| 1 <br> 2 <br> 7 <br> 3 <br> 4 <br> 5 |  | NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING ```San Francisco Marriott Marquis San Francisco, California February 13, 2015``` Reported by Debra K. Resling, RMR, CRR Resling Sportscript, Inc. 4 Cheyenne Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80905 | ${ }^{1}$ | 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 18 18 19 20 21 21 | (Commencing at 12:42 p.m.) <br> PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone. Can everyone take a seat? We're just about ready to get started. <br> Welcome, everyone, to San Francisco. Welcome to our Annual General Meeting. It's always a pleasure to see everybody smiling and having a good time out there. Let's just hope I see the same smiling faces when we leave today. <br> A couple of things before we get started. I have asked Jim Hamilton to act as a parliamentarian for the meeting today, so if there's no objections from the National Council, we will have Jim serve as our parliamentarian, if so needed. <br> Any objections? <br> Okay. Thank you. <br> So next on the agenda, we will take a Moment of Silence to remember all of those in our soccer family and our personal families that have left before us, so everybody bow their heads and take a Moment of Silence, please. <br> (Moment of silence.) <br> PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you. <br> Next, we'll call on Darius, <br> Credentials Chairman, to do a roll call. |
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A Here.
Q Region 2 Director, Bill Davey?
A Here.
Q Region 2 Deputy Director, Nick Radu?
A Here.
Q Region 2 Secretary, Dyann Pugliese?
A Here.
Q Region 2 Treasurer, Wayne Wilson?
A Here.
Q Region 3 Deputy Director, Rob
LaVielle?

A Here.
Q Region 3 Deputy Director, Darius
Ejlali.
Here.
Region 3 Secretary, Karon Buyer.
A Here.
Q Region 3 Treasurer, Nick Calabro?
A Here.
Q Region 4 Director, Paul Scherer?
A Here.
Q Region 4 Deputy Director, Sergio
A Here.
Q Region 4 Secretary, Roy Carlson?
A Here.
Q Region 4 Treasurer, Roger Hamilton?
A Here.
Q States, as I call your state up,
please answer with a "present" or "here," and
come forward, our Credentials Committee is up
front, and collect your voting cards.
Alabama, three votes.
A Here.
Q Alaska, 3?
A Here.
Q Arizona, 4?
A Here.
Q Arkansas, 4?
A Here.
Q California North, 5?
A Here.
Q California South, 6?
A Here.
Q Colorado 3?
A Here.
Q Connecticut, 4?
A Here.
Q Delaware, 1?
A Here.

Q Eastern New York, 5?
A Here.
Q Eastern Pennsylvania, 4?
A Yo.
Q Florida, 5?
A Here.
Q Georgia, 4?
A Here.
Q Hawaii, 3?
A Here.
Q Idaho, 3?
A Here.
Q Illinois, 4?
A Here.
Q Indiana, 3?
A Here.
Q Iowa, 3?
A Here.
Q Kansas, 3?
A Here.
Q Kentucky, 3?
A Here.
Q Louisiana, 3?
A Here.
Q Maryland, 2?
A Here.
Q Massachusetts, 5?
A Here.
Q Metro D.C./Virginia, 5?
A Here.
Q Michigan, 4?
A Present.
Q Minnesota, 4?
A Here.
Q Missouri, 2?
A Here.
Q Montana, 2?
A (No response.)
Q Nebraska, 2.
A Here.
Q Nevada, 1?
A Here.
Q New Hampshire, 1?
A Here.
Q New Jersey, 4?
A Here.
Q New Mexico, 4?
A Here.
Q North Carolina, 5?
A Here.

Q North Dakota, 1?
A (No response.)
Q North Texas, 6.
A Here.
Q Ohio North, 2?
A Here.
Q Oklahoma, 3?
A Here.
Q Oregon, 4?
A Here.
Q Pennsylvania West, 3?
A Present.
Q Rhode Island, 2?
A Here.
Q South Carolina, 4?
A Here.
Q South Dakota, 2?
A Here.
Q Southern Ohio, 3?
A Here.
Q Tennessee, 4?
A Here.
Q Texas South, 5?
A Here.
Q Utah, 2?

A Here.
Q Vermont, 2?
A Here.
Q Washington, 5?
A Here.
Q West Virginia, 2?
A West, by God, Virginia.
Q Western New York, 4?
A Here.
Q Wisconsin, 2?
A Here.
Q Wyoming, 1?
A (No response.)
Q USL, 4?
A (No response.)
Q WPSL, 3?
A (No response.)
Q NPSL, 3?
A (No response.)
Q AYSO, 4?
A Here.
Q MSSL, 1?
A Here.
Q SAY, 1?
A (No response.)

Q ASL, 1?
A (No response.)
Q Let me go back over the ones I did not hear from, Montana, 2?

A (No response.)
Q North Dakota, 1?
A (No response.)
Q Wyoming, 1?
A (No response.)
Q USL?
A (No response.)
Q WPSL?
A Here.
Q AYSO?
A (No response.)
Q SAY?
A (No response.)
MR. EJLALI: I would like our past presidents to stand so we can recognize them.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. While our Credentials Committee is doing the numbers, we will go to Confirmation of Minutes from the 2014 Mid-year Meeting. Are there any corrections or any deletions to the minutes of the mid-year

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meeting?
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Seeing none, I will approve the minutes of the mid-year meeting.

Next, we have Communications which, I don't have any to report on right this minute. So we will move quickly, while they're adding that.

Reports of Officers and Committees.
I will begin. I will give you a quick report on the U.S. Soccer board meeting that we just had this morning. I want to apologize to all the regional meeting people, all the members here, that I did not attend the regional meetings because I had to attend the U.S. Soccer board meeting. We had quite a few things on the agenda that involved USASA, so I felt it was important that I be at the meeting to address all the USASA issues that were on the agenda.

Just a quick rundown of things that happened. Sunil did announce today that U.S. Soccer, and Sunil has endorsed for the FIFA president -- as you all know, FIFA has a new, has an elections coming up in May -- and the United States through Sunil, our president, has endorsed
the Jordanian federation president for the position of president of FIFA.
(Applause.)
So it's interesting, that we are not supporting the incumbent, Sepp Blatter, so it should be an interesting election, nonetheless, to see how that transpires.

The Federation is going to, in the very near future, get the board together for a little retreat to go over some issues that they feel at this time needs to be looked at, and three of the things that really stuck out was they want to look at how the governance of U.S. Soccer is again, today. Is there anything we need to change?

One thing they want to do is get the board more involved in the day-to-day, you know, things that are happening at the Federation. They also want to take a good look at the structure of committees in the Federation. There are many committees now that really have no function. There's no budget money to support them. They have basically not been meeting, so they're going to take a good look at their -- the relevance of those committees and whether or not
they're needed.
At the same token, they will be looking at putting together some new committees for the Federation, some of them that are probably well needed, but that's all going to come in the future, when we meet as a board in this retreat.

There is also talk about a fee increase around the year 2017. So, that should be an interesting debate coming up or an interesting topic to talk about, but they said they haven't had a fee increase in quite a few years, and it's something that they also want to take a look at. So stay tuned for more on that.

As many of you know, all of you know, next year COPA America will be held in the United States and the Federation is thinking that this will be the biggest soccer event in this country since the 1994 World Cup.

By March 16, they will announce the venues for this event, so stay tuned for that.

Just so there's clarification out
there. We did have a discussion around international game fees, but it's not -- you know, we had no discussion on international game
fees around the percentages that come back to the state association. That was not talked about.

FIFA, this year, has -- they used to charge a 2 percent fee for international games to each of their confederations or their national members. And CONCACAF also used to have a fee for hosting international games in our country. They used to get like a 2 percent kickback to them on the attendance. FIFA this year, since they figured they had enough money, decided that they didn't need that 2 percent, so they abolished that rule and told CONCACAF and the other confederations that they are not -- they should not also pay back the 2 percent, because they also had enough money.

So the decision today at the Federation was that, as it has to do with international fees, is that we, the Federation, they used to collect like a 9 or 10 or 12 percent fee depending on the level of the game, which included the 2 percent for FIFA and the 2 percent for CONCACAF. So they used to charge a flat fee of -- let's say, of 9 percent. So we agreed that we would -- since FIFA does not want the 2 percent any longer, U.S. Soccer would not charge 16
the promoters that 2 percent either. So that was what was agreed on today, and nothing to do with the percentages that come back to the state associations. I'm not saying that will not be heard of, talked about in the future, but that was not discussed today at the board meeting.

Are you ready? Yes, Rick.
MR. MOTTA: Can you come up and identify yourself?

MR. OLIVAS: Rick Olivas.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: I know you can speak loud but not loud enough.

MR. OLIVAS: Rick Olivas, Cal North.
Would this decrease in fees help us to expedite the payment of the percentages to the state associations? Because I have some international games that were played 16 months ago that we still have not seen any, and we don't get any sort of information whether they're in limbo or what.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Well, since I'm not involved in that directly, I cannot answer that question, but I could find out for you. But we do know that one of the promoters in your state did pay quite a bit of money to the Federation
last week that they owed us, so maybe you will get your check next week.

Okay. I think the credentials chairman is ready.

MR. EJLALI: We have a total vote count of 202, which creates a majority of 102, and two-thirds, 135.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Can I have a motion to approve the credentials report?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move. PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: All in favor say aye? Thank you.
(Motion passed.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any other officers or committee chairs would like to give their report? This is your time to do it. Any committee chairs? If not, thank you.

Brings us down to the elections. Okay.

First on the elections will be the office of Vice-President of the USASA. Do we have any nominations for Vice-President of USASA?

Bill Davey.

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MR. DAVEY: I would like to place into nomination the current Region 1 Director, Fritz Marth. By trade, Fritz is an engineer, bringing those analytical business practices to the operational functions of the NBOD.

Fritz grew up in the organization, from a young man, all the way through. Very few of us have the opportunity to say we actually grew up in this organization and know the inner workings. Still active at the grassroots level, with one of the oldest contiguous members of USASA, Fritz volunteers in his club on a weekly basis, and I understand they're going on a trip to Italy this summer. Fritz is passionate about the game, passionate about the game at the competitive level, but still cognizant of the new social demographic within the organization and is willing to compromise, so that both ends of the demographics of our organization is suited well, not to forsake one over the other.

Working with Fritz on the board, he is always willing to dissect an issue by analytical views and put forth a reasonable approach to the resolution, something as a current board member, I really appreciate. It
cuts down on a lot of time.
Again, I am honored to put forth for your consideration as Vice-President of the USASA, Fritz Marth. Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you. Bill Bosgraaf.
MR. BOSGRAAF: Mr. President, I would like to second the nomination of Fritz Marth. Just as Bill has just mentioned, Fritz has been around this game, pretty well close to birth, had a great upbringing and a great leadership that we enjoyed for many, many years from his dad. Knows the ins and outs of this organization. Also knows how to move it forward, and I think there's some great things that will come from him.

He would be an excellent choice to be your vice-president. And having served in this position myself for the last four years, I know that he would do a fantastic job.

Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Rob
LaVielle.
MR. LA VIELLE: Thank you,

Mr. President.
It's my honor and privilege to nominate Arthur Mattson for Vice-President of the U.S. Adult Soccer. I have known Arthur probably for the last 10 or 15 years within the Florida State Soccer Association as a player. Arthur is a registered referee. He is passionate about this sport. He brings a tremendous amount of knowledge to the table, and he truly wants to progress this organization, vocal in our board meetings and our strategic planning, looking at better ways to move our organization forward as a group. And I think that what he can bring to us makes him a superior nomination for Vice-President.

So with that, again, I would like to nominate Arthur Mattson for Vice-President of U.S. Adult Soccer. Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Are there any other nominations for vice-president of USASA? Being none, we'll close the nominations, and we can go ahead and vote. And we'll have our Credentials Committee people -- oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. We closed the nominations, but I will
give the two candidates some time to speak to the council. So we'll start off with Arthur.

MR. MATTSON: We must really be short on time today.

The United States Adult Soccer Association. Who are we? Why are we here? During the natural course of any association's life, such as ours, there comes a time of self-examination, a time of soul-searching. And in light of our most recent strategic plan, I believe, now is that time.

The strategic plan gave us data on where we've been and where we are. It detailed our successes and exposed our failures, and all this information is crucial when mapping out our future.

Now, upon examination of the strategic plan, like many of you, I was surprised as to how expensive our National Cup program is to operate, and I know that they're incredibly important to this organization, as they're important to me too.

But I cannot support any program that absorbs 50 percent of all of our national money and resources, when it only accommodates 4

22 percent of our membership.

We need a strong, viable cups program that is structured and operates based on a sustainable, economic business model that is relevant to our membership base. And while we have made some small steps towards addressing those problems, much of the work is still ahead of us.

Another challenge we face is growing competition. Our membership numbers have dropped consistently over the last 10 years, but our competition's numbers have gone up 40 percent in just the last year. Why is this?

I believe it starts with a product we offer our consumers, our members.

Have you ever struggled to explain the benefits of being a member with U.S. Adult Soccer? Your board, working with states, needs to focus on providing more services and products for our members. We need to add value to compete in an ever-changing soccer landscape.

The Hispanic population is expected to grow from 1 in 6 Americans to 1 in 5 of all Americans. I consider this to be one of our biggest areas of potential growth. Let's show
them that we want them in our membership base by providing some bilingual materials. And let's structure an outreach program to work with the states, so that we can go after the Hispanic leagues that are unaffiliated, because I know many states, especially Florida, like I said, many of them in here, are experiencing that challenge.

Let's build stronger working relationships with local professional soccer organizations. This is a valuable asset that is often overlooked by the state associations.

Last month, I provided a copy of the partnership agreement between Florida State Soccer and the Orlando City Soccer Team, the newest MLS team. My hope was to provide examples of how both a state association and a professional soccer organization, could both benefit from such an agreement. And in the short time that it's been made available, I have already begun working with three states in their efforts to build relationships with their local MLS teams. This idea is working.

Let's bridge the gap between youth players and our adult programs. Each year tens 24
of thousands of 18-, 19-year-old youth players age out of the youth programs, but they play somewhere, and the youths of today are the adults of tomorrow.

So let's work with U.S. youth and create a national outreach program to provide an introduction and marketing material to these players, directing them to the closest affiliated member of U.S. Adult Soccer.

Now, in addition to seeking your approval to serve as your Vice-President of U.S. Adults, I am also seeking reelection to continue to serve as your representative to the U.S. Soccer Board of Directors. As your representative to U.S. Soccer, I have many responsibilities, but none are more important than listening and learning and communicating.

Last year, when I traveled to your regional and state meetings discussing our relationship with U.S. Soccer, you told me that you felt a real disconnect between this organization and U.S. Soccer, and I promised you that we would make that better.

And as unorthodox as this type of communication has been from this organization, I
have reported back to you, not only after every Federation meeting, but also after every budget committee meeting, and the feedback that I have received from this group has been overwhelming, so I know we're on the right track.

As Bob Kepner reminded me earlier in the year regarding communication, That's your job. And I take it seriously. Now, on my short year on the Federation board, I have developed relationships with most of the board members, and many of the staff. My fellow board members are not only the sharpest minds in the soccer world, but the sharpest minds in the business world as well. Our organization has a lot that we can learn from U.S. Soccer, and I consider it my job to bring back some of the principles and practices that has made U.S. Soccer so successful. This is why I asked to serve on the budget committee, so I could see firsthand, the business end of U.S. Soccer, and I thank President Gulati for the opportunity.

Soccer in this country is exploding. And everybody in this room lives it every day, but U.S. Soccer has successfully captured that growth and that energy, and this wave has no 26
foreseeable end, so let's work with U.S. Soccer and grow our organization based on a sound business model, as they operate.

Now, the answer to my earlier question, Who are we, and why are we here? It can be answered quite simply, it's in the tools, the values, and the services that we sell our states, our leagues, and our members, better known as our consumers. And I believe the brightest days are ahead of us.

We must find the courage to break away from the chains of our past and build towards the future. I am very excited to be part of this.

In regards to our competition, we can win this battle with our strengths and assets. We are financially sound. We have a dedicated staff. We have a clear vision with our strategic plan, but the most important thing that we have are the volunteers in this room here today, who wake up every day, sacrificing time away from their families, away from their jobs, to make U.S. Adult Soccer a better place.

And I ask you to join me in turning a page to a new chapter with U.S. Adult Soccer,
because a focused direction from your board and creating added value to our membership, and most importantly working together, I know that we can prepare U.S. Adult Soccer for the future.

Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Arthur.
Fritz.
MR. MARTH: Thank you, John.
This morning, I had the chance to go around and visit with every region, and I thank you for that opportunity. I also, over the course of the last month or so, as I said earlier, reached out to everybody and spoke to them about the vision and the plans that I have for USASA. And in the three or so months before that, I have been sending out my position papers, which I think clearly set forth my goals and my visions for USASA.

By now, I think any of you who don't know me know me now, and I think you know what I stand for, and I think you know what my plan is.

This morning, when I went around to the regions, I made one thing perfectly clear, that this election, which many, which many will
term change versus no change, is anything but that.

This election is not a choice between change and not changing. Make no mistake, this organization will change. We are a dynamic organization that is always changing, just by our very nature, but we are also a proactive organization that proactively changes to meet the needs of our constituencies.

The changes, however, need to be made wisely. Changes need to be implemented and not just done. That means managed.

In my business, as an engineer in the construction field -- and I deal with nothing but projects that have gone into trouble -- it's always because of changes and the failure to manage changes or making the wrong changes. Believe me, we do not want to make the wrong changes. We do not want to wipe the entire slate of what works for us clean, simply for the sake of change. We do not want to change as an organization to become what our competing organizations are.

We want to change what works for us, to make USASA the best it can be.

Our cups programs are important. The number of teams that enter is a testimony to that. Yes, that program needs to change. It needs to adapt. And over the course of the last few months, I have sent out a comprehensive program to address some of the downsides that we currently have with the cups, to make the cups stronger, and to make the cups cost less money to USASA.

Most importantly, the plan that I set forth works for everybody. It doesn't sacrifice what works for some so that we can have what works for others. In fact, it is a plan that gives every aspect of our constituency what they are looking for, because, as I said again, by saving us money, we should not lose sight of what makes us us. And our competitions and our programs are part of it.

Like Arthur, I am also seeking a position on the Federation board and I will ask for your support for that.

Many of the proposals that I have outlined and that I have sent out to you involve Federation issues. Closer cooperation with the professional division is key, and that is

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something, while it can, on a local basis be achieved in one or two areas, I can tell you for a fact, it's not achieved everywhere, and that is a change that has to be a philosophical change coming from up top. A change, by the way, which, again, will not only benefit the professional ranks of this organization by growing what they want, which is a fan base, but also helping us by growing our exposure to that entire demographic.

So instead of recapping everything that I have sent out, that I have spoken to you about, I ask that you consider my candidacy and consider the change that I want to bring to this organization and how I want to bring it. And I ask for your support in doing so.

Thank you very much.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.
Yes. Mr. Kepner.
MR. KEPNER: Mr. President, I wonder
if you would permit me just one moment to make a statement.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: You have the floor, sir.

MR. KEPNER: Thank you very much.
I want to commend both of the candidates for both their clearly articulated positions that they have offered. I think back to last year, two candidates there, Richard and Arthur, offered clearly articulated, well thought-out positions, and I appreciate that. Taking that kind of approach, I consider to be very healthy for this organization.

There's a shared responsibility, though, between the candidate, and the eventual officer and us as members. Running an organization, providing leadership to an organization, is not a one-way street. Arthur is quite right. He and I spoke several months ago, and we got into talking about things, and I said communication is a key. What is communication? Communication is a dialogue between two people or a person and a group of persons.

We share in that responsibility.
And so whoever wins, let's work with that person and expect and ask that person to work effectively with us, and communication is an important part of it.

So good luck, folks.
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(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Bob.
So everyone has their ballots. I
would ask you to cast your vote, and we will have the Credentials Committee pick them up.

Have all the ballots been collected?
Anybody still have their ballots?
All right. So we can continue with the agenda, while they're counting the ballots.

We also have the office of treasurer that is up for elections today. Do we have any nominations for treasurer?

MR. O'BRIEN: Ben O'Brien from Minnesota.

I would like to nominate Lori
Stoneburner for Treasurer, please.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any further nominations?

MR. BUSCH: Move the nominations be closed.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any further
nominations?
Being none, we'll close the
nominations, and congratulations, Lori. Elected

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by acclamation. Thank you.
    (Applause.)
    PRESIDENT MOTTA: Next on the
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elections is the at-large position on the USASA
Board of Directors. Any nominations for the
at-large position?
MR. SADOWSKI: Jim Sadowski, Metro
D.C./Virginia president. We're in San Francisco,
so my wife said I have to look hip and cool. I
don't think I've succeeded.
The fact that I have to say very
little about this person says so much. I will
nominate Werner Fricker Jr. to the position.
He's grown up with the game. He's been a
supporter of the game, across the board with all
of our competition. He has experience. He's
level-headed, balanced, and a good friend.
So with that, I would nominate Werner
Fricker, Jr.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you. Is
there any other nominations for the at-large
USASA Board of Directors position?
MR. BUSCH: Move the nominations be
closed.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. We'll close
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the nominations. And congratulations, Werner
Fricker, on winning the election on acclamation.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. So now we
can continue. And what we'll continue with is
new business. We do not have any Unfinished
Business, so we'll move on with New Business.
We've got three items on the New
Business. First, I would like to put on the
agenda and bring to the floor is to affirm the
actions of the NBOD for the last year, which
according to our bylaws is a requirement that the
National Council approves the actions of the
board over the last year.
Is there a motion to approve the
actions of the board?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Any
discussion? David Borts.
MR. BORTS: Good afternoon. I'm Dave
Borts, Rhode Island Soccer Association.
The only question I have on the
motion that's being presented on the affirmation
of the actions of the NBOD is it's more a query
at this time, as to what date that will be as of.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: I think it would be all the actions of all the minutes that have been confirmed up-to-date.

MR. BORTS: Then I'm going to ask the following consideration.

As of today's date, the minutes of the January 15th meeting of the National Board of Directors were confirmed yesterday. They have not been published according to the rules and bylaws, Section 432. So I'm asking that the motion be limited to those minutes that have been properly and timely promulgated as of this date. It's not a question of what was done at that meeting; it's a question of the format which should be complied with. The rules are pretty specific as to how they should be done, and I think for everybody's sake -- I realize it's an unwieldy process, and it's nobody's fault, but we should be getting these in a more timely way, and in conformance with the bylaws and rules which are found in Section 432, which requires our policies and bylaws to be published within 15 days.

So that is my comment, and I think
that that is an appropriate, perhaps, friendly amendment to the motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. So I will amend my original motion, and that would be to affirm all the actions of the board for the year 2014. So that would take out that set of minutes, which could be affirmed at the mid-year meeting.

Mr. Busch.
MR. BUSCH: I was just asking to clarify a question. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Is there any other discussion on the affirmation of the minutes, of the board's actions?

Being none, all in favor say aye?
Anybody opposed? Thank you.
(Motion passed.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second thing I would like to bring up to the National Council would be the confirmation of the American Soccer League. Last year, the American Soccer League, which is pretty much a Northeast-based league right at the moment, came to the board, and we gave them a provisional one-year status with USASA approval, and we asked them to come to the
board last night to see if they had met the criteria to become a full member.

They presented their objectives to the board. The board voted to confirm them as the full membership of USASA, but according to the bylaws, they must be presented to the National Council for approval, so I'm bringing it to the board.

MR. RAPAGLIA: So move. PRESIDENT MOTTA: So moved by Sal. And is there a second?

MS. POLLEY: (Indicating.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second by Peggy Polley. Okay. Any discussion? All those in favor say aye? Anybody opposed? Thank you.
(Motion passed.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Now the third item I would like to bring to the council would be last year, this council approved the budget for the 2014-2015 budget year, which ends on August 30th of this year.

In the meantime, we have approved changing our year for a calendar year, and that was voted on and approved.

Your board has voted and approved
having this same budget that was approved at the mid-year meeting extend right through the end of December, the 31st of this year, giving that budget that you approved, four additional months.

I'm coming to the board and asking that the board affirm our vote to approve that action.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move. PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Is there a second?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second. Any discussion on extending the budget?

MR. GROFF: Richard Groff, delegate from Delaware. First a query. Under the bylaws, a budget is to go to the Finance Committee. Has this gone there?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: It did originally, yes.

MR. GROFF: But I mean this period from September 1st to December 31st.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: No, because there were no changes made to it.

MR. GROFF: Then I understand the
board voted an amendment to the budget at the January meeting concerning \$40,000 subsidies to the region; is that correct?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: That is correct.
MR. GROFF: And that amendment, since we don't have the minutes, that amendment was to permit a region to allocate the funds as they see fit for those $\$ 40,000$ ?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Yeah, the motion that was made and was voted and approved, was that the $\$ 40,000$ that the USASA gives to the region be unrestricted, that is correct.

MR. GROFF: All right. So, I would like to make an amendment that would -- and I understand the reason for the modification, but that would be under discussion -- but I would like to make an amendment, that those \$40,000 allocations, for regions, carry a stipulation, that at least 75 percent of the $\$ 40,000$ be used for national competitions which include, but not be limited to, the Veterans Cup, the women's championships, the Under-23 championships, and the national cups.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Is there a second to Richard's motion?

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UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. PRESIDENT MOTTA: Seconded by -MR. KAHMKE: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: -- John Kahmke.
Discussion on the motion?
MR. GROFF: Can I discuss now?
PRESIDENT MOTTA: You can discuss it.
MR. GROFF: Five years ago, we had an extensive discussion of how we were going to manage cups. There was a concern that the money was being spent at the national office and not being spent at the regions. There was concern that each region was different and therefore, they had to have the flexibility to make some decisions. So five years ago, we made the decision that the money would not be spent at the national level. It would go to the regions, $\$ 40,000$.

We had one condition. You needed to spend this money on national competitions.

At the time, there was interest in spending some money on the Veterans Cup. There was interest in spending money on developing a women's championship. So that flexibility was given to each region.

Now, we understand that some regions may want more flexibility, and we heard that message. But we do not agree in Region 1 that this is clear -- I'm representing Region 1 in this amendment -- this is a clear opinion on our part that at least 75 percent of this 40,000 should be spent on the national competitions, which are very broad, Under-23s, the women's championship, the national cups, the Veterans Cup, any type of tournament that you may have in your region, great flexibility. We do not agree with the board's decision on a 6-to-4 vote that it should be totally unrestricted.

Thank you very much.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Richard. Tim.

MR. BUSCH: I think Richard made many of the same arguments I'm going to make against the proposal. And at first, I would actually like to ask the parliamentarian whether or not voting on a change in the budget is appropriate, because the real challenge for Mr. Groff, and apparently as an agent for Region 1, is objection to how the money is being allocated, which I believe is a decision of the National Council.

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So my question is whether or not there ought to be a vote to overturn the decision of the national -- or the NBOD, excuse me, not the National Council, the NBOD, rather than doing it through the budget process. That's my first question, okay.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: The parliamentarian said we can do it either way.

MR. BUSCH: Okay. Thank you.
You know, it's a very interesting
thing, if you have been around here for awhile, and I've listened to the various candidates, and I have listened a lot to change. And I have change in my pocket, and it's about that effective, when it comes to what we do in USASA.

So five years ago, a decision was made about budget, and this council can do whatever they choose to do with the budget, because frankly, Region 4 spent the majority, more than 75 percent, on national competitions. We're smart enough to form teams. We're smart enough to form leagues. We're smart enough to do state associations, but apparently, it's at least some people's opinion, that we're not smart enough to be able to spend the money when it
comes back to our regions, and that's really, really unfortunate, because that's part of recognition that there's differences in our country. There's not anybody in this room, despite what people may say, that don't want us to have high-level competitions. We see it differently. Our geography is different, but I'm really getting bored with the idea that we're not intelligent enough to support the programs we have.

So I would ask that people vote against the amendment to the budget.

Thank you.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Paul Scherer.

MR. SCHERER: I would like to speak against the proposal as well. First thing I would ask is Region 1, how much money did you give your Veterans Cup team to go to the Veterans Cup? How much money did you give your women's teams to go to the women's championship?

Region 4 gave those teams money. We also gave money to the cups games, so to imply that we're not going to support the competitions in USASA is ridiculous, Number 1.

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Number 2, I agree with Mr. Busch from Washington, that yes, believe it or not, we are capable of using that money to better help USASA.

When we had an option to be able to use those funds, we started a grant program, and guess what, from that grant program, we actually grew some numbers in Region 4. One of our goals was to actually grow our numbers, so we used some of that money to help us grow some of our numbers in Region 4, with some of our state associations. I think that was a good thing, and I think most of you would agree that's one of our goals with USASA is to help grow our membership.

We can still fund the team. We're not anti-cup. Everybody seems to think that that Paul from Idaho, he's anti-cup. No, I was a cup commissioner. I would still be one. I support the cups. I don't support how much money we spend on it, because a lot of it goes to administration. We can eliminate the administration part and still have a marvelous cup competition. I'm not anti-cup, but I think each region is smart enough, capable enough, to be able to use those funds where they can better help USASA.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Paul. John.
MR. KAHMKE: John Kahmke, Region 1
Treasurer, Western New York Registrar.
Richard is 100 percent correct as the original competitions or the original funds were used for national cups, now they've changed. There's been a lot of talk about change, and it was decided four or five years ago that there was enough of an argument, and enough folks expressing their beliefs that it should be used for competitions. That's what these funds are for is for competitions. Nobody is telling you what you are supposed to do with the funds. These funds are for the regions to conduct their competitions as they see fit.

If it's Veterans Cup, women's cup, coed, you go through the whole gamut, but those funds -- and if we go back history-wise, I mean, we've got most of us that have been here have been here probably at least ten years, if not longer, so everybody understands that the funds were initially allocated for competitions. They have been changed, and now we, after four or five years, we want to change it again, so it's

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unrestricted.
Part of it, that's correct. But we can unrestrict it, but if nobody is telling you that we need to spend this money for competitions, because that's what, that's what we're all about. I mean, anybody that will, that goes up to a field, we've got players, I don't care if it's youth, adults, friendly games, I can tell you for a fact, anybody that has been in this game for long enough, as soon as that whistle blows, the curtain comes down, and everybody sees red. It's not friendly anymore at that point. It's a competition. We're going to win. When the game is over, the curtains go up, we're going to have a good time. But these funds need to be used for competitions. And I agree that, okay, they will be unrestricted a little bit more, 75 percent sounds reasonable, maybe 50 percent, but as long as part of that money is allocated for competitions -- and again, nobody is saying anything, a specific competition, it's competitions. That's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.
Dan.
MR. TRAINOR: Dan Trainor, Arizona

President and former Region 4 Director.
There's a little bit of misunderstanding on what is going on. So the reason Region 4 spent the money last year is because it was restricted strictly to national competitions. Previous year to that, which was two years ago, it was unrestricted, and that's when the money was allocated everywhere else.

The grants committee that was put into place in Region 4 was put in place before this money actually was funded by Region 4, so that is a little different in the way it was talked about.

I support that it be restricted to the national competitions. We did support all of the national competitions that we used almost the entire majority of it for national competitions.

It's -- there's a big long discussion that we can get into, but you are going to have to make up your minds on which way you want to decide on how you go forward with this, but as the former region director and as Arizona, I definitely support it.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Any further discussion on the motion? Okay, there being 48
none, call the question.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, no.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: I'm sorry.
You just made it.
MS. LANGENWALTER: I just can't help
it.
I just want to take a slightly different approach, which is philosophically New Mexico doesn't participate much in the cups, and I think people know that. We're not against spending money on the cups. But what I'm having a real philosophical problem with here is this is money coming back to the regions. How can it be restricted to fund certain things? That decision is being -- we're being asked to have that decision made for us for the regions.

I'm speaking against the proposal by Mr. Groff, because I think that there's nothing that restricts, left as it is, we can continue to spend our $\$ 40,000$ on cups. Nobody is preventing the regions from doing that. But what is the purpose of sending that money back to the regions if we're just going to say, it has to be spent on the cups?

I just don't philosophically
understand that aspect of it, and once you restrict it in that way, well, I mean, I guess I could say -- I was going to say, you can't go back. But we've come back and forth a couple of times.

I just feel like it is inconsistent to say this is regional money, but here's what you have to use it for. If you want it to be cup's money, keep it at USASA at the Board of Directors. Let Duncan deal with it and don't give it to the region, because we as a region have identified some things. Now, we are not all in agreement, but we as a region have identified some things, that we would like to address as a regional issue. We have some grants we would like to fund. We have some coaching issues we would like to address. We have other programs that would grow the game and grow our membership. And if you are giving us regional money, we would like the opportunity to at least consider those as well as the cups, and philosophically, I just think that this is inconsistent.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you. Mr. Kepner.
MR. KEPNER: Bob Kepner, North

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Carolina, I'm not going to speak against or for.
I would just ask that before we vote, restate exactly what the motion, is okay, please.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Well, the motion is to restrict the $\$ 40,000$ that is given to the regions to 75 percent of it must go to competitions.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: National competitions.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: National competitions. That is the motion. 75 percent of the $\$ 40,000$ that USASA gives to the regions must be used for national competitions. Right now, your board has voted in the last month, to unrestrict that money to the regions to do as they please.

MR. BUSCH: John, if I could, before we vote on the motion.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Sure, Tim.
MR. BUSCH: Could I ask the secretary to read the exact motion, and also, would you comment on what you have said about the action of the NBOD, when you sent the information out to us, those two things, please.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Sure. Secretary, they want you to read the motion. Can the reporter, can you read the motion from Richard Groff?

MR. GROFF: This is how it's done.
You don't need to read the prior motion because we are going to amend the prior motion.

Tim is absolutely correct. When John sent out his notice, he said, basically, I think, we will do it at 50 percent. Is that correct?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Well, since I was asked, I sent out an e-mail following the board of directors meeting a couple of days later, and I explained all the actions of the board. And when it came to this, I, in my letter to you, I said during the discussion I had with a certain individual, it was stated to me that at least 50 percent of this money would be used at the region level for cup competitions, so I was giving that --

MR. GROFF: The national competitions.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: -- the national cup competitions.

MR. GROFF: So we are going to propose the amendment that it states 50 percent of the funds would be used for national competitions. Do you agree with that?

MR. BUSCH: I'm in total agreement.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: What was that again?

MR. BUSCH: Yeah, I know.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: What was it, I was interrupted by --

MR. GROFF: We're changing the 75 percent --

PRESIDENT MOTTA: To 50 percent.
MR. GROFF: -- to 50 percent.
MR. BUSCH: To 50 percent.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: So we have an amendment to the motion from 75 percent to restrict 50 percent of the $\$ 40,000$ to national competitions.

Any discussion on the amendment? Seeing none --

MR. SCHERER: I have a question.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Paul Scherer has a question.

| MR. SCHERER: I have a question for | 1 | MR. BIGELOW: Justin Bigelow, from |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| our parliamentarian. Is that the appropriate way | 2 | Oregon. |
| to handle that? The other one has to be | 3 | I would like to call for the |
| withdrawn? Is that the appropriate way to handle | 4 | question. |
| that, to have that withdrawn? | 5 | UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second that. |
| (Conferring with Parliamentarian.) | 6 | PRESIDENT MOTTA: Call the question. |
| PRESIDENT MOTTA: So the | 7 | There was a second, right? Was there a second to |
| parliamentarian has ruled that once the motion, | 8 | call the question? |
| the original motion was brought to the floor and | 9 | DENTIFIED SPEAKER: Here. |
| seconded, it can only be amended, which we just | 10 | PRESIDENT MOTTA: There was a second |
| did. | 11 | to call the question, so that ends debate |
| So, do you want to speak? | 12 | No, I'm sorry, the parliamentarian is |
| MR. LA VIELLE: Rob LaVielle, Region | 13 | correcting me. |
| 3 Director. I'm on the NBOD. I was one of the | 14 | The parliamentarian has stated that |
| NBOD members that passed this resolution. | 15 | ust be a motion to close debate, and we |
| From Region 3's standpoint, just so | 16 | eed a second and two-thirds majority to end |
| everybody knows, probably after our expenses, | 17 | discussion. So do you want to change your |
| just to run meetings and some travel, 100 percent | 18 | calling the question to a motion to end debate? |
| of our money goes to national competitions. | 19 | R. BIGELOW: Yeah. |
| In the past, we have not supported | 20 | PRESIDENT MOTTA: So moved. Is there |
| vets cup teams with additional subsidies like we | 21 | a second? |
| have with men's and women's last year. | 22 | UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second. |
| I, like Erin, have a little bit of a | 23 | PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second. We need |
| philosophical issue with this in telling each | 24 | two-thirds, all in favor. Anybody opposed? |
| individual region, because we have our own | 25 | I guess we got two-thirds, so we |
| 54 |  | 56 |
| individual needs, individual differences, the way | 1 | don't continue. |
| we run competitions, the way our members in our | 2 | MR. FALCONE: Clarification. |
| state associations either go or not go to | 3 | RESIDENT MOTTA: Yes, sir. |
| competitions, for us to be restricted to 50 or 75 | 4 | MR. FALCONE: Anthony Falcone, |
| percent. I feel still and I would still vote for | 5 | representing the northern part of Chesapeake, |
| it to be unrestricted at this point. | 6 | Maryland, today. |
| If, in future budgets, that we decide | 7 | We are ending the debate on the amendment |
| that there will not be regional subsidies and it | 8 | to the amendment, correct? |
| will be held at the national level, that's for | 9 | PRESIDENT MOTTA: Yes, correct. That |
| this body to decide in a budgetary process, and | 10 | is correct. I had that, Tony, that is correct. |
| we are talking for our 2016 competitions. I | 11 | So there is no more debate. All in favor of |
| personally would still like for those to be an | 12 | amending the original motion from Richard from 75 |
| unrestricted amount going to the regions. | 13 | to 50 percent, say aye? Anybody opposed? |
| Thank you. | 14 | It passes. |
| PRESIDENT MOTTA: Paul Scherer. | 15 | Now, okay, onto the full motion. Any |
| MR. SCHERER: I just wanted to speak | 16 | other debate on the full motion? None? The |
| against the amendment as well. I'm still going | 17 | amendment just passed. Now, I'm going to vote on |
| to vote against it. I agree with Rob that there | 18 | the full motion. The full motion would be that |
| should be no restrictions. Again, we should be | 19 | the \$40,000 going to each region, 50 percent of |
| able to handle that ourselves. We're mature | 20 | it, must be used for national competitions. All |
| enough as an organization. And each region is | 21 | in favor? |
| different how we handle things and do things. | 22 | Anybody opposed? Call for a vote? |
| We've shown we have supported the cups in the | 23 | We'll do cards. |
| past, and I'm sure we will support them in the | 24 | Okay. All in favor of the motion, |
| future, so I would hope that you vote against it. |  | please raise, yes. |

MR. SCHERER: I have a question for our parliamentarian. Is that the appropriate way to handle that? The other one has to be withdrawn? Is that the appropriate way to handle
(Conferring with Parliamentarian.) PRESIDENT MOTTA: So the parliamentarian has ruled that once the motion, the original motion was brought to the floor and seconded, it can only be amended, which we just

So, do you want to speak?
MR. LA VIELLE: Rob LaVielle, Region 3 Director. I'm on the NBOD. I was one of the NBOD members that passed this resolution. From Region 3's standpoint, just so everybody knows, probably after our expenses, just to run meetings and some travel, 100 percent of our money goes to national competitions.

In the past, we have not supported vets cup teams with additional subsidies like we

I, like Erin, have a little bit of a philosophical issue with this in telling each individual region, because we have our own
individual needs, individual differences, the way
we run competitions, the way our members in our
state associations either go or not go to
competitions, for us to be restricted to 50 or 75 percent. I feel still and I would still vote for it to be unrestricted at this point.

If, in future budgets, that we decide that there will not be regional subsidies and it will be held at the national level, that's for this body to decide in a budgetary process, and we are talking for our 2016 competitions. I personally would still like for those to be an unrestricted amount going to the regions.

Thank you.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Paul Scherer. MR. SCHERER: I just wanted to speak against the amendment as well. I'm still going to vote against it. I agree with Rob that there should be no restrictions. Again, we should be able to handle that ourselves. We're mature enough as an organization. And each region is different how we handle things and do things. We've shown we have supported the cups in the future, so I would hope that you vote against it.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Are we done counting?

I can't hear you. You must come to the microphone. I cannot hear you. I can't hear you either.
(Multiple simultaneous conversations.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Everybody
must vote again. Darius, do you have it or do you need another count?

MR. EJLALI: This side needs a second one.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: We need a count on the left, my right. Keep it up.

MR. MARTH: Mr. Chairman. Bill Marth from New Jersey.

I think the people should hold up the yeses and nos at the same time. Otherwise, someone in theory, could vote yes and vote no, because if someone is counting the yeses, the same people could also then hold up the nos. So they should be held up at the same time. Someone should count the yeses, and someone should count the no votes.
(Multiple simultaneous conversations.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Do we have a
count, Darius? Let's do one more. All those not in favor, please put up your no votes. Are we done counting the ballots? Can they put them down?

So the majority of the votes cast voted in the affirmative. It was 98 to 86 nos.
So the motion passes.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Do we have the election results for the vice-president? Okay, so do we have the results for the vice-president of USASA. Congratulations, Arthur. You won the election.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Which brings us
to -- well, I saw Sunil Gulati enter the room.
Did he leave? He left. He didn't like our politics?

So we do have Mike Edwards in the room, that would just like to say a few words on behalf of U.S. Soccer. Mike.

MR. FALCONE: Mr. President.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Yes, sir.
MR. FALCONE: Point of Order. We were in the process of new business to approve
the adopted budget for this year.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Oh, we didn't
finish that. You are correct.
Hey, Mike, give us two minutes.
(Multiple simultaneous conversations.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: We have a motion to destroy the ballots. Do I have a second?

MR. OLIVAS: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: We got a second.
Destroy the ballots.
In the process of approving the budget, we had the amendment that Richard brought up, so we approved the amendment to that budget.
We still need to approve the budget to run up until December 31st, 2015.

All those in favor say aye? Anybody disapprove? No. So, it passes.

Okay. Mike. Do you want to come up here?

MR. EDWARDS: Sure.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Very quickly, John, you asked us to destroy the ballots, and we got a second. I don't think you voted.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: I voted; I said destroy the ballots.

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MR. EDWARDS: I'm here to report that Sunil was in the back of the room, and he left. Thanks.

I suppose John intended a little bit more than that.

Let's see, we had an energized board meeting this morning, but I think what I'm going to tell you is the same thing I did at a USYSA council meeting in Philadelphia, and actually, one of my colleagues, who had a very good idea, sitting in the second row, said the good thing is I don't have to send you an e-mail now, I can just talk to you at the meeting.

Back in December, after the MLS cup, Sunil, Dan, Jürgen had a big roundtable meeting, and we announced, what, about a $\$ 6$ million additional commitment, I think, was the budget we voted to further develop or further staff out National team coaching staffs, higher-level coaching, a whole lot of stuff that I would describe as being for the top of the triangle. And that's a good thing that right now, virtually 50 percent of the U.S. Soccer annual budget is guaranteed money. For those of you that remember the good old days when we had to borrow money
from state associations to make the payroll, back when I had brown hair, those days are long gone. So we made a big commitment to the top of the triangle.

And when we were at that meeting in Los Angeles, Sunil went around the table after the good news, and queried all of us as to, in an ideal world, what would we do, each of us individually with the idea that we have, I wouldn't say unlimited resources, but to a large degree, a whole lot more resources than a lot of us ever thought we'd have in the sport. And to a large degree, we all kind of went back to our roots. Arthur, me, John, John Sutter kind of went back to the other 98 percent of the pyramid, which frankly is us, and trying to put resources back into the fact that, as I say it, for four million years, we have had four million members. And if you want to make the top of the triangle grow, have a bigger triangle.

So if I had 6 million members, if I had 7 million members, it would give me a lot better chance to have that triangle up at the top of the very small players that play in world competitions and become professional players, I

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would have a lot bigger base to choose from in our sport. And that comes about in several ways, and particularly, in Youth Soccer, it would be in the manner of convincing parents to make soccer their first choice when they find something to do something with this kid that's driving them crazy around the house, this four-year-old or five-year-old.

And what I put in front of the USYS council was the idea of you have got people who want to get things done. Soccer is local, completely local. Somebody is going to join your league because of what you do with your league. The league is going to join your state association, because of what they do in the state association. And without taking a position on where I'd spend that money that comes for the region, other than buying new warmup suits for the regional officers, the reality is very few leagues are going to join because one team wants to play in the national cups. They are going to join because you do something for them.
U.S. Soccer has got a lot of resources. And what I'm not talking about and what I'm going to ask for is -- I'm not talking
about U.S. Soccer writing a check. I'm talking about the fact of social media. I'm talking about a U.S. Soccer team coming into your state association and doing what I would call a management review, look at what you are doing, figure out ways that you can do it better, and what can U.S. Soccer do to help you do that?

So often I show up with a joke that I'm from U.S. Soccer, and I am here to help you, but I'm from U.S. Soccer, and I'm here to help. So the question is for you, and you know soccer is different in New Jersey than it is New Mexico. It may be different in Papua New Guinea -- I have never been, there. But it's very local.

So what I'm asking from you is to give some thought -- and I actually got some pretty good ideas out of the USYS council on governance, on the fact that we don't have a junior coaching program. What do you do if you've got a 16 - or 17-year-old kid that sees that kid is not going to be a national team player, what if you got that kid to go back and coach 6 -year-olds? Guess what, we don't have a system set up to do that. It's a pretty simple idea. And I never thought of it, and frankly,

I'm one of the smartest guys I know. In fact, I'm probably one of the smartest guys most of you know. You just won't admit it in public, and you certainly didn't admit it when I was up here permanently.

But what I'm looking for is stuff like that to give me, to give John, to give Arthur, stuff to go work with, because you know the tendency over the years has been, well, U.S. Soccer ought to give us a million dollars. They've gotten smarter than that. We pulled that scam for awhile, but that's not going to work a second time. So I'm asking you to think about it. Send it to me, send it to John, send it to Arthur, so we've got some stuff, because to me this has got to be a bottom-up thing.

What operates at U.S. Soccer is the focus is on, and it's not a bad thing, it's a focus on the national teams, on world cups, on the visibility of our national teams, because let's face it, in all likelihood, more people are going to be excited seeing Alex Morgan or Clint Dempsey than they are seeing Mike Edwards, maybe even John Motta.

So it's got to be something that we
build up from the bottom and go to U.S. Soccer. And I need it from you. You know what works in the area, and the fact that soccer is different in different localities, it doesn't mean that soccer is that different. What's different in different localities, for the most part, is trying to find a soccer field. So we can't resolve all of those problems, but there's ideas that you all have, and, as I discovered at the USYSA meeting, a lot of frustrated people that just never found a guy that was willing to listen to them, as I discovered with the guy that I had on the phone for an hour the other day. You needn't feel compelled to speak for an hour, but I'm going to tell you something that I have never told you before, so get ready to write this down. Sal, you are not ready. Of course, Peter is the secretary so... Here's my cell phone number, 505-948-2887. When a voice answers, ask for Bill Bosgraaf. Really, my number, honest. I'm not going to do like Sunil did in his first meeting as president and give you Dr. Bob's e-mail address, but think about it because it really is something that we have to do here. This is grassroots soccer. And if we're going to make 66
something happen and use some of those resources, I think the best ideas are going to come out of this room, and pretty good ideas came out of the USYS room. And I only got three or four ideas, but you know what, it was stuff I hadn't thought of before.

So I think that's my pitch, and I
will turn the meeting back over to the president.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Mike.
Okay. Next on the agenda will be Good of the Game. And for Good of the Game, I've got a couple of presentations I would like to make. Coming up to speak Mr. Busch?

MR. BUSCH: Well, eventually.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: We've got a few presentations.

Okay. So for Good of the Game, we're going to give out a few awards.

The first being, I know Richard, when he was president, started an award of giving out beer mugs to state associations who had increased in registrations from the prior year. I thought it was a good idea and a good tradition, but I changed from beer mugs to coffee mugs. s.

North Carolina Adult Soccer Association. (Applause.)
Oklahoma Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
MR. KEPNER: John, I have a question. How come it says, "Eat Dunkin' Donuts" on the back of every one?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: That's the way it
Tennessee State Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
Arizona State Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
California State Soccer Association, South.
(Applause.)
Idaho State Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
Nevada State Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
Oregon Adult Soccer Association.
(Applause.)
Amateur Soccer Association of
Wyoming.
(Applause.)

Women's Premier Soccer League.
(Applause.)
National Premier Soccer League.
(Applause.)
The Mid Atlantic Summer Showcase League.
(Applause.)
And finally, the American Youth
Soccer organization.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: So thank you. And next year, my goal is to give out double the amount of these coffee mugs.

Yes, Mike?
MR. EDWARDS: I forgot to say something in my role as chairman of the referee committee. In your package for tomorrow, there is a substantial rewrite of the referee policy. Just so you know, that did not come from the clear blue sky. It was about five state referee administrators in this room that were involved in that as well as you were. It's a serious update. It's legit. A lot of people went through it. Do not believe anybody that tells you it hasn't been vetted; it's been vetted, and it modernizes the
whole thing, so I would ask that you support that on behalf of me, and all my constituents in West Virginia.

MR. MOTTA: Thank you, Mike.
Okay. As we continue with the awards, we've got two awards that I decided to do this year. And we have two of our members who have actually had continuous growth for five years straight. For me, that's quite an accomplishment when you continue to grow your numbers year after year. And I would like to call up the first state -- well, we will start off with the National Premier Soccer League, the NPSL. Thank you. And congratulations on five years of continuous growth.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Two coffee mugs, Joe.

Thank you.
And the state association that's had five years of continuous growth would be Rick Olivas, Cal South. Thank you very much for your continuous growth.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: I'm sorry, I'm
sorry.
It is Cal North -- Cal South. I'm sorry, Rick -- Cal South. I'm sorry. Next year, Rick.

Cal South, and we'll have Roy come up.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: People don't leave.
We still have the Adult Council meeting, following this meeting, and we will have more elections after that.

Now, I've got one final award to give out, before I turn it over to the floor, and it's for a fellow board member, who has served on this board for many, many years, the last four years as our vice-president, and that is to my friend Bill Bosgraaf, who has served us well. He will no longer be on the board following this meeting. So, Bill, thank you very much for all your years.
(Applause.)
(Standing ovation.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Just before, one more item for the Good of the Game. We did have some changes on our board, following our elections at the regional levels, and I would
like to congratulate Paul Scherer, who was elected as a Region 4 director. I would also like to congratulate Sergio, Bolishe -- Bolo- -Bioli? Bolioli. Sergio.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: And Roy Carlson, who also will be joining the board. Thank you, Roy. Congratulations.

I also would like to thank Dan Trainor and Barb Trainor, who served on this board as the regional director and also the regional secretary. Thanks for your service.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: I will now open it up to the floor for Good of the Game.

MR. MARION: Andy Marion, South Carolina.

I have a simple question, and then a request concerning the discussion decision at the, I guess, the last meeting to change the fiscal year to a calendar year basis. And first, my question is, if my memory is correct, wasn't the decision also to change the seasonal year to a calendar basis?

PRESIDENT MOTTA: No, I don't believe

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so.
MR. MARION: Or was there any
decision one way or the other about that, because there were comments made that it doesn't matter because you can do whatever you want to do. You can have any seasonal year you want. It's always been September 1st, through October 31st, and the USASA system was always based on that with the remittance forms you sent in with the registration payments, etc. And the instructions were always that no matter whatever year you registered and paid for a player, come September 1st, you had to reregister them with a new payment.

Now, I heard statements that contradicted that all over the map when we made that -- had that last meeting. I simply request, then, that from USASA there be a simple written statement -- don't tell me now, I want it in writing, to make sure it's absolutely clear to the states as far as the registration's seasonal year and what they should do and what they are allowed to do.

Because I have heard stories. I don't know how accurate they are. Different
states do different things. They will register their players for several years. They'll -- you know, a player registers in July, they go to the next July. I don't know if these things are allowable or legal or whatever. I would like to see a statement in writing that very clearly states from USASA to the states what they're supposed to do or allowed to do for registration of players and how the time frame is supposed to work.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay, thank you, I got it. We will take care of that. Thank you. Tim.
MR. BUSCH: Thank you, Mr. President.
I was approached a couple of weeks ago by a 22 -year Army veteran in my state about the possibility of extending our national competitions as part of our cups that we do to develop a military division to play, because we have lots of military in the state of Washington and all over the country. And I happened to be talking to Leroy Garcia from New Mexico, who is retired military, and I would like to have him share with you some thoughts that he has about it. I think it's a great opportunity to enhance

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our cup and provide some playing opportunities for our service people.

MR. MOTTA: Perfect. Go ahead, Leroy.

MR. GARCIA: And to everyone out there, there is a current tournament in San Antonio, Texas called the Defender Cup, and I've communicated that to you. It hosts 38 military teams and one Department of Homeland Security team. We would like to extend that and bring that under the USASA umbrella, affiliate them, and help them out, because they're no longer getting funding from the national federal government to hold these tournaments.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: You've got 100 percent of my support when it comes to our veterans, I back them 100 percent. So I will appoint you head of our military soccer group liaison. So you put a proposal together, whatever it will take, give it to me, and I will present it to the board, and you have my commitment in that. When it comes to our veterans, we will do what we have to do to support them.

MR. GARCIA: Thank you John. Thank
you.

## (Applause.)

MR. RIDDLE: Just a quick response to that, Leroy, so that everybody knows. I have spoken to the organization. They're not really sure what they actually want, because they don't really need anything, so I would say, can you go back to them to come up with a plan of what it is they actually want from us? Because I spoke to a guy on the staff, and he's really kind of confused about what he's actually asking us for. So it would be nice for them to come with an actual plan.

MR. GARCIA: I might see if we can bring him to the next meeting.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: That's good. Even if you can expand on that, like you said, there's military everywhere. We can expand on that, that would be great. Jim.

MR. BOLLINGER: Jim Bollinger,
Eastern Pennsylvania Soccer Association.
Leroy, you just proved for the
umpteenth time with this august body, be careful what you ask for.

I'm actually going to make this
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statement on behalf of myself and my fellow partner in crime, Steve Flamhaft, as co-chairs of the Referee Assault Committee.

He and I would like to thank you and the NBOD for the opportunity to present our proposal, and see what the idea of initiating a dialogue about U.S. Soccer's paren (with USASA in the forefront) of course, end paren, answer to the recent episodes of violent conduct resulting in the deaths of soccer referees.

Sadly, the beautiful games loses its innocence when death occurs on the field and causes unspeakable consequence. Steve and I, greatly affected by these occurrences, are initiating and are preparing to pursue a project to address this maddening situation. At times such as this, the question of affiliation should be eliminated in any discourse of the problem. In essence, our proposal is to begin a dialogue to answer the issues, can we avoid violent situations on the field and how do we do it.

The second issue is how do we address the implications and consequences to the unsuspecting player families. In order to develop a plan, we welcome suggestions. We have
taken the initiative by conferring with other organizations who face similar situations. What can be done legislatively through state houses of government, discussed with insurance experts to seek their advice as well, but what about you? Will you help? Can we afford the negative impact on the game to continue? This should be our way to do the decent thing.

As an aside to that, the National Association of Sports Officials, which I am a member, that represents sports officials for all sports nationwide, has published and it's on their web site, information as regards states that have actually passed a referee assault legislation. Out of the 50 states in this country, only 21 have done so.

Part of what we're going to propose to this organization and other leadership organizations, within this country is we need you to get off our collective butts and start pushing the political buttons to get this passed. It's obvious with the culture in our country these days that we need to be taking steps to dissuade people from doing things that we all know are wrong.

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Thank you.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Jim. (Applause.)
(The room lights dimmed.)
MR. LA VIELLE: We had this happen in our Region 3 meeting, everybody started waving their hand, and the lights will come back up.

These meetings don't come off easily, and I want to publicly acknowledge and thank Duncan and our staff. They really do a great job in making our lives easier, we show up, things are ready. The programs that they're running, the support they give us at the cup competitions now, and it's really helping us move to a better organization overall. They are hard-working. They spend many, many hours behind the scenes. So thank you, staff, and thank you, Duncan, very much.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.
Any other persons want to speak for Good of the Game? If not, motion to adjourn.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.
PRESIDENT MOTTA: Second. Okay. So
the meeting is adjourned.
You guys need a 10-minute break or
continue? Okay. We're going to continue.
(At this time, the Annual General meeting
was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.)
In
I, DEBRA K. RESLING, RMR, and Certified
My commission expires February 28, 2017
Colorado Spring, CO 80905
2 Cheyenne Blid.
Realtime Reporter appointed to take the meetings of
the United States Adult Soccer Association, do
certify that the within proceedings of the Annual
General Meeting were taken by me stenographically in
San Francisco, California, on February 13, 2015 then
reduced to typewritten form consisting of 82 pages
herein; that the foregoing is a true transcript of
the proceedings had.
In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand
this 4th day of March, 2015.
RESTER'S CERTIFICATE


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