



# United States Adult Soccer Association Region I

2017 Mid-Year Meeting  
Lake Tahoe, Nevada  
21 October 2017

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:07 a.m.

## 1. Preliminary Matters

- Regional Director Fritz Marth started the meeting with a moment of silence for members of our Region 1 family lost since our last meeting.
- The meeting agenda was accepted.

**2. Roll Call & Credentials** – Credentials Chairman Peter Pinori (ENY) – Secretary Scott Mapes called the roll:

State Association	Votes	Comments
Connecticut	4	Present
Delaware	1	Not present
Eastern New York	4	Present
Eastern Pennsylvania	4	Present
Maryland	3	Present
Massachusetts	5	Present
Metro DC/Virginia	5	Present
New Hampshire	1	Present
New Jersey	4	Present
Pennsylvania - West	3	Present
Rhode Island	2	Present
Vermont	2	Only present to vote in election of officers
West Virginia	2	Registered but not present
Western New York	4	President
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39 Votes Present</b>
<b>Regional Leagues</b>		
EDP	2	Present
USL	1	Not present
ASL	0	Not current with affiliation fees

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2 Votes Present</b>
<b>Regional Officers</b>		
Director	1	Present
Deputy Director	1	Present
Treasurer	1	Present
Secretary	1	Present
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4 Votes Present</b>
<b>TOTAL VOTES</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>45 Votes Present (23 = Majority 30 = 2/3)</b>

**3. Approval of Region I 2017 AGM Meeting Minutes** – The minutes were approved as presented.

**4. Officer & Committee Reports**

- Secretary - Scott Mapes. No report.
- Treasurer - John Kahmke, Regional Treasurer. Financial report was given. Region 1 is in financial good standing. John noted that the Region 1 account is technically USASA's account. A question was brought up about Region 1 Administration Misc. costs. John responded that these include items such as the breakfasts at our meeting.
- Regional Director - Fritz Marth. No report.
- Regional Deputy Director - Tony Falcone. No report.
- Referee Committee - Regional Referee Administrator Andy Weiss (MA) reported on the Region 1 events.

**5. Unfinished or Ongoing Business**

- National Amateur Cups - Tony Falcone discussed the Red Card policy and reporting, roster updates, and national suspension list. Also discussed was the proposed Cup Schedule for 2018. 57 Region 1 Teams participated in the 2017 National Amateur Cup now named after Fritz Marth (Fritz L. Marth). The membership was reminded that there is no longer any travel subsidy, instead prize awards in the amounts of \$15K for first place, \$7.5K for second place, and \$5K for third and fourth place will be awarded. Lansdowne Bhoys were recognized as winners of both the Fritz Marth National Amateur Cup and the Werner Fricker Open Cup.

- 2017 Werner Fricker Cup and O-30 Cups – Tony Falcone reported that 35 Region 1 Teams participated in these Cups.
- U-23 Cups - Tony Falcone. It was reported that Richard Groff is still pursuing a USASA sponsored national U-23 tournament.
- Soccer Fest National Championships (formerly known as the Veteran’s Cup) – Cesar Waseki reported that the 2017 Soccer Fest was held in Nashville (Murfreesboro), TN and that a record number of 125 Teams participated, including ten O-70 teams. In 2018 the Soccer Fest will be held in Bellingham, WA, the second week in July.
- Region 1 Indoor Tournament - Cesar Waseki and Bill George gave a report on the plans for 2018. The sub-regional format will be finalized by the end of November 2017. Champions of sub-regionals will meet for a championship which are expected to be held by the end February 2018. John Kahmke asked that a financial report and tournament wrap report be provided. Bill George was asked to communicate tournament details.
- The membership was reminded that the 2018 USSF AGM will be held in Orlando, FL.
- Jim Bollinger (EPA) raised a Cup suspension issue that originated with a Junior Lonestar player being sent off in the regional rounds of the Werner Fricker Open Cup. The question was how is that suspension served, i.e. for what competitions, and what if the team leaves the competition before the full suspension is served. Also asked was who administers the suspensions. Discussion ensued. John Kahmke made a motion, which was seconded, to adopt the following policy:

Player suspensions stemming from a player's actions in the regional rounds of cup competitions will be adjudicated by the region, and such suspensions will apply only to matches in that same cups' competition. If, at the end of a team's participation in that season's cup competition, a player still has not served the full suspension, that player's state association will be notified and, at its discretion, may enforce the remainder of that suspension in competitions under the jurisdiction of that state association. The region will manage all suspensions via player pool and roster control, and will not retain passes of any suspended player. This policy does not, however, apply to suspensions which would rise to the level of suspension from all soccer activity, for example referee assault.

This policy was unanimously adopted.

## 6. New Business

- Regional Budget 2018: John Kahmke, Treasurer presented the regional budget for 2018. Fritz Marth noted that the biggest expense is the region's cup competitions and most of that expense (\$17,000) is payment for referees and assessors. The region must look to

reduce that burden going forward. Fritz Marth made a motion to amend budget by removing the \$1,500 Assessor Fees; Andy Weiss Second the motion. The proposed amendment passed. Fritz Marth then made motion to approve Budget, Peter Pinori (ENY) second the motion. The 2018 budget, as amended, passed unanimously.

- USASA Bylaw Proposals - Tony Falcone reported that the proposed by-law changes focus on clean-up; however, one significant change is the creation of a tiered system for high-level premier leagues, to be called “USASA Leagues.” This designation will replace the current “regional league” and “national league” structure. This bylaw proposal had the support of the Region because unlike the current regional league and national league structure, the player registration counts will now go to the respective state associations.
- Region 1 AGM 2018 – will be held in conjunction with the USASA AGM in Buffalo, NY in September 2018. This will not be at same time as USSF AGM. John Zangrilli (NJ) made motion to hold the next Region 1 regional council meeting at USSF AGM in Florida 2018. Motion passed unanimously.
- Delaware - Fritz Marth reported that Delaware has been an active participant in regional events, but that there are some 300 players registered with Delaware playing in other states’ leagues. It is hoped that going forward Delaware will have a more active presence in Region 1.
- O-40 Region 1 Competition - Fritz Marth and Tony Falcone noted an increased interest in an O-40 Cup. Cesar Wasecki was concerned with impact that a Regional O-40 would have on the Soccer Fest. Dan Rooney (CT) and Peter Pinori (ENY) supported the idea of a Regional O-40 competition noting a large number of O-40 teams exist. The concept put forth was to run such an event in conjunction with the Region 1 Cup Finals. Fritz Marth made a motion to approve such an event. The motion was seconded and passed.
- Abenity - Bill George (MD) gave update on the Abenity benefits program for USASA members which will add valuable benefits. States were encouraged to inform their members of this program. Peter Pinori (ENY) asked for succinct members’ benefit summary. Bill noted that to participate, one must sign up and log in.
- Independent USASA Director – Fritz Marth informed the membership that it is expected that this item will not be brought up at the National Council Meeting at this time, but rather postponed to the next meeting..
- USSF SRA Proposal – Fritz Marth reported that in response to USASA’s concerns in this regard, US Soccer will not be taking any at this time.
- MLS Support for Non-Affiliated Teams/Leagues - Jim Bollinger (EPA) was concerned about MLS teams partnering with unaffiliated soccer entities for sponsorships and events. Fritz said he will bring this concern to the USASA NBOD.

- General Liability – Fritz Marth reported that currently our standard general Liability coverage is \$2 Million with no \$3M excess. Discussion ensued over the ramifications of no longer having a total of \$5M coverage.
- Northeast Soccer League - Peter Pinori (ENY) discussed the formation of a NSL what would be a multi-state summer league starting in 2018 as a collaboration with 8 Region 1 teams from Eastern NY, NJ, CT, PA and MD. Entry fee will be \$1,500, with a prize of \$7,500 for the champion. The season will run from end of May through the beginning of August.
- Bylaw 302 - Jim Sadowski (MDCVA) gave a presentation of some proposed amendments he plans to offer at the National Council meeting.

## **7. Guests**

- Sunil Gulati and Dan Flynn - Sunil addressed the Region on a number of topics: 1) USMNT; 2) U-17's; 3) MLS & USL playoffs NWSL playoffs; 4) USSF SRA & Referee program proposal; 5) Referee shortages, retention, and quality; 6) Player ID; 7) Medical Protocol; 8) Coaching Program; 9) National Training Center; 10) Inward looking studies at US Soccer; 11) Office Space in Chicago; 12) Anti-trust matter with NASL; 13) Promotion and Relegation; 14) USSF's \$150M Resources in part based on the success on hosting Copa America 2017. Sunil entertained comments and questions from the Region 1.
- John Z. (NJ) - raised concerns and comments about the MYM location and logistics of coming to Lake Tahoe.
- Eric Wynalda - Introduced himself as a candidate for US Soccer President.
- Steve Gans - introduced himself as a candidate for US Soccer President.
- Ed Marco (PA) – presentation on Futsal referee program.

## **8. Good of the Game**

- Gianfranco Borroni announced that he is seeking to be re-elected to the US Soccer Foundation Board
- John Kahmke reminded the membership that USASA AGM will be in Buffalo 2018.

## **9. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.**

### **Scott Mapes**

Secretary

USASA Region I