 35:19, 68:14 create [2] - 87:18, 88:1 created [1] - 55:5 credentials [3] - 3:22, 19:18 Credentials [2] - 2:7, 3:17 criteria [1] - 88:14 critical [1] - 86:9 cross [1] - 28:22 crosscheck [1] - 57:4 crowd [1] - 96:3 crowned [1] - 25:4 cry [1] - 21:23 CSR [3] - 1:22, 104:3, 104:22 Cup [22] - 13:10, 17:10, 17:18, 22:23, 23:16, 24:4, 24:13, 36:3, 36:16, 40:12, 41:10, 54:1, 54:22, 68:2, 97:23, 98:1, 98:2, 98:5, 98:7, 98:8 cup [1] - 34:23 cups [1] - 97:23 cure [1] - 69:18 current [6] - 11:20, 81:6, 84:12, 84:22, 89:8, 91:15 cut [2] - 54:5, 70:1 cycle [1] - 15:2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <p>D.C [3] - 48:9, 77:1, 83:11 D.C./Virginia [2] - 77:10, 78:18 Dakota [2] - 8:6, 8:9 damaging [1] - 12:22 Dan [5] - 13:2, 37:15, 41:11, 75:18, 80:16 Darius [1] - 5:12 data [1] - 46:16 date [1] - 99:8 Dave [1] - 82:11 Davey [2] - 5:4, 88:11 DAVEY [2] - 88:11, 88:22 days [1] - 54:6 DC/Virginia [1] - 6:21 deadline [1] - 100:18 deal [4] - 25:9, 55:8, 87:1, 95:17 dear [2] - 47:13, 102:11 debate [1] - 32:4 decide [1] - 85:20 decided [1] - 43:9 decision [1] - 103:12 decisions [1] - 33:9 declare [1] - 52:14 decrease [1] - 81:20 dedicate [1] - 21:9 dedicated [2] - 53:6, 60:10 deep [1] - 34:4 definition [1] - 76:9 Definitions [1] - 76:5 Delaware [1] - 6:13 delegates [2] - 81:4, 82:5 department [1] - 100:17 Deputy [9] - 4:21, 5:6, 5:14, 5:21, 29:8, 29:13, 29:15, 55:18, 87:13 detailed [1] - 33:5 details [3] - 22:18, 22:19, 39:23 develop [2] - 33:4, 39:9 developing [1] - 47:7 development [1] - 92:7 Diane [1] - 5:8 DIBELLO [1] - 104:3 DiBello [2] - 1:22, 104:22 difference [1] - 86:2</p>	<p>different [2] - 80:14, 94:16 differently [1] - 81:10 difficult [1] - 28:17 Digital [1] - 91:10 diligent [1] - 73:18 diligently [1] - 100:21 diluted [1] - 79:17 direct [2] - 43:3, 44:9 directions [1] - 60:18 directly [1] - 48:13 Director [20] - 4:19, 4:21, 5:4, 5:6, 5:12, 5:14, 5:19, 5:21, 29:9, 29:12, 29:15, 30:17, 46:23, 55:19, 63:16, 84:10, 87:13, 88:11, 90:10, 101:15 director [1] - 29:4 DIRECTOR [19] - 30:18, 31:4, 35:11, 36:7, 37:21, 49:3, 49:16, 49:21, 50:1, 50:7, 50:14, 50:20, 51:15, 67:4, 67:10, 69:7, 69:16, 70:11, 71:20 Director's [2] - 29:13, 63:9 Directors [7] - 20:14, 45:17, 57:23, 59:7, 63:7, 78:1, 78:8 discreet [2] - 71:12, 72:22 discuss [3] - 20:3, 42:10, 46:19 discussed [4] - 68:11, 71:13, 77:14, 87:17 discussion [9] - 64:22, 66:14, 76:4, 76:19, 77:7, 77:20, 88:10, 89:11, 90:11 discussions [2] - 75:21, 94:18 diverse [1] - 35:1 divided [2] - 43:8, 50:21 division [2] - 39:13, 44:12 Division [6] - 35:7, 42:13, 43:6, 44:11, 44:13, 44:15 docket [1] - 51:18 document [1] - 96:7 documents [2] - 42:14, 46:1 Dolny [2] - 23:3, 41:19 done [13] - 20:19, 46:17, 60:21, 63:20, 68:6, 72:10, 72:12,</p>	<p>81:19, 86:17, 92:8, 96:20, 101:2, 102:23 double [1] - 81:3 down [9] - 27:5, 31:9, 51:5, 62:13, 67:12, 91:1, 91:2, 91:4, 94:23 draw [1] - 43:9 drink [1] - 57:21 drive [1] - 41:7 driver [1] - 49:18 driver's [1] - 49:11 driving [1] - 41:5 drop [2] - 61:12, 94:15 drop-in [1] - 94:15 due [1] - 17:22 Duncan [8] - 14:3, 14:6, 30:16, 58:20, 65:18, 68:11, 68:23, 70:2 during [1] - 52:23 duties [1] - 46:10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>earmark [1] - 69:3 earmarked [2] - 68:12, 68:17 easier [2] - 25:16, 38:16 easily [3] - 74:11, 74:20, 84:13 eastern [2] - 6:13, 6:16 Eastern [2] - 78:19, 98:4 easy [5] - 13:21, 20:10, 32:2, 86:21, 94:22 eclectic [1] - 36:10 Eddy [1] - 13:2 EDP [1] - 10:19 Edwards [4] - 6:5, 27:15, 53:16, 53:17 EDWARDS [2] - 53:17, 53:21 effect [4] - 32:19, 33:9, 78:3, 88:17 effective [1] - 21:17 effectively [1] - 65:23 efficiency [1] - 84:1 efficient [2] - 84:1, 84:5 effort [2] - 13:23, 96:3 efforts [1] - 98:13 eight [4] - 43:6, 43:7, 43:18, 44:14 EISENBRAUN [2] - 3:18, 19:9 Eisenbraun [1] - 4:6</p>	<p>either [2] - 19:4, 60:2 Ejlali [1] - 5:12 elected [6] - 27:20, 27:21, 28:8, 63:10, 63:13, 99:20 election [12] - 19:13, 22:15, 28:2, 63:6, 63:9, 63:11, 63:15, 97:7, 97:14, 99:15, 99:23, 101:12 elections [3] - 51:17, 63:21, 103:10 Elections [1] - 2:11 elements [1] - 43:3 elevated [1] - 28:14 eligible [1] - 61:11 email [4] - 58:15, 58:17, 60:11, 99:18 emotion [1] - 35:12 encourage [5] - 15:8, 15:18, 55:8, 80:2, 92:14 end [5] - 30:2, 30:10, 32:14, 45:23, 88:18 endless [1] - 35:2 enforce [1] - 100:5 engage [2] - 19:1, 72:17 engaged [2] - 54:4, 72:18 enjoy [1] - 99:6 enjoyed [1] - 30:22 ensure [2] - 23:11, 53:2 ensuring [1] - 46:15 enter [1] - 44:16 entertain [1] - 95:6 entire [1] - 12:5 entrance [1] - 49:4 entry [3] - 38:17, 43:3, 44:9 environment [1] - 40:16 equates [1] - 67:12 especially [1] - 54:3 established [2] - 21:21, 26:3 ethnic [1] - 36:11 Europe [2] - 16:10, 54:13 European [2] - 16:5, 23:4 evening [2] - 19:2, 43:11 event [14] - 13:17, 13:20, 14:12, 16:3, 23:8, 23:12, 23:20, 24:2, 24:6, 24:10, 24:12, 24:13, 24:19, 24:22</p>
--	---	--	--	---

<p>Events [1] - 46:23 events [6] - 13:9, 23:15, 30:5, 31:2, 47:1, 53:23 eventually [2] - 32:4, 85:20 everyday [1] - 17:15 exactly [1] - 44:8 example [4] - 35:22, 38:22, 82:19, 83:3 examples [2] - 34:9, 35:4 exceed [1] - 73:21 excellent [1] - 96:1 excited [1] - 14:18 excursion [1] - 34:14 executed [1] - 68:16 Executive [1] - 30:17 EXECUTIVE [19] - 30:18, 31:4, 35:11, 36:7, 37:21, 49:3, 49:16, 49:21, 50:1, 50:7, 50:14, 50:20, 51:15, 67:4, 67:10, 69:7, 69:16, 70:11, 71:20 exist [2] - 31:22, 33:3 exists [1] - 87:21 exorbitant [1] - 71:19 exotic [1] - 95:14 expanded [1] - 94:7 expanding [2] - 45:22, 94:21 expected [1] - 71:13 expenditures [1] - 71:12 expense [2] - 70:20, 72:3 expenses [6] - 67:16, 70:5, 71:1, 72:13, 72:15, 73:19 Expenses [1] - 70:23 experience [9] - 34:7, 40:13, 40:17, 40:23, 56:7, 56:12, 56:13, 59:8, 71:9 experiences [1] - 34:19 expired [1] - 49:23 explanation [1] - 74:13 explosive [1] - 54:10 exposure [2] - 23:8, 24:23 express [2] - 16:23, 36:15 expressed [1] - 79:14 extra [5] - 27:1, 34:13, 44:16, 72:12, 85:7 eyes [1] - 34:6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <p>face [1] - 50:2 faces [1] - 37:4 facilitate [1] - 40:9 facility [4] - 24:19, 24:20, 25:1, 25:2 fact [7] - 32:2, 34:20, 39:7, 80:18, 80:21, 81:2, 83:9 Falcone [3] - 4:19, 84:9, 97:6 FALCONE [3] - 61:22, 84:9, 97:6 fall [1] - 47:15 Falls [1] - 34:10 Fame [4] - 18:15, 18:20, 27:15, 47:12 family [1] - 103:3 fantastic [3] - 27:18, 30:6, 101:23 far [4] - 34:21, 71:18, 74:22, 92:2 Fashion [1] - 53:18 father [1] - 36:21 favor [8] - 63:16, 64:6, 64:23, 66:6, 75:8, 76:20, 93:3, 95:15 favours [1] - 81:4 FC [1] - 98:3 federal [1] - 25:10 Federation [16] - 11:21, 22:8, 27:6, 52:10, 56:4, 86:16, 91:15, 91:21, 92:21, 93:9, 93:11, 93:13, 93:18, 100:7, 100:15, 102:21 federation [1] - 17:8 fee [4] - 38:17, 38:18, 48:17, 49:4 feedback [3] - 46:6, 103:8, 103:9 fees [6] - 26:6, 26:9, 26:11, 67:1, 67:5, 67:6 felt [2] - 71:15, 72:22 Fest [18] - 24:6, 35:8, 38:15, 38:19, 38:22, 39:8, 40:5, 40:8, 42:13, 43:7, 43:15, 44:3, 44:9, 44:12, 44:17, 44:21, 45:4, 48:14 few [18] - 12:12, 13:9, 13:11, 15:3, 26:4, 27:7, 33:1, 40:12, 70:15, 71:2, 84:17, 84:21, 85:3, 100:9, 100:21, 103:4,</p>	<p>103:13, 103:15 field [6] - 14:10, 17:8, 17:22, 18:9, 34:22, 40:15 FIFA [1] - 43:16 figure [2] - 69:23, 89:2 fill [2] - 44:20, 96:21 filmed [1] - 35:19 Final [2] - 40:12, 41:10 final [4] - 35:21, 37:11, 43:12, 63:6 finalize [1] - 101:6 finally [2] - 33:2, 86:13 Finals [1] - 36:3 financials [1] - 74:12 finest [1] - 18:19 finish [1] - 47:8 finishing [1] - 22:18 firm [1] - 71:9 first [26] - 3:3, 14:23, 16:3, 21:21, 22:23, 23:19, 24:19, 25:1, 29:17, 38:13, 41:15, 45:11, 48:12, 51:18, 54:21, 61:6, 61:23, 65:13, 66:9, 76:1, 77:13, 82:14, 83:3, 97:13, 99:13, 101:4 fist [1] - 32:15 five [12] - 6:19, 6:21, 8:18, 11:2, 31:7, 61:16, 62:9, 62:10, 81:12, 94:9, 94:13, 94:22 fix [2] - 22:2, 87:3 flaw [1] - 34:2 Flint [2] - 24:2, 24:5 Florida [4] - 8:18, 52:1, 78:18, 99:2 fluctuates [1] - 90:23 focus [6] - 21:11, 36:23, 39:12, 45:14, 46:13, 47:1 focused [1] - 38:12 folks [3] - 34:13, 52:3, 96:6 following [4] - 4:5, 42:22, 45:15, 62:23 fond [2] - 34:14, 34:15 food [1] - 31:2 foregoing [1] - 104:11 forget [1] - 36:19 forgot [1] - 58:6 form [1] - 104:10 format [3] - 43:5, 44:7, 44:22 forms [1] - 70:13 forth [1] - 97:8 forums [1] - 42:11 forward [9] - 3:21,</p>	<p>16:15, 18:7, 18:13, 48:1, 59:19, 96:10, 96:15, 99:22 four [36] - 6:11, 6:14, 6:16, 7:2, 7:12, 7:14, 8:1, 8:3, 8:20, 8:22, 9:1, 9:7, 9:9, 9:11, 9:17, 9:19, 9:23, 10:7, 10:9, 10:13, 10:17, 10:21, 11:4, 17:18, 17:19, 27:11, 43:8, 44:2, 44:19, 44:21, 75:14, 84:14, 84:15, 86:4, 90:20 fourth [1] - 44:8 Foxboro [1] - 83:5 France [2] - 17:10, 18:6 free [1] - 68:23 fresh [1] - 59:17 Fricker [9] - 4:14, 54:9, 61:6, 62:6, 96:19, 97:23, 98:1, 98:5, 102:8 Friday [1] - 43:11 friend [6] - 47:13, 54:8, 54:17, 58:21, 97:17, 102:11 friends [8] - 30:13, 32:21, 33:19, 33:20, 39:9, 47:11, 56:22, 58:21 friendships [3] - 33:5, 33:14, 47:8 Frigo [2] - 5:6, 56:18 FRIGO [1] - 56:18 front [2] - 52:5, 74:1 fruition [1] - 16:13 frustrating [1] - 54:7 frustration [1] - 32:15 full [3] - 47:16, 64:16, 81:20 fun [3] - 33:4, 33:13, 47:9 fund [4] - 26:4, 26:6, 26:16, 100:8 funding [2] - 15:17, 81:17 funds [2] - 37:16 furthest [1] - 20:20 future [5] - 18:6, 74:4, 75:21, 91:15, 96:3 FYI [1] - 61:1</p>	<p>34:16, 35:17, 41:20, 42:1, 42:4, 47:6, 47:18, 57:1, 86:12, 94:4, 98:18 Game [3] - 2:17, 90:14, 93:22 games [4] - 47:9, 82:23, 86:13, 94:15 gap [1] - 82:1 GCPL [1] - 11:8 GENERAL [1] - 1:6 General [3] - 3:3, 3:5, 104:7 general [2] - 19:9, 69:15 generally [1] - 94:15 generate [1] - 83:13 generating [1] - 47:2 generic [1] - 46:1 George [3] - 27:22, 65:5, 65:9 GEORGE [14] - 65:8, 66:6, 66:14, 68:10, 68:22, 70:2, 70:8, 71:2, 72:14, 73:5, 73:12, 74:8, 75:1, 75:8 Georgia [2] - 8:20, 94:19 Gerhard [3] - 95:4, 98:1, 98:6 German [1] - 54:19 gesture [1] - 37:19 Gianfranco [1] - 6:4 given [1] - 73:20 glasses [1] - 29:8 gold [1] - 17:19 gosh [1] - 80:7 Governance [1] - 56:3 grab [1] - 4:1 grand [1] - 59:6 grant [2] - 14:23, 69:15 grants [1] - 84:3 grateful [1] - 12:10 great [29] - 12:20, 12:21, 14:7, 14:12, 14:14, 16:6, 16:7, 17:9, 18:5, 20:3, 24:12, 24:18, 27:11, 27:13, 30:13, 34:12, 35:22, 57:23, 58:1, 58:21, 60:2, 83:11, 95:1, 98:11, 98:18, 99:2, 101:5, 101:20 greater [1] - 83:10 greatest [1] - 57:19 greatly [1] - 79:10 green [1] - 89:12 Groff [1] - 6:7</p>
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170 Franklin Street, Suite 601, Buffalo, New York 14202				
716-853-5544				

<p>grossly [1] - 81:4 group [12] - 20:3, 27:14, 30:13, 43:10, 43:12, 44:4, 44:6, 58:1, 74:2, 81:15, 103:2, 103:14 groups [2] - 35:1, 43:8 Grow [2] - 15:1, 15:17 grow [12] - 15:16, 17:16, 20:4, 20:8, 20:9, 20:16, 21:5, 27:2, 47:4, 80:12, 85:13, 94:4 growing [3] - 15:13, 20:22, 83:23 growth [6] - 54:10, 80:3, 85:7, 85:8, 86:22, 89:1 Growth [2] - 26:15, 100:8 guess [4] - 52:8, 61:16, 97:11, 101:3 guest [2] - 49:14, 50:18 guidance [1] - 72:18 guidelines [1] - 64:17 guy [2] - 35:6, 36:20 guys [7] - 29:22, 57:20, 58:1, 74:22, 86:14, 89:18, 94:6</p>	<p>hear [5] - 20:18, 30:19, 35:8, 47:20, 49:1 heard [5] - 21:23, 39:10, 41:4, 60:16, 92:20 hearing [1] - 25:7 hearings [1] - 46:3 heart [1] - 30:12 heartened [1] - 96:5 held [7] - 21:1, 23:1, 23:14, 24:4, 24:6, 45:16, 89:15 hell [2] - 86:2, 86:20 hello [1] - 99:13 help [21] - 15:17, 21:6, 21:12, 21:17, 29:1, 33:12, 37:22, 39:21, 41:23, 45:20, 46:2, 47:19, 48:1, 55:20, 60:12, 69:12, 80:4, 80:11, 89:18, 100:17 helpful [3] - 79:19, 80:8, 95:3 helping [3] - 40:10, 48:20, 54:19 helps [2] - 85:3, 96:4 herein [1] - 104:11 hereof [1] - 104:13 hereunto [1] - 104:13 hesitate [1] - 100:2 high [1] - 23:7 higher [1] - 44:23 highlight [1] - 16:7 highlights [1] - 36:2 highly [2] - 23:12, 33:17 Hill [1] - 41:6 himself [1] - 55:21 hiring [1] - 69:22 hitch [1] - 30:5 hoc [5] - 87:18, 88:1, 89:3, 90:1, 90:5 hold [2] - 89:12, 89:13 hole [2] - 73:4, 73:10 home [1] - 36:14 honest [2] - 103:7, 103:9 honestly [2] - 88:23, 103:11 honor [1] - 103:14 Hook [1] - 42:2 hope [8] - 30:22, 46:22, 47:16, 60:9, 96:4, 96:14, 97:3, 101:10 hopefully [3] - 22:5, 47:23 hoping [1] - 103:13 host [5] - 22:23, 23:2,</p>	<p>24:2, 41:9, 41:14 hosted [3] - 24:14, 54:20, 97:21 hosting [2] - 24:12, 24:18 hotel [1] - 39:17 HR [1] - 101:19 huge [4] - 40:2, 70:20, 71:23, 96:21 humbled [1] - 96:18 Hurwitz [1] - 4:16 hustling [1] - 14:8 Hyatt [1] - 1:13</p>	<p>26:7, 26:11, 65:20, 65:22 increasing [1] - 47:2 Independent [2] - 63:8, 63:16 Indian [2] - 1:13, 104:8 Indiana [1] - 7:16 individual [1] - 40:7 individually [1] - 85:22 individuals [2] - 27:12, 27:14 induct [1] - 47:11 inductees [1] - 18:16 induction [1] - 18:15 inflated [1] - 91:5 influence [1] - 83:18 information [5] - 60:11, 65:19, 94:4, 94:5, 95:2 informed [1] - 22:6 initial [1] - 103:4 Innovate [3] - 15:1, 15:16, 26:15 Innovative [1] - 100:8 insert [1] - 74:21 inspired [1] - 59:21 inspiring [1] - 13:16 instead [1] - 49:8 insurance [7] - 25:20, 26:4, 26:7, 40:1, 46:16, 65:20, 72:2 interest [2] - 85:21, 85:22 interested [1] - 90:9 interests [2] - 57:1, 86:8 international [3] - 82:21, 83:7, 86:13 interview [1] - 35:6 intrinsic [1] - 35:2 introduce [2] - 12:6, 42:8 introduction [1] - 54:8 invest [2] - 38:5, 82:3 invite [1] - 44:1 involved [7] - 31:23, 32:20, 32:23, 48:19, 54:18, 55:1, 58:2 Iowa [2] - 7:18, 80:16 Ireland [1] - 36:13 Island [3] - 7:6, 41:5, 82:12 issue [3] - 22:2, 47:20, 71:21 issues [6] - 45:18, 46:15, 46:19, 49:20, 69:4, 69:10 IT [1] - 33:11</p>	<p>item [2] - 68:19, 73:3 items [2] - 71:7, 72:22 itself [1] - 76:6 Ivory [1] - 36:12</p>
H				
<p>hair [1] - 53:23 half [8] - 19:11, 55:18, 63:12, 63:13, 69:21, 70:1, 83:5, 90:20 Hall [6] - 6:17, 18:14, 18:20, 27:15, 47:12, 51:21 HALL [1] - 51:21 Halterman [1] - 29:14 Hamilton [1] - 6:2 Hampshire [1] - 6:23 hand [2] - 12:16, 104:14 handling [1] - 53:3 hands [3] - 27:1, 31:7, 42:3 happy [4] - 19:1, 87:20, 94:6, 98:10 hard [8] - 13:17, 15:9, 24:8, 26:2, 27:16, 52:9, 53:2 hat [1] - 13:11 Hawaii [1] - 9:23 Hawaiian [1] - 39:4 headache [1] - 40:3 heal [1] - 41:23 health [1] - 97:17</p>	<p>help [21] - 15:17, 21:6, 21:12, 21:17, 29:1, 33:12, 37:22, 39:21, 41:23, 45:20, 46:2, 47:19, 48:1, 55:20, 60:12, 69:12, 80:4, 80:11, 89:18, 100:17 helpful [3] - 79:19, 80:8, 95:3 helping [3] - 40:10, 48:20, 54:19 helps [2] - 85:3, 96:4 herein [1] - 104:11 hereof [1] - 104:13 hereunto [1] - 104:13 hesitate [1] - 100:2 high [1] - 23:7 higher [1] - 44:23 highlight [1] - 16:7 highlights [1] - 36:2 highly [2] - 23:12, 33:17 Hill [1] - 41:6 himself [1] - 55:21 hiring [1] - 69:22 hitch [1] - 30:5 hoc [5] - 87:18, 88:1, 89:3, 90:1, 90:5 hold [2] - 89:12, 89:13 hole [2] - 73:4, 73:10 home [1] - 36:14 honest [2] - 103:7, 103:9 honestly [2] - 88:23, 103:11 honor [1] - 103:14 Hook [1] - 42:2 hope [8] - 30:22, 46:22, 47:16, 60:9, 96:4, 96:14, 97:3, 101:10 hopefully [3] - 22:5, 47:23 hoping [1] - 103:13 host [5] - 22:23, 23:2,</p>	<p>ice [1] - 14:9 ID [3] - 49:6, 49:7, 49:18 Idaho [2] - 10:2, 94:19 idea [5] - 54:12, 80:17, 82:6, 87:18, 100:13 ideas [4] - 27:3, 27:4, 46:20, 59:17 identified [1] - 70:21 identify [2] - 32:8, 66:15 ifs [1] - 25:10 Illinois [7] - 7:14, 24:14, 56:18, 72:8, 72:9, 78:19, 98:7 images [7] - 91:14, 91:17, 92:4, 92:6, 92:23, 93:10, 93:12 immediately [1] - 31:17 imparting [1] - 40:4 imperfect [1] - 87:1 important [6] - 33:8, 33:20, 34:22, 37:23, 41:22, 101:7 importantly [4] - 46:20, 79:8, 79:9, 96:2 improve [4] - 22:9, 40:6, 40:13, 83:22 improved [1] - 40:15 improving [2] - 47:1, 84:7 incentive [2] - 85:8, 85:12 include [1] - 78:7 included [1] - 67:11 includes [1] - 45:4 including [4] - 20:6, 26:22, 38:16, 55:22 inclusive [1] - 18:1 income [1] - 66:23 incoming [1] - 18:16 increase [5] - 26:1,</p>	<p>26:7, 26:11, 65:20, 65:22 increasing [1] - 47:2 Independent [2] - 63:8, 63:16 Indian [2] - 1:13, 104:8 Indiana [1] - 7:16 individual [1] - 40:7 individually [1] - 85:22 individuals [2] - 27:12, 27:14 induct [1] - 47:11 inductees [1] - 18:16 induction [1] - 18:15 inflated [1] - 91:5 influence [1] - 83:18 information [5] - 60:11, 65:19, 94:4, 94:5, 95:2 informed [1] - 22:6 initial [1] - 103:4 Innovate [3] - 15:1, 15:16, 26:15 Innovative [1] - 100:8 insert [1] - 74:21 inspired [1] - 59:21 inspiring [1] - 13:16 instead [1] - 49:8 insurance [7] - 25:20, 26:4, 26:7, 40:1, 46:16, 65:20, 72:2 interest [2] - 85:21, 85:22 interested [1] - 90:9 interests [2] - 57:1, 86:8 international [3] - 82:21, 83:7, 86:13 interview [1] - 35:6 intrinsic [1] - 35:2 introduce [2] - 12:6, 42:8 introduction [1] - 54:8 invest [2] - 38:5, 82:3 invite [1] - 44:1 involved [7] - 31:23, 32:20, 32:23, 48:19, 54:18, 55:1, 58:2 Iowa [2] - 7:18, 80:16 Ireland [1] - 36:13 Island [3] - 7:6, 41:5, 82:12 issue [3] - 22:2, 47:20, 71:21 issues [6] - 45:18, 46:15, 46:19, 49:20, 69:4, 69:10 IT [1] - 33:11</p>	<p>item [2] - 68:19, 73:3 items [2] - 71:7, 72:22 itself [1] - 76:6 Ivory [1] - 36:12</p>
K				
<p>hair [1] - 53:23 half [8] - 19:11, 55:18, 63:12, 63:13, 69:21, 70:1, 83:5, 90:20 Hall [6] - 6:17, 18:14, 18:20, 27:15, 47:12, 51:21 HALL [1] - 51:21 Halterman [1] - 29:14 Hamilton [1] - 6:2 Hampshire [1] - 6:23 hand [2] - 12:16, 104:14 handling [1] - 53:3 hands [3] - 27:1, 31:7, 42:3 happy [4] - 19:1, 87:20, 94:6, 98:10 hard [8] - 13:17, 15:9, 24:8, 26:2, 27:16, 52:9, 53:2 hat [1] - 13:11 Hawaii [1] - 9:23 Hawaiian [1] - 39:4 headache [1] - 40:3 heal [1] - 41:23 health [1] - 97:17</p>	<p>help [21] - 15:17, 21:6, 21:12, 21:17, 29:1, 33:12, 37:22, 39:21, 41:23, 45:20, 46:2, 47:19, 48:1, 55:20, 60:12, 69:12, 80:4, 80:11, 89:18, 100:17 helpful [3] - 79:19, 80:8, 95:3 helping [3] - 40:10, 48:20, 54:19 helps [2] - 85:3, 96:4 herein [1] - 104:11 hereof [1] - 104:13 hereunto [1] - 104:13 hesitate [1] - 100:2 high [1] - 23:7 higher [1] - 44:23 highlight [1] - 16:7 highlights [1] - 36:2 highly [2] - 23:12, 33:17 Hill [1] - 41:6 himself [1] - 55:21 hiring [1] - 69:22 hitch [1] - 30:5 hoc [5] - 87:18, 88:1, 89:3, 90:1, 90:5 hold [2] - 89:12, 89:13 hole [2] - 73:4, 73:10 home [1] - 36:14 honest [2] - 103:7, 103:9 honestly [2] - 88:23, 103:11 honor [1] - 103:14 Hook [1] - 42:2 hope [8] - 30:22, 46:22, 47:16, 60:9, 96:4, 96:14, 97:3, 101:10 hopefully [3] - 22:5, 47:23 hoping [1] - 103:13 host [5] - 22:23, 23:2,</p>	<p>ice [1] - 14:9 ID [3] - 49:6, 49:7, 49:18 Idaho [2] - 10:2, 94:19 idea [5] - 54:12, 80:17, 82:6, 87:18, 100:13 ideas [4] - 27:3, 27:4, 46:20, 59:17 identified [1] - 70:21 identify [2] - 32:8, 66:15 ifs [1] - 25:10 Illinois [7] - 7:14, 24:14, 56:18, 72:8, 72:9, 78:19, 98:7 images [7] - 91:14, 91:17, 92:4, 92:6, 92:23, 93:10, 93:12 immediately [1] - 31:17 imparting [1] - 40:4 imperfect [1] - 87:1 important [6] - 33:8, 33:20, 34:22, 37:23, 41:22, 101:7 importantly [4] - 46:20, 79:8, 79:9, 96:2 improve [4] - 22:9, 40:6, 40:13, 83:22 improved [1] - 40:15 improving [2] - 47:1, 84:7 incentive [2] - 85:8, 85:12 include [1] - 78:7 included [1] - 67:11 includes [1] - 45:4 including [4] - 20:6, 26:22, 38:16, 55:22 inclusive [1] - 18:1 income [1] - 66:23 incoming [1] - 18:16 increase [5] - 26:1,</p>	<p>26:7, 26:11, 65:20, 65:22 increasing [1] - 47:2 Independent [2] - 63:8, 63:16 Indian [2] - 1:13, 104:8 Indiana [1] - 7:16 individual [1] - 40:7 individually [1] - 85:22 individuals [2] - 27:12, 27:14 induct [1] - 47:11 inductees [1] - 18:16 induction [1] - 18:15 inflated [1] - 91:5 influence [1] - 83:18 information [5] - 60:11, 65:19, 94:4, 94:5, 95:2 informed [1] - 22:6 initial [1] - 103:4 Innovate [3] - 15:1, 15:16, 26:15 Innovative [1] - 100:8 insert [1] - 74:21 inspired [1] - 59:21 inspiring [1] - 13:16 instead [1] - 49:8 insurance [7] - 25:20, 26:4, 26:7, 40:1, 46:16, 65:20, 72:2 interest [2] - 85:21, 85:22 interested [1] - 90:9 interests [2] - 57:1, 86:8 international [3] - 82:21, 83:7, 86:13 interview [1] - 35:6 intrinsic [1] - 35:2 introduce [2] - 12:6, 42:8 introduction [1] - 54:8 invest [2] - 38:5, 82:3 invite [1] - 44:1 involved [7] - 31:23, 32:20, 32:23, 48:19, 54:18, 55:1, 58:2 Iowa [2] - 7:18, 80:16 Ireland [1] - 36:13 Island [3] - 7:6, 41:5, 82:12 issue [3] - 22:2, 47:20, 71:21 issues [6] - 45:18, 46:15, 46:19, 49:20, 69:4, 69:10 IT [1] - 33:11</p>	<p>item [2] - 68:19, 73:3 items [2] - 71:7, 72:22 itself [1] - 76:6 Ivory [1] - 36:12</p> <p>Jack [3] - 37:15, 37:17, 41:11 Jake [1] - 98:7 Jamaica [1] - 36:12 Janet [2] - 66:16, 90:16 January [5] - 46:9, 70:17, 72:4, 99:10 Jen [4] - 30:3, 47:23, 96:9, 96:13 Jen's [1] - 46:10 Jersey [1] - 7:2 Jim [10] - 77:1, 77:9, 80:17, 82:13, 83:12, 87:1, 88:3, 88:13, 89:4 Jim's [2] - 85:23, 86:1 jipped [1] - 79:4 job [11] - 14:7, 14:14, 18:10, 24:18, 27:18, 28:4, 30:6, 39:18, 83:11, 101:20, 101:23 John [16] - 4:8, 5:2, 12:1, 16:11, 27:23, 30:20, 41:17, 46:9, 58:8, 65:18, 68:10, 68:23, 87:18, 88:1, 99:17, 100:6 John's [1] - 38:9 joy [1] - 35:22 judgment [1] - 51:1 jurisdiction [1] - 83:21</p>

kickoff [1] - 22:16
kind [2] - 58:4, 69:14
King [1] - 99:10
knockout [1] - 43:4
knowing [2] - 58:11, 82:9
knowledge [2] - 51:12, 102:13
knowledgeable [1] - 53:5
known [2] - 52:1, 55:12
knows [1] - 60:9

L

lack [2] - 21:23, 82:18
lance [1] - 74:10
language [10] - 34:6, 75:18, 76:7, 76:11, 77:11, 77:15, 91:19, 91:22, 92:2, 92:16
Lansdowne [1] - 98:3
Large [7] - 53:15, 53:16, 55:17, 56:20, 57:7, 61:23, 97:7
large [2] - 82:1, 82:21
larger [4] - 71:4, 81:4, 82:19, 83:9
largest [1] - 78:11
Larry [1] - 51:21
last [23] - 11:10, 13:9, 13:11, 16:22, 21:23, 22:14, 27:7, 31:2, 34:10, 34:13, 37:5, 52:23, 55:18, 56:21, 64:1, 64:2, 70:15, 70:23, 97:20, 100:9, 100:10, 101:3, 103:15
lastly [2] - 18:12, 79:13
laughter [1] - 93:6
Laughter [3] - 53:20, 93:19, 95:12
launch [1] - 45:9
law [2] - 25:10, 71:8
laws [1] - 102:5
lawyer [1] - 72:18
lead [1] - 103:15
leader [1] - 39:7
league [4] - 35:16, 57:22, 67:1, 76:11
League [7] - 41:6, 44:5, 56:11, 57:19, 76:10, 76:11, 76:12
Leagues [1] - 64:11
leagues [7] - 10:17, 55:1, 57:20, 58:2, 64:14, 98:17

Learning [1] - 91:10
least [3] - 51:8, 69:17, 91:23
left [2] - 27:8, 29:13
Legal [1] - 70:23
legal [5] - 71:1, 71:22, 72:8, 72:12, 72:15
legend [1] - 96:20
legends [1] - 60:1
less [2] - 83:18, 94:22
level [9] - 16:8, 20:17, 22:7, 22:8, 27:22, 45:1, 52:10, 74:22, 84:19
liability [1] - 25:20
license [2] - 49:11, 49:18
Life [1] - 33:6
life [2] - 28:18, 34:7
lifelong [3] - 33:4, 33:14, 47:8
lifetime [1] - 37:5
light [1] - 35:13
likelihood [1] - 73:20
likely [1] - 15:12
limited [1] - 85:2
line [6] - 66:23, 67:11, 68:19, 73:3, 93:22
LINE [1] - 2:2
Line [4] - 67:15, 68:19, 69:20, 70:23
list [2] - 45:18, 59:16
live [2] - 33:22, 57:15
lived [1] - 40:22
lives [5] - 28:22, 35:14, 36:18, 39:16, 41:2
locker [1] - 40:16
look [10] - 15:19, 20:7, 20:13, 57:10, 65:15, 78:4, 78:6, 81:12, 90:2, 99:22
looked [2] - 72:7, 84:19
looking [12] - 16:15, 18:13, 20:15, 20:22, 22:11, 22:16, 31:9, 36:14, 74:17, 84:11, 94:10, 101:21
looks [1] - 17:4
loop [1] - 102:15
Lori [10] - 4:12, 52:22, 53:11, 65:5, 65:21, 66:19, 67:17, 71:3, 101:12
lose [1] - 59:23
lost [1] - 47:13
Louisiana [1] - 8:22
love [4] - 32:23, 39:11, 58:14, 58:18

loved [1] - 28:20
low [1] - 71:16
lower [1] - 83:17
luck [2] - 19:4, 97:17
Luther [1] - 99:9

M

magic [1] - 52:4
magnitude [1] - 81:1
main [1] - 46:12
Maine [1] - 6:18
major [3] - 28:18, 34:2, 58:13
majority [4] - 19:14, 61:4, 78:10, 81:18
manager [3] - 36:9, 37:18, 39:19
Manager [1] - 46:12
managers [2] - 36:23, 40:3
manages [1] - 36:4
mandates [1] - 25:12
manner [2] - 22:5, 46:17
Mapes [1] - 4:23
margin [1] - 49:5
marketplace [1] - 42:20
Marti [1] - 48:9
Martin [1] - 99:9
Maryland [4] - 6:18, 97:20, 98:5, 98:6
Mass [2] - 24:11, 78:18
Massachusetts [4] - 6:19, 24:7, 83:7, 94:18
Masters [2] - 56:11, 57:19
match [1] - 41:15
matches [1] - 43:10
math [2] - 66:1, 81:19
Matt [3] - 36:4, 36:9, 40:20
matter [1] - 79:18
McCormick [1] - 6:7
mean [7] - 13:14, 18:1, 20:12, 38:21, 72:21, 73:13, 82:2
meaning [1] - 35:19
meaningful [1] - 34:4
means [3] - 35:13, 35:23, 84:17
media [2] - 33:22, 33:23
medicals [1] - 17:19
meet [5] - 20:21, 25:16, 32:17, 33:19, 73:21

meeting [15] - 12:2, 18:22, 19:2, 19:5, 22:3, 25:18, 34:16, 45:20, 63:8, 68:1, 74:3, 75:20, 79:14, 88:20, 102:18
Meeting [4] - 3:3, 3:5, 77:14, 104:7
MEETING [1] - 1:6
meetings [5] - 22:4, 33:10, 78:1, 104:4
Meetings [2] - 31:8, 45:16
Member [2] - 46:11, 61:22
member [8] - 21:10, 32:14, 55:17, 64:16, 69:9, 74:18, 87:13, 97:7
members [13] - 15:4, 17:23, 20:1, 21:4, 21:5, 22:1, 22:3, 22:10, 25:16, 26:11, 46:14, 47:11, 64:12
membership [4] - 22:20, 35:4, 35:23, 54:6
memories [4] - 34:12, 34:14, 34:15, 37:5
men [1] - 36:12
Men's [3] - 35:7, 39:13, 42:12
men's [1] - 38:23
MENGEL [1] - 95:4
Mengel [3] - 95:4, 98:1, 98:6
mention [2] - 26:13, 98:23
mentioned [5] - 37:8, 38:10, 81:11, 100:6, 102:17
message [1] - 91:21
metro [1] - 6:21
Metro [3] - 48:9, 77:1, 77:9
Mexico [2] - 10:7, 94:20
Michigan [5] - 8:1, 23:21, 24:2, 24:5, 95:5
microphone [2] - 75:4, 75:12
Mid [1] - 31:8
middle [1] - 79:8
might [5] - 15:21, 59:17, 74:2, 74:4, 102:18
Mike [5] - 6:4, 27:14, 53:16, 53:17, 55:13
miles [1] - 83:5

million [5] - 27:6, 27:8, 73:7, 100:8, 100:9
Milwaukee [1] - 23:17
mine [1] - 102:11
minimum [1] - 45:20
Minnesota [3] - 8:3, 52:21, 55:15
Minutes [2] - 2:8, 11:16
minutes [7] - 11:15, 13:6, 33:1, 61:16, 62:9, 62:10, 94:23
miss [1] - 102:11
Mississippi [1] - 8:23
Missouri [1] - 8:5
mix [3] - 36:10, 39:1, 45:16
model [1] - 42:9
modify [1] - 91:23
MOELLER [1] - 99:13
Moeller [2] - 4:10, 51:23
moment [3] - 2:4, 3:8, 3:11
moments [2] - 13:12, 40:12
money [11] - 15:11, 27:8, 38:3, 68:9, 69:12, 69:17, 72:23, 74:16, 86:14, 86:17, 100:12
Montana [1] - 10:4
month [2] - 94:14, 97:20
monthly [1] - 46:18
months [2] - 58:16, 58:23
MOORE [3] - 91:9, 92:19, 95:20
Moore [1] - 46:4
Moore's [1] - 21:14
morning [3] - 27:21, 32:6, 57:15
most [9] - 17:2, 21:12, 42:20, 81:16, 81:17, 82:20, 92:4, 101:7, 103:5
Motion [1] - 76:22
motion [16] - 11:10, 19:18, 64:8, 64:18, 65:2, 66:3, 66:10, 75:4, 76:2, 76:14, 77:3, 95:6, 95:10, 95:15, 103:17
MOTTA [64] - 3:2, 3:12, 3:16, 11:9, 11:14, 11:17, 14:5, 19:7, 19:17, 19:21, 19:23, 26:13, 28:6,

28:13, 29:6, 29:11, 29:19, 29:22, 30:10, 48:6, 51:16, 52:12, 52:17, 53:9, 53:14, 55:13, 56:16, 57:6, 60:6, 60:15, 61:3, 61:19, 62:3, 62:20, 62:22, 63:5, 63:20, 64:4, 64:6, 64:9, 64:20, 64:22, 65:3, 75:11, 89:21, 90:8, 90:23, 91:8, 92:17, 92:20, 93:7, 93:17, 93:20, 95:9, 95:13, 95:19, 96:16, 98:20, 99:8, 99:12, 101:3, 102:2, 103:9, 103:20
Motta [1] - 4:8
move [1] - 66:8
moved [11] - 11:12, 19:20, 19:23, 64:3, 66:4, 66:7, 66:12, 75:6, 76:16, 77:4, 103:18
moving [2] - 14:9, 18:7
MR [50] - 3:18, 11:23, 12:18, 14:6, 14:18, 16:18, 17:12, 19:9, 48:15, 51:21, 53:17, 53:21, 56:18, 57:15, 60:8, 61:22, 62:12, 65:8, 66:6, 66:14, 68:10, 68:22, 70:2, 70:8, 71:2, 72:14, 73:5, 73:12, 74:8, 74:10, 75:1, 75:8, 77:9, 77:22, 80:16, 82:11, 84:9, 85:14, 87:12, 88:11, 88:17, 88:22, 91:9, 92:19, 93:23, 95:4, 95:20, 96:17, 97:6, 99:13
MS [38] - 48:4, 48:9, 48:18, 49:12, 49:19, 49:22, 50:4, 50:9, 50:16, 50:23, 52:20, 55:14, 66:16, 67:7, 67:14, 67:21, 67:23, 68:18, 69:14, 69:19, 70:6, 70:21, 71:17, 73:1, 73:8, 73:22, 75:14, 76:17, 76:19, 76:23, 77:5, 77:7, 77:18, 88:9, 89:10, 89:16, 90:15, 91:3
multiple [1] - 18:18
must [1] - 21:5

N

name [4] - 3:23, 6:10, 59:18, 95:4
named [1] - 35:6
Nashville [1] - 47:17
nasty [1] - 47:15
National [20] - 13:8, 16:4, 20:20, 21:7, 22:13, 25:4, 36:3, 40:11, 41:10, 42:15, 42:18, 64:10, 64:11, 64:14, 65:7, 70:4, 84:19, 92:14, 98:2, 98:8
national [7] - 10:16, 13:19, 36:11, 37:23, 38:9, 45:14, 47:1
nearly [2] - 78:23, 81:13
Nebraska [1] - 8:6
necessarily [1] - 72:21
necessary [3] - 21:16, 37:16, 72:23
need [38] - 21:6, 21:12, 26:6, 28:23, 42:9, 45:6, 45:20, 47:5, 51:7, 51:14, 57:2, 57:5, 59:13, 61:5, 61:9, 62:8, 62:9, 69:17, 72:6, 72:11, 74:6, 76:2, 77:19, 78:23, 81:9, 81:23, 82:2, 82:5, 82:7, 84:11, 86:22, 88:23, 89:2, 89:6, 91:22, 100:13, 103:3
needed [3] - 21:2, 49:15, 69:12
needs [5] - 45:18, 53:4, 60:18, 81:22, 82:4
negative [1] - 87:15
negotiated [1] - 24:22
Nevada [1] - 10:6
never [3] - 36:18, 59:6, 72:11
new [25] - 6:23, 22:16, 24:21, 28:10, 29:8, 29:12, 29:15, 35:18, 39:9, 42:8, 46:11, 47:11, 50:5, 59:5, 59:16, 59:17, 66:1, 66:9, 66:22, 73:23, 75:19, 89:22, 91:11, 94:20, 97:11
New [9] - 2:16, 6:13, 7:2, 7:12, 10:6, 65:4, 78:20, 90:13, 98:4
newly [2] - 27:20,

99:20
newly-elected [1] - 27:20
news [1] - 94:7
newtown [1] - 41:9
Newtown [4] - 23:6, 23:11, 25:4, 41:18
next [29] - 11:9, 20:17, 23:2, 24:2, 24:4, 24:6, 24:13, 31:12, 32:6, 39:17, 42:23, 43:19, 52:17, 53:14, 58:16, 58:23, 63:21, 64:9, 65:3, 67:2, 70:22, 72:3, 75:19, 88:20, 89:19, 90:20, 100:21, 103:4, 103:12
Niagara [1] - 34:10
nice [3] - 27:1, 32:17, 57:4
Nick [3] - 5:17, 30:3, 60:19
night's [1] - 31:2
nine [1] - 83:4
nobody [2] - 60:22, 95:16
nominate [6] - 53:8, 54:8, 54:17, 55:16, 56:14, 56:20
nomination [3] - 51:22, 52:11, 63:15
Nominations [1] - 2:11
nominations [9] - 27:17, 51:20, 52:12, 52:19, 53:10, 53:15, 57:7, 57:9, 60:16
nominees [2] - 61:11, 61:13
none [7] - 11:15, 26:19, 52:14, 53:11, 57:8, 67:2, 93:21
normally [1] - 50:16
North [14] - 8:6, 8:7, 9:1, 9:17, 39:5, 51:21, 66:17, 78:13, 78:14, 78:18, 78:19, 85:16, 90:16
north [2] - 9:3, 78:11
note [4] - 12:18, 47:12, 58:23, 102:7
notes [1] - 22:3
nothing [5] - 38:14, 51:3, 86:9, 86:21, 97:1
notify [1] - 90:9
NPSL [2] - 10:21, 64:13
number [9] - 15:13,

78:7, 80:22, 81:3, 82:5, 82:9, 82:16, 91:6, 96:6
Number [1] - 76:10
numbers [3] - 19:15, 84:11, 85:1

O

objection [2] - 77:10, 77:17
observations [1] - 85:15
obtain [1] - 91:12
obviously [5] - 17:13, 19:14, 62:12, 71:20, 94:12
occurred [1] - 50:4
October [2] - 100:19, 104:14
offer [2] - 33:3, 59:5
offering [1] - 90:6
offers [1] - 56:13
office [8] - 21:7, 21:10, 47:21, 51:19, 70:4, 89:6, 89:8, 102:20
Office [1] - 52:18
Officer [1] - 11:20
Officers [2] - 4:18, 51:18
officials [3] - 27:21, 28:9, 99:20
officiate [1] - 38:14
Ohio [2] - 8:7, 8:11
Oklahoma [1] - 9:5
old [6] - 33:19, 39:2, 39:9, 47:11, 49:22, 57:20
Olympic [1] - 17:19
once [6] - 20:1, 22:19, 23:14, 24:12, 38:21, 65:13
one [43] - 6:13, 6:23, 7:10, 8:7, 10:6, 11:1, 11:6, 15:15, 17:6, 18:19, 19:1, 19:11, 21:11, 22:14, 25:6, 28:20, 32:14, 39:15, 41:1, 43:2, 48:17, 52:6, 57:19, 58:5, 60:2, 60:22, 63:5, 70:14, 72:5, 73:2, 73:23, 74:11, 74:20, 75:16, 75:17, 76:7, 78:2, 78:9, 88:12, 90:15, 98:21, 100:5
one-on-one [1] - 19:1
ones [2] - 49:7, 49:8
ongoing [2] - 53:2,

53:7
Open [1] - 97:23
open [6] - 15:3, 44:16, 60:17, 60:21, 61:15, 61:20
opened [1] - 16:19
operated [1] - 73:15
operates [1] - 37:8
Operation [1] - 46:23
opinions [2] - 71:11, 103:6
opportunities [3] - 33:3, 40:7, 47:2
opportunity [9] - 12:1, 16:1, 16:6, 16:7, 48:4, 57:12, 60:3, 85:4, 95:1
opposed [9] - 63:17, 64:7, 64:23, 75:9, 76:21, 89:13, 92:16, 93:4, 95:16
opposite [1] - 41:14
opposition [1] - 92:13
order [4] - 3:3, 21:5, 78:17, 91:12
Oregon [2] - 10:9, 94:19
organization [23] - 15:14, 15:16, 21:18, 33:16, 37:14, 53:3, 53:7, 56:7, 56:9, 78:15, 80:4, 80:12, 82:17, 82:20, 83:19, 84:4, 85:5, 85:19, 85:21, 87:8, 98:14, 100:20, 100:23
organizations [7] - 20:6, 20:7, 20:10, 46:14, 54:6, 78:23, 83:10
organized [1] - 39:20
organizing [2] - 42:16, 46:3
original [1] - 42:14
Otey [3] - 29:7, 29:8
other" [1] - 36:19
ourselves [1] - 20:8
outcome [1] - 15:12
outlined [1] - 43:20
outside [1] - 71:8
overall [1] - 58:1
own [4] - 12:23, 44:23, 72:7, 83:4

P

p.m [4] - 1:15, 3:1, 103:23
packets [1] - 6:9
page [2] - 2:2, 74:21

<p>pages [1] - 104:10 Pages [1] - 65:11 Palm [1] - 20:2 paper [1] - 27:5 part [10] - 17:22, 33:18, 35:14, 35:16, 52:4, 59:3, 59:4, 85:16, 97:2, 101:7 participants [1] - 85:9 participate [3] - 38:18, 90:6, 100:3 participating [1] - 51:7 participation [1] - 89:1 particular [2] - 16:11, 96:7 parties [1] - 4:7 partner [1] - 14:19 partnership [3] - 12:8, 22:21, 41:17 parts [1] - 39:16 pass [9] - 38:17, 49:7, 49:9, 49:17, 49:19, 86:7, 87:15, 87:16, 87:19 passed [8] - 3:9, 11:15, 25:11, 64:8, 65:2, 76:22, 88:15, 90:17 passes [3] - 49:5, 78:6, 87:23 passion [1] - 14:2 Past [1] - 53:17 past [7] - 6:4, 38:11, 48:18, 67:1, 67:16, 73:20, 92:7 pattern [2] - 59:12, 59:13 Paul [16] - 5:19, 26:3, 26:8, 29:3, 56:20, 56:21, 60:7, 60:15, 61:8, 62:7, 62:11, 75:18, 96:23, 101:14, 101:15, 102:3 pay [1] - 49:15 paying [1] - 38:3 Pennsylvania [3] - 6:16, 7:4, 55:2 people [25] - 13:13, 18:18, 26:17, 31:9, 32:17, 32:21, 33:4, 33:13, 34:1, 34:3, 34:5, 34:21, 37:3, 38:7, 40:10, 41:22, 54:11, 81:15, 85:3, 88:2, 94:15, 101:8, 103:3 people's [1] - 35:14</p>	<p>per [3] - 50:21, 67:12, 69:5 percent [16] - 31:10, 60:22, 61:7, 61:8, 61:9, 62:6, 62:7, 62:12, 63:3, 73:17, 78:13, 78:15, 81:13, 90:20 percentage [1] - 83:17 period [1] - 40:23 permission [2] - 91:16, 92:9 PERSON [1] - 29:17 person [7] - 15:15, 21:9, 21:10, 21:11, 34:4, 52:2, 69:22 personal [2] - 12:18, 39:23 personally [2] - 85:6, 99:14 perspective [8] - 38:9, 56:14, 59:5, 59:16, 79:21, 80:6, 80:9, 80:14 Philadelphia [2] - 39:1 phone [1] - 47:21 pick [1] - 3:21 pickup [1] - 47:9 picture [1] - 50:2 piece [1] - 76:7 Pierre [1] - 30:4 pits [1] - 16:4 place [11] - 36:14, 39:8, 44:18, 51:22, 52:10, 61:20, 67:7, 69:2, 72:20, 89:7, 100:1 placed [2] - 37:13, 44:8 places [1] - 95:14 plan [1] - 82:7 planned [3] - 68:8, 68:12, 94:9 planning [3] - 23:9, 68:4, 80:20 plate [1] - 3:6 play [12] - 16:8, 23:6, 38:22, 40:8, 41:6, 41:21, 43:10, 54:14, 59:8, 59:9, 94:14, 94:17 played [6] - 23:16, 35:7, 42:1, 45:10, 47:9, 57:18 player [24] - 33:17, 33:18, 38:13, 38:17, 40:13, 46:2, 46:16, 48:20, 48:23, 49:5, 49:7, 49:13, 49:15, 49:17, 49:19, 50:18,</p>	<p>57:18, 67:5, 67:8, 67:13, 67:22, 90:19, 90:21, 91:5 players [36] - 13:15, 15:13, 16:9, 16:10, 18:9, 24:9, 24:23, 36:10, 36:22, 37:13, 38:6, 39:5, 39:12, 39:19, 39:21, 39:22, 40:7, 40:18, 40:19, 48:12, 50:5, 50:10, 50:12, 50:21, 51:6, 51:8, 51:11, 59:10, 59:11, 78:15, 81:16, 86:3, 90:21, 94:14, 98:19 playing [9] - 24:9, 35:10, 36:6, 42:21, 43:12, 56:12, 58:1, 85:10, 98:18 plays [2] - 35:13, 56:10 plead [1] - 27:2 pleased [1] - 95:21 Pledge [3] - 2:5, 3:13, 3:15 plus [2] - 19:11, 81:13 point [9] - 3:20, 43:13, 43:15, 43:16, 46:12, 62:16, 73:14, 81:2, 89:5 pointed [2] - 76:8, 96:2 Poland [2] - 23:3, 41:19 Policies [1] - 2:15 policy [1] - 101:22 populations [1] - 83:16 portion [1] - 81:15 Portland [1] - 94:12 position [11] - 28:4, 53:15, 54:18, 55:9, 55:17, 56:21, 57:8, 101:18, 102:14, 102:22, 102:23 positions [1] - 55:3 possibility [1] - 94:10 possible [2] - 19:11, 19:13 power [5] - 29:18, 84:16, 84:20, 85:3, 91:18 powerful [1] - 36:20 practice [1] - 72:17 practices [2] - 71:11, 73:20 pray [1] - 42:4 prayers [2] - 28:19, 28:23</p>	<p>praying [1] - 59:1 predominantly [1] - 39:4 Premier [4] - 42:8, 43:6, 44:5, 44:14 premiums [1] - 25:21 present [20] - 4:9, 5:1, 5:3, 5:7, 5:11, 5:13, 8:2, 8:5, 8:6, 8:7, 8:16, 8:23, 10:6, 10:15, 10:20, 10:21, 11:1, 11:5, 12:2, 46:5 presentation [3] - 21:14, 32:10, 72:6 president [1] - 19:16 President [9] - 16:20, 28:1, 51:19, 51:20, 52:11, 52:13, 53:18, 56:19, 102:20 PRESIDENT [64] - 3:2, 3:12, 3:16, 11:9, 11:14, 11:17, 14:5, 19:7, 19:17, 19:21, 19:23, 26:13, 28:6, 28:13, 29:6, 29:11, 29:19, 29:22, 30:10, 48:6, 51:16, 52:12, 52:17, 53:9, 53:14, 55:13, 56:16, 57:6, 60:6, 60:15, 61:3, 61:19, 62:3, 62:20, 62:22, 63:5, 63:20, 64:4, 64:6, 64:9, 64:20, 64:22, 65:3, 75:11, 89:21, 90:8, 90:23, 91:8, 92:17, 92:20, 93:7, 93:17, 93:20, 95:9, 95:13, 95:19, 96:16, 98:20, 99:8, 99:12, 101:3, 102:2, 103:9, 103:20 presidents [2] - 6:4, 102:10 pretty [5] - 56:22, 81:14, 81:15, 97:18, 98:8 prevents [1] - 42:20 previously [2] - 56:2, 71:15 price [1] - 34:18 pride [2] - 13:18, 17:13 Pride [4] - 23:6, 23:11, 25:4, 41:18 prime [1] - 82:19 priority [1] - 35:16 proactive [1] - 21:3 probably [5] - 16:18, 73:21, 81:8, 86:23,</p>	<p>103:5 problem [4] - 47:22, 69:18, 72:1 proceedings [2] - 104:6, 104:12 PROCEEDINGS [1] - 1:1 process [6] - 15:7, 21:22, 45:23, 46:5, 50:17, 51:2 producing [1] - 46:1 product [1] - 96:14 professional [2] - 40:17, 56:12 program [7] - 15:1, 18:7, 27:16, 30:16, 69:15, 94:11, 94:21 programs [1] - 15:12 progress [1] - 21:19 projects [1] - 15:20 promise [2] - 92:5, 96:22 promises [1] - 22:14 promote [1] - 98:16 promoted [1] - 44:14 promotion [1] - 45:4 proponent [1] - 78:22 proposal [16] - 75:19, 76:23, 77:19, 77:21, 78:6, 79:11, 79:18, 79:23, 80:2, 80:10, 82:15, 83:8, 84:10, 85:17, 85:23, 89:12 proposals [2] - 15:20, 75:15 proposed [2] - 76:20, 77:20 proud [7] - 14:16, 18:4, 53:8, 56:14, 97:2, 97:3, 98:12 proven [1] - 28:3 provide [6] - 37:4, 51:11, 74:15, 81:16, 94:6, 96:11 provided [1] - 37:15 provides [2] - 44:23, 45:2 providing [2] - 31:1, 98:17 provision [2] - 76:20, 89:17 provisional [2] - 11:8, 64:12 prudent [1] - 71:4 publicly [1] - 96:23 Pugliese [1] - 5:8 pulled [1] - 36:10 Punishers [1] - 98:7 purpose [1] - 39:12 purse [1] - 37:9</p>
--	---	--	--	---

<p>put [24] - 15:10, 15:11, 15:21, 21:15, 21:16, 27:5, 31:9, 34:18, 44:1, 49:6, 49:7, 49:10, 49:17, 59:18, 63:14, 71:4, 71:16, 72:20, 73:9, 74:14, 86:14, 87:19, 90:1, 98:13</p> <p>putting [4] - 23:19, 27:16, 88:2, 100:22</p>	<p>really [23] - 12:1, 12:5, 15:8, 16:15, 18:13, 24:22, 51:3, 51:5, 54:7, 58:17, 70:18, 74:1, 82:7, 83:8, 83:19, 84:18, 86:5, 91:21, 92:3, 94:21, 97:12, 98:11, 98:12</p> <p>reason [4] - 31:18, 84:23, 85:1, 85:16</p> <p>reasonable [2] - 26:9, 86:4</p> <p>reasons [2] - 79:12, 82:16</p> <p>reassuring [1] - 73:18</p> <p>REBECCA [1] - 104:3</p> <p>Rebecca [2] - 1:22, 104:22</p> <p>reboot [2] - 61:17, 62:9</p> <p>receipt [1] - 82:22</p> <p>receipts [1] - 82:22</p> <p>receive [1] - 74:18</p> <p>recent [1] - 65:19</p> <p>recently [1] - 91:3</p> <p>recertification [1] - 91:11</p> <p>recess [1] - 61:18</p> <p>recited [1] - 3:15</p> <p>reckless [1] - 42:3</p> <p>recognize [1] - 27:11</p> <p>recognizing [1] - 101:8</p> <p>recommendation [1] - 90:1</p> <p>recommendations [3] - 68:14, 77:12, 89:22</p> <p>recommended [3] - 69:3, 70:3, 70:9</p> <p>reconnect [1] - 39:9</p> <p>reconsider [3] - 93:2, 93:9, 93:14</p> <p>recount [1] - 88:19</p> <p>recovery [1] - 47:16</p> <p>recreational [1] - 33:17</p> <p>red [2] - 82:3, 89:13</p> <p>reduce [1] - 70:5</p> <p>reduced [1] - 104:9</p> <p>reduction [1] - 70:10</p> <p>referee [2] - 91:13, 91:17</p> <p>Referee [1] - 92:1</p> <p>referees [11] - 13:15, 14:10, 15:14, 25:1, 91:12, 92:5, 92:9, 92:11, 93:10, 93:12, 93:14</p> <p>referenced [1] - 40:20</p> <p>reflect [1] - 65:20</p>	<p>refunding [1] - 67:18</p> <p>regard [4] - 75:16, 75:20, 77:1, 92:12</p> <p>regarding [1] - 33:10</p> <p>regards [1] - 17:5</p> <p>Regency [1] - 1:13</p> <p>region [17] - 4:19, 4:23, 5:2, 5:4, 5:6, 5:8, 5:19, 5:21, 5:23, 6:2, 9:13, 29:18, 44:3, 44:15, 55:3, 55:21, 84:18</p> <p>Region [30] - 4:21, 5:10, 5:12, 5:14, 5:16, 6:10, 7:14, 8:15, 28:1, 28:7, 28:9, 29:2, 29:4, 29:6, 29:9, 29:11, 29:20, 43:20, 43:21, 43:22, 44:17, 52:1, 55:19, 84:9, 87:12, 88:12, 97:20, 98:9</p> <p>regional [4] - 10:16, 45:13, 68:1, 79:14</p> <p>Regional [10] - 4:18, 27:22, 29:12, 45:17, 64:14, 77:14, 77:23, 78:1, 90:10, 101:15</p> <p>regions [7] - 44:19, 44:22, 45:7, 58:6, 58:7, 78:9, 84:14</p> <p>Regions [4] - 42:16, 97:22, 98:15, 99:21</p> <p>register [1] - 38:16</p> <p>registered [5] - 40:2, 48:13, 48:23, 49:11, 49:13</p> <p>registering [1] - 49:6</p> <p>registration [9] - 48:20, 67:5, 67:8, 88:19, 90:19, 90:21, 91:6, 91:12, 91:13</p> <p>registrations [2] - 46:2, 46:16</p> <p>regrets [1] - 16:23</p> <p>regular [1] - 38:19</p> <p>reinvest [1] - 83:14</p> <p>reiterate [2] - 23:18, 26:14</p> <p>reject [1] - 87:4</p> <p>relate [2] - 33:12, 34:16</p> <p>related [1] - 17:7</p> <p>relates [1] - 65:17</p> <p>relationships [2] - 34:5, 39:10</p> <p>relatively [1] - 73:23</p> <p>relegated [1] - 44:10</p> <p>relegation [1] - 45:5</p> <p>remain [1] - 47:6</p>	<p>remains [1] - 47:21</p> <p>remarkable [1] - 17:20</p> <p>Remedi [2] - 11:19, 93:4</p> <p>REMEDI [6] - 11:23, 12:18, 14:6, 14:18, 16:18, 17:12</p> <p>remember [2] - 3:9, 45:11</p> <p>reminder [1] - 76:2</p> <p>remove [2] - 77:11, 77:17</p> <p>reorganizing [1] - 21:8</p> <p>replaced [1] - 28:13</p> <p>replaces [1] - 29:3</p> <p>report [2] - 19:19, 30:17</p> <p>Report [1] - 2:7</p> <p>Reported [1] - 1:22</p> <p>representation [1] - 81:20</p> <p>represented [1] - 82:10</p> <p>represents [1] - 4:5</p> <p>request [1] - 88:7</p> <p>required [2] - 91:13, 91:16</p> <p>requirements [2] - 25:17, 45:21</p> <p>reserve [2] - 26:4, 26:5</p> <p>reserves [2] - 73:13, 74:16</p> <p>resources [5] - 21:6, 83:10, 84:3, 86:19, 100:2</p> <p>respective [1] - 4:7</p> <p>response [1] - 93:8</p> <p>rest [2] - 57:4, 94:5</p> <p>result [1] - 50:6</p> <p>resulting [1] - 65:21</p> <p>results [3] - 17:9, 17:21, 34:22</p> <p>retain [1] - 55:9</p> <p>retained [1] - 54:9</p> <p>retreat [2] - 31:19, 31:20</p> <p>returned [1] - 32:5</p> <p>returning [1] - 28:8</p> <p>revenue [2] - 47:2, 83:14</p> <p>revenues [2] - 83:6, 83:16</p> <p>reviewing [1] - 66:18</p> <p>revisions [2] - 72:16, 81:23</p> <p>reward [6] - 24:3, 80:2, 83:20, 84:1, 86:23, 89:1</p>	<p>rewarding [3] - 80:13, 83:22, 84:6</p> <p>rewrite [1] - 55:23</p> <p>Rhode [2] - 7:6, 82:12</p> <p>Richard [8] - 4:10, 6:7, 16:11, 18:17, 51:23, 52:1, 52:14, 101:12</p> <p>RICHARDSON [12] - 52:20, 55:14, 75:14, 76:17, 76:19, 76:23, 77:5, 77:7, 77:18, 88:9, 89:10, 89:16</p> <p>Richardson [2] - 52:20, 55:15</p> <p>Rick [1] - 13:2</p> <p>rid [1] - 67:4</p> <p>RIDDLE [20] - 30:18, 31:4, 35:11, 36:7, 37:21, 48:15, 49:3, 49:16, 49:21, 50:1, 50:7, 50:14, 50:20, 51:15, 67:4, 67:10, 69:7, 69:16, 70:11, 71:20</p> <p>rightfully [1] - 79:2</p> <p>rights [3] - 91:14, 92:11, 92:22</p> <p>ripple [1] - 32:18</p> <p>rise [1] - 3:13</p> <p>river [1] - 94:12</p> <p>Robin [3] - 5:21, 29:2, 29:12</p> <p>Roger [1] - 6:2</p> <p>role [1] - 41:22</p> <p>Roll [1] - 2:6</p> <p>roll [4] - 3:17, 3:19, 4:4, 4:5</p> <p>room [14] - 12:14, 14:15, 15:4, 18:2, 26:22, 27:4, 31:11, 32:7, 33:21, 39:7, 40:16, 71:23, 92:18, 100:2</p> <p>root [1] - 33:20</p> <p>Ross [1] - 6:17</p> <p>roster [1] - 48:21</p> <p>rosters [1] - 51:12</p> <p>round [1] - 30:7</p> <p>row [1] - 25:21</p> <p>Row [2] - 65:17, 66:1</p> <p>Roy [1] - 5:23</p> <p>RPR [3] - 1:22, 104:3, 104:22</p> <p>rule [1] - 87:7</p> <p>Rules [5] - 56:1, 76:6, 77:11, 87:13, 87:16</p> <p>rules [1] - 94:5</p> <p>rumblings [1] - 20:18</p> <p>run [10] - 21:17, 44:22, 54:19, 57:1, 57:22,</p>
Q				
<p>quality [1] - 16:8</p> <p>questions [6] - 25:13, 48:5, 66:18, 78:2, 79:22, 100:23</p> <p>quick [3] - 58:14, 58:23, 88:12</p> <p>quickly [1] - 14:20</p> <p>quite [2] - 41:13, 88:23</p> <p>quote [2] - 36:9, 40:20</p>				
R				
<p>R' [1] - 104:1</p> <p>race [1] - 96:23</p> <p>radical [1] - 79:15</p> <p>raise [3] - 12:16, 26:6, 31:6</p> <p>ran [3] - 22:15, 39:13, 66:19</p> <p>range [2] - 85:18, 86:3</p> <p>Rapaglia [1] - 47:14</p> <p>rate [1] - 26:10</p> <p>rates [2] - 25:20, 26:7</p> <p>rather [3] - 15:23, 74:3, 79:20</p> <p>ratify [4] - 63:7, 64:1, 64:10, 64:15</p> <p>re [8] - 22:15, 45:9, 63:9, 63:11, 63:15, 88:4, 99:15, 101:12</p> <p>re-approaching [1] - 88:4</p> <p>re-election [6] - 22:15, 63:9, 63:11, 63:15, 99:15, 101:12</p> <p>re-launch [1] - 45:9</p> <p>reach [1] - 58:22</p> <p>reached [1] - 71:18</p> <p>reaching [1] - 71:8</p> <p>read [3] - 36:3, 36:8, 89:21</p> <p>ready [1] - 60:12</p> <p>real [1] - 15:11</p> <p>realigning [1] - 46:10</p> <p>realize [1] - 56:22</p>				

59:21, 62:14, 87:8 running [5] - 24:17, 29:19, 58:2, 60:1, 102:19 runs [4] - 33:15, 36:21, 56:11, 99:3 Runstein [2] - 5:21, 29:3 Russell [1] - 13:2 Ryan [1] - 11:21	34:6, 35:5, 35:12, 41:3, 41:18, 45:9, 47:16, 59:12, 62:17, 71:17, 85:7, 87:23, 89:19, 92:16, 98:20, 101:10 seeing [7] - 11:15, 52:14, 67:7, 75:3, 89:10, 93:20, 97:18 seeking [1] - 50:23 seem [2] - 54:5, 54:13 select [1] - 44:1 selected [1] - 43:18 selection [1] - 44:7 self [2] - 12:22, 86:8 self-interests [1] - 86:8 self-worth [1] - 12:22 semifinals [1] - 44:2 send [4] - 27:5, 58:23, 70:19, 96:8 sending [1] - 22:2 sends [1] - 17:4 sensation [1] - 54:2 sense [1] - 62:13 sent [1] - 74:17 separate [2] - 49:9 September [2] - 1:14, 104:9 seriously [1] - 39:15 serve [2] - 56:9, 97:15 served [3] - 52:22, 55:3, 55:18 service [3] - 21:10, 28:1, 101:14 services [2] - 45:22, 69:9 Services [1] - 46:11 servicing [1] - 90:9 session [4] - 21:1, 31:21, 74:5, 74:6 sessions [1] - 69:1 set [2] - 22:19, 104:13 setting [1] - 46:18 setup [1] - 94:23 several [1] - 52:23 share [3] - 46:20, 65:14, 96:8 shared [1] - 82:23 sharing [1] - 84:3 shear [1] - 32:15 sheet [1] - 74:15 shirts [1] - 54:12 shoes [1] - 96:21 shoestring [2] - 36:22, 37:9 shoot [1] - 58:14 shooter [1] - 42:3 short [2] - 35:5, 40:22	shortcomings [1] - 55:7 shortly [1] - 65:15 shout [1] - 23:18 show [1] - 36:1 showing [1] - 90:19 shows [1] - 80:23 sign [4] - 91:14, 92:11, 93:10, 93:15 signatures [1] - 92:22 signed [2] - 6:9, 39:20 significant [2] - 73:10, 81:14 significantly [1] - 94:8 silence [2] - 3:8, 3:11 Silence [1] - 2:4 silent [1] - 47:21 silver [1] - 20:11 similar [1] - 56:23 simplify [1] - 74:12 simply [1] - 71:16 simultaneously [1] - 45:2 single [1] - 59:9 sites [2] - 94:9, 94:13 sits [1] - 56:4 sitting [1] - 20:14 six [2] - 9:3, 85:16 size [1] - 85:18 skill [1] - 56:8 skilled [1] - 53:5 slammed [1] - 32:15 Slask [2] - 23:3, 41:19 slots [1] - 44:20 small [4] - 17:22, 79:16, 81:15, 81:18 smaller [6] - 79:3, 79:7, 82:16, 82:23, 83:15 smiles [1] - 37:4 smooth [1] - 99:3 SOCCER [1] - 1:3 Soccer [53] - 11:4, 11:6, 11:19, 12:9, 14:18, 22:4, 22:22, 23:10, 23:11, 23:13, 24:6, 24:11, 24:14, 25:15, 35:8, 38:15, 38:19, 38:22, 40:5, 40:8, 41:18, 42:13, 43:7, 43:15, 44:3, 44:9, 44:12, 44:17, 44:21, 45:3, 47:4, 48:10, 48:14, 51:19, 51:22, 52:13, 52:18, 52:21, 55:4, 55:15, 56:4, 56:19, 57:8, 59:7, 66:17, 88:16, 93:1, 94:1, 97:21, 100:7, 102:20, 104:5	soccer [13] - 20:4, 27:13, 33:3, 34:16, 34:21, 35:13, 39:8, 41:21, 54:15, 82:21, 85:10, 94:19 Soccer's [1] - 16:20 social [3] - 33:22, 33:23, 95:1 socialize [1] - 33:19 solutions [1] - 46:21 somber [1] - 47:12 someone [1] - 68:5 sometime [1] - 58:16 sometimes [2] - 31:16, 59:15 somewhere [2] - 34:17, 67:9 sorry [3] - 14:6, 29:7, 65:5 source [1] - 17:13 sourcing [1] - 96:3 south [1] - 8:9 South [8] - 9:7, 9:11, 9:19, 31:1, 43:23, 57:16, 78:20 Southern [1] - 39:6 southern [1] - 8:11 speaker [1] - 48:6 SPEAKER [28] - 11:12, 11:13, 19:20, 19:22, 64:3, 64:5, 64:19, 64:21, 66:4, 66:5, 66:12, 66:13, 69:5, 75:6, 75:7, 76:16, 76:18, 77:4, 77:6, 88:6, 90:4, 93:16, 95:11, 98:23, 99:9, 103:7, 103:18, 103:19 speakers [1] - 11:18 specific [2] - 19:3, 71:6 speech [4] - 30:1, 30:2, 30:11, 102:17 speeches [1] - 60:17 spend [4] - 38:2, 72:21, 73:14, 74:3 spending [1] - 71:7 spent [1] - 88:3 spoken [1] - 58:10 sport [7] - 17:16, 27:2, 28:3, 54:4, 54:11, 55:6, 56:13 Sport [5] - 25:8, 25:14, 71:6, 71:10, 71:21 spot [4] - 29:13, 44:16, 71:16, 81:8 spots [1] - 44:21 Spring [1] - 22:17 Springs [1] - 20:2	Stadium [1] - 83:5 Staff [1] - 69:20 staff [5] - 16:13, 21:8, 24:8, 32:3, 70:19 stage [1] - 16:3 stages [1] - 23:9 stalled [1] - 54:5 stand [2] - 20:19, 59:19 standard [1] - 90:21 stands [1] - 52:5 Stars [1] - 98:7 start [7] - 3:19, 31:18, 41:11, 42:22, 57:14, 66:20, 76:1 started [7] - 4:3, 15:7, 31:20, 31:21, 32:18, 45:23, 47:7 starting [2] - 46:9, 94:10 starts [1] - 72:4 State [22] - 5:1, 5:3, 5:7, 21:15, 24:14, 31:1, 37:12, 37:19, 41:12, 51:23, 55:2, 56:19, 68:19, 74:11, 77:15, 82:12, 83:6, 85:15, 94:1, 95:5, 95:22, 97:21 state [29] - 6:8, 21:3, 45:19, 48:19, 49:14, 49:20, 50:10, 50:18, 50:22, 51:6, 51:10, 69:4, 69:5, 69:13, 78:16, 79:3, 79:7, 79:8, 79:16, 83:4, 84:15, 85:7, 85:10, 86:18, 91:9, 94:8, 98:15, 102:5, 102:10 State's [1] - 37:22 stated [1] - 25:18 statement [5] - 33:8, 33:15, 36:4, 37:7, 74:12 states [18] - 39:6, 55:22, 69:10, 79:12, 81:5, 81:11, 81:12, 81:18, 81:19, 82:17, 82:20, 83:1, 83:15, 83:23, 84:17, 86:15, 94:3, 99:1 STATES [1] - 1:3 States [6] - 23:6, 45:16, 46:2, 50:15, 67:22, 104:5 status [1] - 48:20 stay [3] - 54:17, 86:20, 103:15 stayed [1] - 32:22 Steinbrecher [4] -
--	---	--	---	--

13:10, 23:16, 23:22, 24:4
stenographically [1] - 104:8
step [2] - 4:1, 75:11
stepped [2] - 37:15, 46:4
steps [1] - 21:21
stick [1] - 70:7
still [9] - 6:9, 15:3, 22:9, 59:8, 59:9, 78:9, 78:21, 79:1, 79:6
STONEBURNER [1] - 67:21
Stoneburner [2] - 4:12, 52:22
stop [4] - 12:19, 32:4, 79:19, 87:3
Strategic [1] - 45:15
strategic [1] - 69:1
strategy [1] - 21:1
strength [8] - 6:10, 75:16, 75:22, 77:3, 78:4, 85:2, 86:11, 88:16
strengthen [1] - 45:13
strike [1] - 91:22
strings [1] - 37:10
strongly [2] - 15:18, 91:20
structure [3] - 50:12, 84:12, 87:21
struggle [1] - 86:19
struggling [1] - 69:11
stuff [5] - 50:12, 74:20, 89:5, 92:5, 96:4
submission [1] - 46:15
submitted [1] - 26:19
subsidy [1] - 51:11
substantial [2] - 26:1, 73:12
substantially [1] - 91:23
success [3] - 83:20, 83:21
successes [2] - 53:2, 54:4
successful [5] - 23:12, 23:15, 24:10, 53:23, 54:3
suffered [3] - 42:2, 47:15, 82:17
suggestion [2] - 73:23, 75:2
summer [2] - 17:7, 18:10
Sunday [4] - 35:17,

35:20, 41:6, 43:12
sunshine [1] - 30:23
supplements [1] - 39:4
support [10] - 38:14, 55:22, 56:8, 62:17, 69:4, 89:11, 99:15, 103:2, 103:4, 103:13
Support [1] - 68:19
supported [2] - 59:21, 62:15
surface [1] - 34:2
surgeries [2] - 28:18, 58:13
surrounding [1] - 25:14
Svanda [3] - 36:4, 36:9, 40:20
system [8] - 39:23, 43:14, 43:16, 49:9, 61:17, 81:6, 84:22
systems [1] - 33:11

T

table [4] - 15:10, 15:21, 27:9, 32:16
talks [1] - 52:7
tally [1] - 62:4
tangible [3] - 71:6, 71:12, 72:14
tape [1] - 82:3
task [2] - 20:10, 69:13
team [33] - 17:12, 17:17, 18:5, 23:3, 24:9, 35:20, 36:5, 36:10, 36:21, 37:8, 37:10, 37:17, 37:22, 38:3, 38:23, 39:3, 39:7, 39:18, 40:3, 44:1, 44:9, 44:10, 44:13, 44:14, 44:16, 44:20, 45:1, 45:8, 54:19, 67:1, 67:5, 96:3, 98:13
teams [24] - 14:11, 24:23, 37:13, 38:6, 38:16, 38:18, 38:19, 38:20, 40:8, 42:21, 43:1, 43:6, 43:7, 43:8, 43:10, 43:18, 44:2, 45:4, 54:12, 64:15, 98:10, 98:12, 98:16, 99:5
tear [1] - 94:23
tears [2] - 35:21, 35:22
technically [1] - 63:12
technology [1] - 70:12
temperature [1] - 92:18

ten [1] - 43:15
Tennessee [2] - 9:9, 72:9
terms [2] - 68:15, 79:20
Texas [11] - 9:3, 9:11, 51:21, 66:17, 78:11, 78:13, 78:14, 78:18, 78:20, 85:16, 90:16
text [1] - 99:18
texting [1] - 97:8
theme [1] - 42:7
themselves [2] - 36:15, 42:18
they've [2] - 39:16, 79:6
thinking [6] - 17:16, 41:11, 42:23, 58:18, 79:19, 102:19
third [4] - 15:2, 23:22, 62:8, 63:1
thirds [1] - 19:11
Thomas's [1] - 32:10
thoroughly [1] - 82:1
thoughtful [1] - 55:5
thoughts [1] - 56:23
three [28] - 7:4, 7:16, 7:18, 7:22, 8:5, 8:11, 9:5, 9:13, 9:15, 9:21, 10:2, 10:11, 10:19, 23:23, 24:3, 43:10, 43:13, 43:16, 48:15, 61:11, 61:13, 70:19, 72:9, 79:22, 84:13, 84:14, 97:22, 100:10
three-time [1] - 24:3
throughout [4] - 30:6, 33:15, 55:19, 55:21
Thursday [2] - 35:20, 43:11
tight [1] - 37:9
Tim [2] - 85:14, 93:23
time [1] - 32:17
timely [2] - 22:5, 46:17
tip [1] - 13:11
tirelessly [3] - 20:15, 20:22, 52:6
tissue [1] - 53:22
title [2] - 44:13, 46:11
Today [1] - 3:5
today [15] - 3:7, 12:2, 12:11, 12:14, 17:1, 18:22, 19:10, 55:16, 57:18, 58:11, 58:15, 75:23, 92:15, 99:23, 101:18
today's [2] - 70:11, 99:20
together [21] - 13:13, 15:12, 17:3, 20:3,

20:5, 21:16, 22:22, 27:17, 33:13, 34:1, 34:3, 34:8, 34:21, 38:8, 38:21, 41:23, 42:23, 47:18, 48:2, 100:21, 100:22
Tom [8] - 21:13, 46:4, 46:7, 46:8, 72:6, 91:8, 92:20, 95:19
tonight [4] - 18:14, 27:11, 47:10, 101:6
Tony [5] - 4:19, 84:9, 85:14, 97:6, 102:8
took [3] - 34:13, 69:2, 78:16
tools [2] - 21:14, 21:16
top [3] - 78:16, 81:11, 81:12
topic [1] - 96:7
torch [1] - 96:9
total [8] - 19:10, 62:5, 66:2, 78:6, 78:13, 78:21, 80:21, 82:9
totals [1] - 84:2
touch [3] - 30:19, 96:13
tough [4] - 28:2, 39:18, 40:21
tournament [7] - 24:18, 38:17, 38:20, 39:11, 42:14, 49:5, 49:15
Tournament [2] - 22:13, 22:17
tournaments [1] - 55:20
tracking [1] - 89:7
traditional [2] - 44:9, 45:3
traditionally [1] - 70:16
Trainor [1] - 75:18
trainer [1] - 76:8
transcript [1] - 104:12
transition [1] - 45:12
transparency [1] - 74:23
transparent [1] - 74:15
Transportation [1] - 69:21
travel [7] - 37:11, 37:16, 38:3, 51:12, 70:1, 70:5, 95:14
Travel [1] - 69:20
traveled [1] - 37:17
Treasurer [9] - 5:2, 5:17, 6:2, 52:18, 52:19, 53:1, 53:8,

53:10, 53:12
treasurer [1] - 52:22
tremendous [1] - 17:13
true [3] - 33:15, 81:1, 104:11
truly [2] - 17:20, 96:18
truth [1] - 20:21
try [3] - 22:2, 87:1, 96:21
trying [8] - 33:23, 34:20, 45:12, 51:2, 55:7, 66:20, 69:23, 73:19
tuned [1] - 103:15
turf [1] - 86:12
turn [2] - 49:2, 57:9
turn-in [1] - 49:2
turnout [2] - 95:21, 96:1
two [31] - 6:18, 7:6, 7:8, 7:20, 8:6, 8:7, 8:9, 8:13, 8:15, 8:16, 10:4, 10:21, 13:1, 14:20, 19:11, 29:18, 29:19, 43:8, 43:12, 51:14, 55:18, 58:6, 58:13, 60:1, 62:1, 65:12, 68:12, 75:15, 78:9, 94:16, 97:11
two-thirds [1] - 19:11
two-way [1] - 51:14
types [1] - 94:16
typewritten [1] - 104:10

U

U.S. [28] - 11:2, 11:19, 12:9, 14:18, 16:9, 16:20, 17:12, 22:3, 22:21, 23:10, 23:13, 25:15, 41:15, 41:17, 48:13, 51:19, 52:13, 52:18, 55:3, 56:4, 57:8, 59:6, 81:13, 88:15, 93:1, 100:7, 102:20
UEFA [4] - 16:5, 23:4, 41:16, 41:18
UEFA/USASA [1] - 22:23
UGH [1] - 54:22
unanimous [1] - 93:8
under [5] - 42:13, 64:16, 68:4, 76:12, 85:23
underdog [1] - 59:6
underscores [2] - 12:8, 14:1

<p>understand [8] - 25:17, 48:22, 51:2, 51:8, 66:21, 69:22, 73:1, 91:18</p> <p>understanding [5] - 55:7, 68:22, 80:23, 81:1, 88:21</p> <p>understands [1] - 55:5</p> <p>understood [1] - 48:11</p> <p>underwent [1] - 28:17</p> <p>Unfinished [2] - 2:12, 63:21</p> <p>unfortunately [2] - 25:8, 28:21</p> <p>UNIDENTIFIED [29] - 11:12, 11:13, 19:20, 19:22, 29:17, 64:3, 64:5, 64:19, 64:21, 66:4, 66:5, 66:12, 66:13, 69:5, 75:6, 75:7, 76:16, 76:18, 77:4, 77:6, 88:6, 90:4, 93:16, 95:11, 98:23, 99:9, 103:7, 103:18, 103:19</p> <p>unique [2] - 15:23, 56:14</p> <p>unite [1] - 35:1</p> <p>UNITED [1] - 1:3</p> <p>United [3] - 23:5, 54:19, 104:4</p> <p>united [1] - 11:6</p> <p>uniting [2] - 42:5, 42:7</p> <p>unless [2] - 61:12, 61:14</p> <p>unreasonable [1] - 86:5</p> <p>until [1] - 88:18</p> <p>up [41] - 3:21, 4:1, 12:19, 14:21, 20:14, 22:18, 25:20, 27:7, 33:19, 35:12, 39:20, 46:4, 46:18, 48:7, 52:5, 57:10, 58:11, 59:8, 59:20, 63:9, 63:11, 63:14, 65:4, 65:6, 67:23, 72:2, 74:1, 75:12, 80:10, 89:4, 89:12, 89:13, 89:15, 90:11, 90:22, 91:1, 93:22, 96:6, 97:19, 98:22</p> <p>update [1] - 94:2</p> <p>updating [1] - 65:19</p> <p>upload [1] - 39:22</p> <p>upped [1] - 67:5</p> <p>USPS [1] - 64:12</p> <p>urge [2] - 91:20, 92:13</p>	<p>USA [1] - 23:2</p> <p>USASA [27] - 14:19, 18:20, 20:1, 21:2, 23:8, 23:13, 25:22, 26:20, 28:15, 31:7, 31:22, 52:11, 53:8, 53:18, 54:9, 55:10, 56:2, 60:1, 64:13, 67:1, 76:10, 76:11, 76:12, 77:15, 95:6, 98:15</p> <p>Utah [2] - 10:11, 34:13</p> <p>utilized [1] - 73:16</p> <p>utmost [1] - 53:6</p>	<p>voted [2] - 62:15, 64:11</p> <p>votes [79] - 3:22, 6:11, 6:14, 6:16, 6:18, 6:19, 6:21, 7:2, 7:4, 7:6, 7:8, 7:12, 7:14, 7:16, 7:18, 7:20, 7:22, 8:1, 8:3, 8:5, 8:6, 8:7, 8:9, 8:11, 8:13, 8:15, 8:16, 8:18, 8:20, 8:22, 8:23, 9:1, 9:3, 9:5, 9:7, 9:9, 9:11, 9:13, 9:15, 9:17, 9:19, 9:21, 9:23, 10:2, 10:4, 10:7, 10:9, 10:11, 10:13, 10:15, 10:17, 10:19, 10:21, 10:22, 11:2, 11:4, 11:8, 19:10, 19:12, 19:14, 61:2, 61:7, 61:20, 61:21, 62:5, 63:2, 78:7, 78:21, 78:23, 80:22, 81:14, 82:2, 82:3, 82:9, 85:12, 85:17, 86:4, 87:6, 96:18</p> <p>Votes [3] - 62:2, 62:21, 77:13</p> <p>voting [21] - 3:22, 5:1, 5:3, 5:7, 6:10, 19:10, 60:17, 60:20, 61:13, 61:15, 61:19, 62:20, 75:16, 75:22, 77:2, 78:4, 84:12, 84:16, 86:10, 87:21, 88:16</p> <p>Voting [1] - 89:15</p>	<p>20:22, 22:9, 22:11</p> <p>wealth [1] - 102:13</p> <p>website [3] - 40:5, 99:5</p> <p>week [1] - 59:9</p> <p>weekend [9] - 12:3, 12:13, 14:7, 30:7, 99:3, 99:7, 99:10, 101:6, 101:8</p> <p>weeks [5] - 15:3, 34:12, 100:22, 103:4, 103:13</p> <p>Weiss [1] - 4:21</p> <p>welcome [4] - 3:4, 20:2, 30:22, 101:13</p> <p>welling [1] - 35:12</p> <p>Wells [2] - 1:13, 104:8</p> <p>Werner [14] - 4:14, 54:8, 54:17, 61:6, 62:6, 96:19, 97:8, 97:9, 97:17, 97:23, 98:5, 102:7, 102:14</p> <p>West [2] - 7:4, 7:10</p> <p>west [1] - 11:4</p> <p>Western [1] - 7:12</p> <p>White [1] - 24:11</p> <p>who've [2] - 59:20, 96:6</p> <p>whole [6] - 14:8, 30:6, 35:18, 40:16, 59:2, 74:2</p> <p>Wilson [1] - 5:10</p> <p>win [4] - 19:15, 50:22, 79:11, 99:23</p> <p>window [1] - 15:3</p> <p>winner [3] - 52:14, 61:5, 98:6</p> <p>winners [3] - 42:17, 43:12, 98:4</p> <p>winning [7] - 34:23, 35:15, 35:18, 36:5, 36:16, 45:1, 97:14</p> <p>Wisconsin [1] - 8:13</p> <p>wish [3] - 18:21, 47:15, 97:16</p> <p>withdrawn [1] - 75:15</p> <p>withdraws [1] - 61:14</p> <p>witness [1] - 104:13</p> <p>witnessed [2] - 13:7, 13:23</p> <p>women [2] - 29:18, 29:19</p> <p>Women's [10] - 11:6, 17:10, 17:12, 18:6, 22:13, 22:17, 39:14, 68:2, 68:5, 68:15</p> <p>women's [2] - 39:3, 45:10</p> <p>won [7] - 17:17, 23:22, 23:23, 35:21, 44:13,</p>	<p>98:7, 102:22</p> <p>wonderful [3] - 20:13, 51:23, 52:2</p> <p>wondering [1] - 69:20</p> <p>word [2] - 79:15, 101:4</p> <p>words [1] - 36:20</p> <p>worked [2] - 16:12, 53:2</p> <p>working [12] - 16:2, 16:15, 21:3, 21:11, 23:10, 26:8, 26:17, 55:22, 94:20, 94:21, 99:22, 100:21</p> <p>works [3] - 34:2, 52:6, 52:9</p> <p>workshop [1] - 95:22</p> <p>world [3] - 70:12, 86:19, 87:8</p> <p>World [4] - 17:10, 17:18, 54:1</p> <p>worried [1] - 85:11</p> <p>worry [2] - 86:6, 99:3</p> <p>worth [1] - 12:22</p> <p>wounds [1] - 41:23</p> <p>WPSL [1] - 10:21</p> <p>wrestled [1] - 32:3</p> <p>writing [1] - 74:14</p> <p>wrong [2] - 65:22, 84:22</p> <p>Wyoming [1] - 10:15</p>
V		W		Y
<p>vacancy [1] - 29:13</p> <p>vacant [1] - 5:16</p> <p>valid [2] - 79:13, 79:16</p> <p>valuable [1] - 102:15</p> <p>value [1] - 55:5</p> <p>valued [1] - 36:15</p> <p>Vancouver [1] - 94:11</p> <p>variety [1] - 69:4</p> <p>various [4] - 36:11, 42:10, 70:13, 94:3</p> <p>vast [1] - 81:17</p> <p>venue [1] - 39:21</p> <p>venues [1] - 82:21</p> <p>verify [3] - 48:20, 48:21, 49:12</p> <p>verifying [2] - 48:23, 49:23</p> <p>Vermont [1] - 7:8</p> <p>versus [1] - 41:19</p> <p>Vice [5] - 51:19, 51:20, 52:11, 52:13, 102:20</p> <p>victory [1] - 40:15</p> <p>video [3] - 35:5, 36:1, 36:6</p> <p>Video [1] - 35:10</p> <p>Virginia [3] - 7:10, 48:10, 83:12</p> <p>vital [1] - 35:13</p> <p>vitality [1] - 33:20</p> <p>voice [2] - 79:4, 85:5</p> <p>volunteer [1] - 46:8</p> <p>volunteered [2] - 55:20, 96:11</p> <p>vote [28] - 6:13, 6:23, 7:10, 8:7, 10:6, 11:1, 11:6, 57:17, 60:9, 60:22, 61:8, 61:9, 61:15, 62:4, 63:3, 77:16, 77:19, 78:11, 78:13, 79:5, 79:16, 79:18, 80:11, 80:15, 83:17, 84:2, 85:7, 88:7</p>	<p>voted [2] - 62:15, 64:11</p> <p>votes [79] - 3:22, 6:11, 6:14, 6:16, 6:18, 6:19, 6:21, 7:2, 7:4, 7:6, 7:8, 7:12, 7:14, 7:16, 7:18, 7:20, 7:22, 8:1, 8:3, 8:5, 8:6, 8:7, 8:9, 8:11, 8:13, 8:15, 8:16, 8:18, 8:20, 8:22, 8:23, 9:1, 9:3, 9:5, 9:7, 9:9, 9:11, 9:13, 9:15, 9:17, 9:19, 9:21, 9:23, 10:2, 10:4, 10:7, 10:9, 10:11, 10:13, 10:15, 10:17, 10:19, 10:21, 10:22, 11:2, 11:4, 11:8, 19:10, 19:12, 19:14, 61:2, 61:7, 61:20, 61:21, 62:5, 63:2, 78:7, 78:21, 78:23, 80:22, 81:14, 82:2, 82:3, 82:9, 85:12, 85:17, 86:4, 87:6, 96:18</p> <p>Votes [3] - 62:2, 62:21, 77:13</p> <p>voting [21] - 3:22, 5:1, 5:3, 5:7, 6:10, 19:10, 60:17, 60:20, 61:13, 61:15, 61:19, 62:20, 75:16, 75:22, 77:2, 78:4, 84:12, 84:16, 86:10, 87:21, 88:16</p> <p>Voting [1] - 89:15</p>	<p>wait [2] - 58:18, 62:10</p> <p>waiting [1] - 98:21</p> <p>waive [1] - 92:22</p> <p>waiver [4] - 40:1, 91:19, 93:11, 93:15</p> <p>Walk [1] - 94:1</p> <p>walk [2] - 52:7, 100:18</p> <p>walking [1] - 94:19</p> <p>walks [1] - 52:7</p> <p>Wally [1] - 18:17</p> <p>wants [1] - 90:6</p> <p>Wasecki [1] - 4:14</p> <p>Washington [7] - 10:13, 74:11, 78:17, 85:15, 93:23, 94:9, 94:11</p> <p>watch [2] - 29:23, 36:2</p> <p>watching [1] - 54:11</p> <p>Wayne [1] - 5:10</p> <p>ways [5] - 20:8, 20:13,</p>	<p>win [4] - 19:15, 50:22, 79:11, 99:23</p> <p>window [1] - 15:3</p> <p>winner [3] - 52:14, 61:5, 98:6</p> <p>winners [3] - 42:17, 43:12, 98:4</p> <p>winning [7] - 34:23, 35:15, 35:18, 36:5, 36:16, 45:1, 97:14</p> <p>Wisconsin [1] - 8:13</p> <p>wish [3] - 18:21, 47:15, 97:16</p> <p>withdrawn [1] - 75:15</p> <p>withdraws [1] - 61:14</p> <p>witness [1] - 104:13</p> <p>witnessed [2] - 13:7, 13:23</p> <p>women [2] - 29:18, 29:19</p> <p>Women's [10] - 11:6, 17:10, 17:12, 18:6, 22:13, 22:17, 39:14, 68:2, 68:5, 68:15</p> <p>women's [2] - 39:3, 45:10</p> <p>won [7] - 17:17, 23:22, 23:23, 35:21, 44:13,</p>	<p>Year [1] - 31:8</p> <p>year [46] - 16:22, 21:23, 22:14, 22:21, 23:2, 23:14, 24:2, 24:4, 25:21, 25:22, 27:7, 28:4, 34:10, 34:13, 36:8, 38:22, 39:13, 39:17, 40:13, 40:14, 41:9, 43:19, 44:18, 45:11, 45:12, 47:13, 48:11, 48:12, 48:16, 48:21, 56:21, 63:12, 63:13, 64:2, 67:2, 67:3, 69:2, 71:13, 71:17, 72:3, 74:8, 88:18, 90:20, 98:9, 100:10</p> <p>year's [3] - 27:13, 35:8, 44:3</p> <p>years [18] - 13:9, 13:11, 26:4, 32:20, 38:12, 48:16, 52:2, 52:23, 55:18, 59:8, 70:15, 72:9, 82:18, 85:17, 100:9, 101:10, 101:14,</p>

103:15

yesterday ^[10] - 13:3,
21:13, 26:16, 26:18,
32:10, 46:6, 47:10,
63:8, 72:6, 92:1

yesterday's ^[1] - 95:22

Yonkers ^[1] - 98:3

York ^[4] - 6:13, 7:12,
78:20, 98:4

young ^[2] - 36:12,
97:10

yourself ^[2] - 66:15,
79:22

Youth ^[1] - 54:22

Z

Zack ^[1] - 30:3

zero ^[3] - 8:23, 10:15,
11:8