

USASA NBOD Approved Meeting Minutes
8pm (cst) Wednesday March 1, 2023

1. Called to Order at 8:00pm by President John Motta
2. Welcome and acknowledgement of guests by President John Motta. John Motta introduces Bruce Bode, our new executive Director of USASA. President John Motta wishes Vice President Richard Groff a Happy Birthday. John Motta asks that all guests hold their questions until the end of the meeting where there will be time allotted.
3. Roll called (virtually) by Secretary Karon Beyer, the board has a quorum to conduct business. See full list of attendees at the bottom of the Minutes
4. Approval of the March 1, 2023 Agenda with no additions by the board.
5. Approval of past minutes:
 - A. No February 2023 minutes to approve at this time.
 - B. Proposed January 2023 Minutes (v2) that was sent to the board with the changes submitted by Richard Groff. Minutes approved by the board.
 - C. Correction on the December 14, 2022 Executive Session Minutes that Region 3 Director Otey Smithson did not vote in favor of motion 4. Motion 4 still passes with a majority vote.
6. Officer's Reports
 - A. President's Report: John Motta
 - 1) Welcome to the new Executive Director, Bruce Bode. His first official day is today March 1st, 2023 and has already sent out a notification to the membership to introduce himself.
 - 2) US Soccer AGM: Bylaw amendment proposal for the 2023 US Soccer Annual General Meeting.
 - a) National Council changed from 200,000 registered players to 150,000 registered players.
 - b) Any member that has membership of 20,000 can be accepted as part of the US Adult council.
 - c) Paying the US Soccer President is back on the floor.
 - 3) Maine Adult State Soccer Association: President John Motta has been in touch with Maine about a U23 association for a possible 2023 summer program. They are in the process of finalizing their bylaws. Cezar Wasecki is willing to help also.
 - 4) President John Motta announced there will be no official Thursday Board of Directors meeting in San Diego; instead there will be a NBOD Planning Session from 5pm until 9pm.
 - 5) President John Motta reminded the board member that there will be an executive session pertaining to USASA Insurance, immediately following so they will need to stay on the call.

B. Vice President's Report: Richard Groff reported on: Acting as the USASA representative to sign on our behalf.

- 1) Richard Groff asked the insurance company underwriter to rewrite the insurance policy to read: United States Adult Soccer Association, its Members, National Leagues, affiliates, leagues and teams. USASA has forwarded the certificate onto US Soccer to meet their requirements. Members can now apply for their certificate of insurance.
- 2) Confirmed that seven states want Liability Only insurance. It is a recommendation that USASA get a written affirmation from each state (annually) that they request Liability Only and that they have no Medial Accident and their members cannot file a claim. USASA should maintain this in file at the National office. Richard Groff also recommends that now that we have an executive director that this authority should be returned to them. Recommendation from Cezar Wasecki that USASA creates a template for the states to fill out and send back to USASA.
- 3) USASA Insurance Program: in 2022 we paid for 150,000 guaranteed registered players. In 2023 we will increase this to 175,000 registered players. This is not an audited policy, so if we go over the 175,000 players we will not invoice for additional players. We make four quarterly payments to the insurance company and we pay the brokerage \$157,000 thousand which is included in the quarterly payments.
- 4) US Soccer Bylaws, in addition to the ones discussed under the Presidents report, there will be several items that USASA needs to take to US Soccer Policies (Governance Committee) to have discussed. One item is the reinstatement of the professional player as an amateur player (?). US Soccer has a conflicting statement with the rules from FIFA.

C. Executive Directors Report: Bruce Bode reported that:

- 1) He has sent out a communication to the USASA membership introducing himself and his contact information.
- 2) He has been having daily staff meetings with USASA employees Jen Sunderland and Pierre Ramirez.
- 3) Bruce Bode says he is looking forward to meeting the board members in person and working with the board.

President John Motta reported that a lawsuit that was filed naming USASA and the UPSL three years ago has come back up and our insurance company is taking care of it. John Motta and Bruce Bode will keep the board updated.

D. Financial Report – Treasurer Lori Stoneburner reported that she is working on closing out the December budget for the Year End Financials and should have a draft before San Diego. Lori Stoneburner will be meeting with the USASA Budget & Finance Committee tomorrow. They will be looking at the cash on hand to possibly move into CD's and review the operating and insurance reserves to make a determination and recommendation for the board. The Annual Audit will start in mid-May.

7. Committee /Task Force Reports & Updates:

A) Committee Reports – Fritz Marth, Chair of the Men's National Cup submitted a written report on the minutes from their last meeting (Attached) Discussion on the

Women's Cup's portion of the expenses and prize money allocation for the men's divisions (TBA). Additional expenses in the budget for the Women's Cup will include a third/fourth place match. There were questions about the Rules for the Women's Cup vs. the Men's National Cup Rules. John Motta and Fritz Marth will call Sam Cohan, Chair of the Women's Cup to discuss.

8. New Business:

A) John Motta reported that we have three Leagues requesting new USASA League status. The leagues are Southwest Premier League, Mountain Premier League & the Cascadia League. John Motta sent out the USASA Rules Committee's recommendations to the USASA board prior to the meeting.

Discussion by the board and the board agree that they would like additional time to review the documents that were emailed out today.

President John Motta will send an email vote to the board on Monday/Tuesday to approve each USASA league individually for temporary provisional status until the USASA annual general meeting in September, 2023.

8. Unfinished Business:

Region 1 Director Tony Falcone asked the board to review the US Soccer's Policy on the reinstatement of amateur status for past (former) professional players. Under FIFA regulations; once a player is out of contract/no longer registered with their professional team, they are considered an amateur player thirty one days after their last professional match. Director Falcone would like to bring his proposal to the next board meeting for a vote.

Proposal: To insert into the National Cup Rules: That a former professional player no longer under contract/no longer registered with a professional team who is eligible on their 31st day from the players last professional match be deemed an amateur for the competition.

At Large Director Chaz Ballish Rodgheiro asks that a poll for dates and times be sent to the board members before a special meeting is set.

Guests Questions and comments: Jim Sadowski would like to address the USASA proposals for the US Soccer Annual General Meeting. There were emails sent that opposed the proposals and Jim Sadowski suggests that USASA reach out to the member.

10. Adjourned at 8:59pm

Action Items:

Update on the USASA Lawsuit
Board vote on National Leagues

Board vote on proposal to the National Cup Rules the reinstatement of a professional player to amateur status

Those in Attendance:

President - John Motta

Vice President - Richard Groff

Secretary - Karon Beyer

Treasurer – Lori Stoneburner

Executive Director – Bruce Bode

Region 1 Director – Tony Falcone

Region 3 Director – Otey Smithson

Region 4 Director – Robin Runstein

At Large – Chaz Ballish Regueiro

Independent Director – Brett Hurwitz

Guest:

USASA Staff – Jen Sunderland

Region 1 Deputy Director – Marybeth Falk

Region 2 Deputy Director – Karissa Richards

Region 3 Deputy Director – Jeanne Smith

Region 4 Deputy Director – Tom Moore

Fritz Marth – USASA Men's National Cup Chair

Richard Moeller, Hall Of Fame Chair

Andy Marion, South Carolina

Jim Sadowski, Metro DC/Virginia

Andy Weiss