



United States Adult Soccer Association Region I

**2019 Winter Meeting
Scottsdale, Arizona
15 February 2019**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:32.

Regional Director Tony Falcone started the meeting. There was a moment of silence in memory of our Region I family lost since our last meeting. The meeting agenda was accepted.

1. 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	2	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	Present
West Virginia	1	Present
Western New York	4	Present
Subtotal	42	Votes present for general business

Regional Officers		
Director Anthony Falcone	1	Present
Dep. Director Andy Weiss	1	Present via phone line
Secretary Scott Mapes	1	Present
Treasurer John Kahmke	1	Present
Subtotal	4	Votes Present
TOTAL VOTES	46	Votes Present for general business

2. Approval of Region I 2018 AGM Minutes (21 September 2018) – The minutes were approved as corrected with a request from Dan Rooney (CT). Approved as amended.

3. Treasurer’s Report

Region I Treasurer John Kahmke provided the financial report. The finances are in good standing. John Zangrilli (NJ) inquired on the budget for referees. Marty Bevins (MDCVA) recommended that the proposed 2019 budget be modified to compare with 2018 final numbers. John explained about entries for miscellaneous - trophies, lifetime, Region 1 breakfast costs. Note Misc. income and expenses. Total delta \$4,000.

4. Director’s Report

Region was given a report on the November NBOD retreat in Chicago. Purpose of the retreat was to discuss USASA future directions; current performance and how to prepare for future; discuss role of NBOD, members and volunteers; adjust focus on assisting member state associations; and, to develop a WHY Statement. Explained the reach out by Duncan Riddle to member state associations. Peter Pinori (ENY) asked what was the major take away from the retreat. Realization that USASA needs our members and that we need to do a better job providing support to them. Werner Fricker (NBOD) added that retreat participants addressed what is it we do and why do we do it: "To Play Soccer" that is what USASA is all about. Retreat will reconvene in April 2019 to develop a future plan. Cesar Wasecki (NBOD) added we need to do a much better job supporting our member state associations. Dave Borts (RI) suggested that we try to find a way to bring others in the process to expand effectiveness of the reach out.

Tony then gave a update on the USASA League Policy approved by the NBOD. Three league categories National, Multi-State and State Premier. Tony will distribute the policy to members following the meeting. Fritz Marth asked questions about how the policies will be applied. Marty Bevins (MDCVA) asked who has jurisdiction over the leagues and their players. John Zangrilli (NJ) asked how the policies become adopted or official by the NBOD. Tony explained NBOD has authority to adopt and approve policy. This policy was just

approved but yet to be published. This policy was put in place as there was not one in place after changes were made to the bylaws. General concern was expressed over how the "policy" was evolved, development and adopted without broader membership input or awareness or membership approval. Tony advised that NBOD actions are to be approved by members at AGM in September. The policy was put in place so that leagues could be in proper category prior to start of new season. Question was raised about NBOD action that recognized certain leagues as tier 3 leagues. Since the tier system was never adopted, this policy clarified that action. These leagues and others would qualify as State Premier Leagues. The players and teams are registered with their state association. USASA recognizes these leagues under this policy for their excellence and contributions.

5. Reports of other Officers & Committees

- a. Hall of Fame - Werner Fricker gave an update.
- b. Region I Indoor Tournament – Cesar Wasecki reported that the event had a lower turn out this year and he is conducting a survey of participating teams to figure how best to move forward. He reports no traction on a southern bracket.

6. Unfinished Business

Last September Dan Rooney (CT) brought up the rescheduled O-30 match between NY Pancyprian Freedoms (ENY) and Danbury United (CT). The match was originally scheduled at the field used by the Pancyprian but was double booked. The rescheduled match was moved to a location used by Danbury. Dan inquired whether the team would be reimbursed for travel. No action was taken by the Council at that time on this issue. Tony explained that usual protocol was to reschedule the match for the visiting team to host when no team was at fault and that travel reimbursement is not given. Dan made a motion asking as a goodwill gesture to provide \$300 to the Danbury team as a result of their travel expenses. Motion was approved.

7. New Business

- a. Cups – Commissioner Gus Xikis gave a cup update for 2019 and number of entries in each cup. Tony explained that referees will be assigned by the home state association. Three-person crew, \$90 center, \$55 for each AR. Each team to pay \$100 prior to the match.
- b. Adult Soccer Fest – Cesar reported that this year's tournament will take place at the Progin Park, Lancaster, MA the week of 10-14 July. He encourages the Region to promote and support the event. New divisions O-75 Men's and O-70 Women's. Dan Rooney suggested adding co-ed for future events.
- c. Region I Executive Committee communications with its member state associations – Dan Rooney asked that responses be made timely or at least an acknowledgement of receipt of communication. Promise made to improve as requested.

- d. Discussion of future USSF AGM – Tony inquired if members would prefer holding other meetings and whether the Region meeting take place outside of the USSF AGM. No consensus to make any change.
- e. Jim Bollinger (EPA) brought to the attention of the members of the early passing of referee Daniel Pannullo who was only 39 years of age. He also informed members that EPA started a women's indoor invitational tournament.
- f. Mario Treglia (ENY) raised issue with USSF affiliating a new amateur league. Question as to whether the organization should be required to go through USASA. There is no such requirement and USSF may admit members as they please. Also raised issue of the organization's non-profit status.
- g. Peter Pinori reported that the Northeast Elite Soccer League would like to invite teams from other state associations to compete this summer.

8. Guest Speakers & Good of the Game

- a. Richard Groff, former Region Director & USASA President was introduced and mentioned that he was nominated as a Life Member of USSF
- b. Kenny Farrell, new President of the National Premier Soccer League was introduced and spoke to the members.
- c. Chris Wixson of US Soccer Fan Council was introduced and spoke to the members.
- d. Tony thanked the members for making this a productive first meeting for him as the Region Director.

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Scott Mapes
Secretary
USASA Region I