



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 26, 2012**

The Directors named in these minutes of the California State Soccer Association-South, constituting the Board of Directors of said California Corporation, held its regular meeting on February 26, 2012 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles, CA. President and Chairman of the Board, Johnnie Garza, called the meeting to order at 10:55 a.m. A quorum was present.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnnie Garza, President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Flahan, District 1 Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Derek Barraza, Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Mullen, District 2 Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Carlson, Vice President-Youth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Abadie, District 3 Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brett Wood, Vice President-Adults | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharon Kornfield, District 4 Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Goldman, Treasurer (left 11:46 a.m.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rick McCown, District 5 Commissioner |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lila Smith, Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Shoemake Young, District 6 Commissioner (absent) |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rick Velasco, District 7, Commissioner |

Also present for various parts of the meeting:

- John Weinerth, Chief Executive Officer
- Lucinda Williams, Secretariat
- Frank Sanford, Sanctioned Tournaments Committee Chair

Public Comments

None.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1: Sharon Kornfield moved to approve the January 2012 meeting minutes.

Roy Carlson seconded.

Motion carried 9 - 0 - 3. (Abstain: Goldman, Smith, Wood).

President's Report: Presented by Mr. Johnnie Garza.

Johnnie Garza thanked the guests for their attendance at this meeting. He thanked John Weinerth and his staff for the time and work put into coordinating Soccer Nation Expo and noted great success with the awards ceremony.

Mr. Garza reported that several Cal South members have recently returned from the US Youth workshop in Boston. It was a busy event with many networking opportunities. Cal South personnel attended different workshops to gather as much information as possible and received good feedback from the dialogue that occurred. John Mullen remarked on the presentation by Jurgen Klinsmann, U.S. Men's National Team head coach.

Mr. Garza noted that he and John Mullen spoke with Juergen Sommer, candidate for U.S. Youth Soccer Vice President.

Roy Carlson noted that he has spoken with John Sutter, U.S. Youth Soccer President. Mr. Carlson does not think the U.S. Youth model works and that there is a disconnect between the youth board level and the state associations. Mr. Carlson expressed reservations with the current leadership's ability to facilitate change with the current system.

Derek Barraza said he attended a leadership meeting at the U.S. Youth Soccer workshop that posed the question of whether USYSA is a national organization and, if not, what changes it should make. Currently, members perceive USYSA as a national organization but it really is a conglomeration of regions and states. The workshop considered why so many members have found other ways to meet their needs such as the Academy. Mr. Barraza also attended a session on social media which talked about the liability of photographs of minors on websites. He suggested Cal South review its social media policy.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Committee Reports

No reports submitted due to Soccer Nation Expo weekend.

Staff Reports

No reports submitted due to Soccer Nation Expo weekend.

Recurring Monthly Business

Youth League Approvals

Motion #2: Mark Flahan moved to approve Leagues 0151 and 0152.

John Mullen seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #3: Sharon Kornfield moved to approve League 0437.

Lila Smith seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #4: Rick McCown moved to approve League 0593.

Derek Barraza seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #5: Sue Abadie moved to approve the name change for League 0305.

Derek Barraza seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Adult League Approvals

None.

Sanctioned Tournament Approvals

None.

Old Business Items

Review of Action Items

The Board reviewed the Corporate Calendar noting that the next meeting and strategic planning session will be March 10, 2012.

John Weinerth shared an update on the status of appeals. He provided one correction as Whittier Area Soccer is not in RM compliance. He said Carmel Valley has remedied and the Board may reinstate this league. Ken Goldman noted that this process works well for appeals.

Motion #6: Mark Flahan moved to reinstate Carmel Valley Manchester.

Rick Velasco seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Tournament Policy for U8 Play

Johnnie Garza restated that the Board does not support competitive play for U8 and younger.

Tournament Ratification Decisions

Motion #7: John Mullen moved to ratify approval to allow Copa Del Mar to change their tournament date to the last weekend in July.

Rick McCown seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

John Mullen suggested that the Board adopt a policy allowing District Commissioners to approve date changes when they have no State Cup date conflict. Johnnie Garza asked John Mullen to draft a policy and bring to the next Board meeting. The Board also discussed setting a master annual calendar to block out tournament dates. Derek Barraza confirmed grandfathering in long standing tournaments.

(Ken Goldman left at 11:46 a.m.)

New Business Items

USYS Region IV Director Candidates

Johnnie Garza invited the two US Youth Soccer Region IV Director candidates, Jon DeStefano, Colorado Youth Soccer Association President, and Ken Edmunds, Idaho Youth Soccer Association Former President, to address the Board.

Jon DeStefano thanked the Board for a re-energizing weekend. Mr. DeStefano said he is running because US Youth and Region IV need change. The Region faces many major issues such as rivals to ODP, polarization and the one size fits all concept. He said the Region needs vision and consensus to effect change.

Mr. DeStefano said his school board experience has taught him change management. He believes John Sutter, US Youth Soccer President, is a good man and needs support to make change happen. Mr. DeStefano said the organization is split between regional leaders and the rest of the Board. The voice of the states needs to be brought to the table with US Youth leaders. He believes a Regional Director can make a big impact in bringing forward the voice of the region as the will to change is teetering and one person can switch the balance. He would like to be the person to do that. He would like the organization to have a common vision. He said leadership comes from hard work and "sense making" and even the hardest times can bring out the best in people.

Ken Edmunds said he appreciated all of Mr. DeStefano's thoughts. He has polled a lot of people regarding the needs of their state organizations. He appreciates Cal South's re-evaluation and keeping ahead of the curve. He explained that he comes from a CPA background and made a commitment since age 40 to put 40% of his life towards volunteer work. He served on the state board of education and served as a soccer coach, volunteer and state president. His association's membership was down 60% when he became president. He helped restore membership levels by getting back to basics. He sees many elementary problems at the regional level and cited communication as the primary problem. He noted the association has a regional council but the presidents and executive directors rarely convene to problem solve. He'd like to find a way for the states to continually solve problems. He would also like the region to have a more effective website with links to each state, basic forms and Spanish translations. Mr. Edmunds would like to implement a mentoring system for new presidents to reduce their learning curve and help identify the needs of their states. He would like to implement a best practices database to share information on topics such as insurance, basic forms and policies, noting it all comes back to communication. He hopes to work more with presidents and see the region's executive directors and directors of coaching work together. Mr. Edmunds would like the fall workshop formatted as a retreat on ODP and see the region lead by example and be effective in making change. He said the region should use a bottom up approach, noting that the layer only facilitates the state's voice to the national level. He said the region needs to set priorities, talk about it and figure out what we're going to do.

Derek Barraza asked the candidates if they viewed US Youth as a national organization. Mr. Edmunds said he thought US Youth should be a national organization. He thought it had become a marketing organization which is the wrong approach. Mr. DeStefano said US Youth is a national organization, it just doesn't know it, noting that the states do not perceive their commonality with US Youth partly due to the lack of a voice at the regional level and that needs to change. He noted that the Independent Director positions would change the balance of power and that is why the positions have generated controversy. Ken Edmunds added that transparency is a big problem.

Johnnie Garza thanked the candidates for their time and encouraged the Board to ask them questions that may arise. The Board will discuss which candidate they will support at a future meeting.

Mike Maloney, US Adult Soccer Association Region IV Deputy Director, thanked the Board for the invitation to attend Soccer Nation and the Board meeting. At the last Federation AGM, he told the Board they need to work with the states regarding joint affiliation.

Johnnie Garza said the Board appreciated Mr. Maloney's candor and acknowledged his willingness to discuss this issue openly.

Mr. Maloney mentioned that Eastern New York has proposed new regional league criteria. Eastern states can easily travel between states but geography in the west makes such travel difficult. They have proposed an amendment that regions need to decide the criteria for regional leagues.

California Penal Code - Mandated Reporters

John Weinerth reported on AB1564 (Lara) which deals with child abuse and reporting requirements for non-profits another other youth organizations. He has spoken with the non-profit attorney and will monitor the progress of this bill.

Cal South Caucus for USSF Meeting

Johnnie Garza reported that the Federation did not have many issues to address. He noted that the athletes' council placed one of their candidates on the ballot. John Mullen commented on the candidates and their affiliations. Roy Carlson said the athletes' votes are weighted to equal the youth votes. John Weinerth spoke favorably about Juergen Sommer's playing history and his current coaching status with a state organization.

Johnnie Garza said Mike Maloney and Paul Scherer are running for the Region IV Deputy Director – Adults. He noted that Mr. Scherer has proposed creating regional bylaws.

Risk Management Evaluation

Johnnie Garza noted that Lila Smith has taken on more of the risk management workload in Lisa Wolfs's absence. He discussed the Board's role in risk management as far as policy and oversight and noted that Lila Smith, Derek Barraza and John Weinerth are reviewing this issue. John Mullen asked about the security of personal information. John Weinerth noted that risk management has essentially become the live scan process but it should be much broader. Mark Flahan suggested training for people handling sensitive information. John Mullen said some leagues get player information through the family look up. Derek Barraza said he would scope the project and hopes to have a plan developed by the end of March. Johnnie Garza suggested staff also send a general memo regarding handling sensitive information as soon as possible.

Committee Review

Johnnie Garza said the Board traditionally reviews the committee structure following the AGM. He said the Board will review committees over the course of the next several months. Committee Roles and Responsibilities will also be considered in conjunction with Rick Velasco's work on the policy manual.

Strategic Road Map

Kurt Andre from TAG Consulting reported on the focus groups. He will have a full report for the Board on March 10, 2012 along with an executive summary. He said the Board should focus on strategic and transformative initiatives.

Johnnie Garza asked about the feedback from the parent focus group. Kurt said this group provided excellent feedback which will be included in the final report

Mr. Andre said the major theme of the focus groups was connection and consistency. The groups thought communication had improved. All groups also agreed that the organization overall had improved from past years

Motion #8: Mark Flahan moved to enter Closed Session at 2:54 p.m.

Roy Carlson seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Motion #9: Sharon Kornfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Roy Carlson seconded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.