

USASA Midwest Region
Summer 2010 Meeting
Friday, July 16, 2010
Radisson Eastlake
Eastlake, Ohio

Call to order: 8:47 am by Director Bruno Trapikas.

Credentials: Chairperson: Blaz Pesorda

Illinois	4 votes
Indiana	3 votes
Iowa	absent
Kansas	3 votes
Kentucky	3 votes
Michigan	3 votes
Minnesota	absent
Missouri	absent
Nebraska	2 votes
North Ohio	3 votes
South Dakota	absent
Ohio South	3 votes
Wisconsin	2 votes
WPSL	1 vote
Director	Bruno Trapikas
Deputy Director	Bill Davey
Secretary	absent
Treasurer	Wayne Wilson (voting on behalf of Nebraska)

A proxy vote on behalf of Missouri was discussed. Ken Conselyea advised that proxy votes are not permitted.

Director Bruno Trapikas said that Peggy Polley, Regional Secretary, was unable to attend due to health issues and does not intend to run for re-election as Regional Secretary and is sharing her duties as chairperson of USASA Membership Committee. She is uncertain if she will be attending the October Mid-Year meeting. Director Trapikas asked for a moment of silence in honor of our deceased members.

Reports of Officers

Director Bruno Trapikas

Bruno recognized Brian Darling (Kentucky) as the recipient of the Pat Smith Award. Since we last met, we have selected the Regional Referee of the Year, Michael Robinson (Kansas), and the Regional Coach of the Year, Robert Jusczyk (Illinois).

Regarding USASA, Bruno advised that the minutes from USASA meetings are being posted in a very rapid manner unlike in the past. Rules and budget will be critical issues at the Mid-Year meeting.

Bruno provided information regarding USASA business and actions.

- USASA Insurance
 - New insurance policy effective September 1, 2010 – higher base limit up to \$10,000
\$9.35 /player

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- Massachusetts has had statewide health insurance for many years. They requested an exemption from the USASA policy. USASA has to make sure that its liability concerns are covered. The cost of the liability only policy for Massachusetts would be \$4.50. Massachusetts requested and received an exemption by USASA. Bruno supported the exemption because the USASA insurer agreed to the exemption and because he felt the presence of state law governing insurance issues was significant. National quotes for liability only policies were \$6-\$7/player.
- USASA Summit
 - Recommendation from the consultants engaged by the Summit was that USASA should hire an executive director for day-to-day operations. USASA currently has a budgeted office staff of five. The cost of hiring an executive director would include employer tax w/holding, travel, etc and would raise the annual cost to approximately \$100,000. Question was raised if USASA can do this with current funding or if fees will be raised? Bruno stated that if a person of the expected caliber was brought into office, the net value of that person would be worth the money with the expectation that that person would bring in sponsorships to at least cover salary. In discussing this with Bruno, USASA President Richard Groff stated that an executive director is needed is to make a better appearance to USSF and other organizations. This is not a resolved issue that came from the Summit.

In response to Joe Zyzda (Illinois), Bruno advised that a number of people suggested the hiring of an executive director as a result of the Summit. To include the position during 2011 budget planning, President Groff began the discussion of hiring an executive director. Doug Pels (Indiana) stated that he did not remember a mandate coming from the Summit for the hiring of an executive director. He noted that we have a Sponsorship Committee and that an executive director would be charged with decisions that have been made by the President in the past. He questioned whether the President would want to give up that authority. Bruno noted that that may be difficult. Bill Davey remarked that an executive director is a good idea. However, he believes that one is not yet needed, but may be when there are 500,000 players. Bruno noted that the Executive Committee has authorized the writing of a job description in order to have an understanding of what the job is. USASA has a total of 55 state associations and regional leagues. USASA is more of a federation - a collection of groups, with traditional ethnic teams, teams that have come through youth organizations, weekend only players and many who do not need USASA services. These subgroups make agreeing on one national focus difficult.

- The USASA Midyear Committee has been reformed. Hector Nava (Illinois) has been appointed to the committee. Shonna Schroedl is chair of the Midyear Committee. Bruno stated that Chicago is being considered for the 2011 Midyear Meeting. .
- Jim Sadowski has resigned as chairperson of the Co-Ed Cup.
- Ten USASA Implementation Teams are reviewing aspects of the organization. Some of the teams are no longer meeting, perhaps due to World Cup. Others have developed proposals to be funded in the next budget year. Currently USASA has about thirty committees. In October, USASA will be voting on funding. Nick Radu (Michigan) sees the executive director being in

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charge of keeping everyone on track in the direction the organization tasks. Debra Trapikas (National Cups & WPSL) discussed that many who sit on committees do not know the history of USASA or their committee's past work and efforts. She sits on the Sponsorship Committee and is concerned that the chairperson does not know the past actions of the committee such as the brochure and video. Knowledge of the organization is important in soliciting sponsorship. Regarding the proposed USASA budget, Bill Davey stated that the only Implementation Teams that have submitted budget requests are IT and Sponsorship.

- Bill Davey reported that President Groff requested that two Presidents from each Region sit on a Referee Administration Committee. Gerhard Mengel (Michigan) and Doug Pels (Indiana) will represent Region II.
- Bruno stated that when we left the Summit, he did not remember any organizational restructuring being discussed. However, the Governance Task Force has held deliberations on restructuring without accepting any input. In May, a report was delivered to the membership and members are now engaged in discussions of a compromise for government structure.
- There are some state-specific issues that have been addressed. In Colorado, the president vacated office and the bank account also vacated. A volunteer group is running the state organization. Player registration issues in Wisconsin between the youth and adult associations have been resolved and all funds due USASA for youth players were received. Payment will be made to the Region for the Regional funds for the 2-4 year period. The State of Washington has paid outstanding registrations for four year period, including a \$5,000 fine, and its probation period is over.
- The 2011 National Cup finals have been awarded to Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Deputy Director Bill Davey

Bill advised that the USASA bylaw proposal regarding the structure of the Executive Board could result in the loss of regional representation and the possibility of two states controlling the nation. The bylaw proposals will be reviewed at the Regional meeting in Philadelphia prior to voting.

The past eight years of registration statistics is available at the USASA website.

First Sports International is working to fix online payments, player registrations, team registrations, and tournament registrations. The online system will assist registrars greatly. Workshops will be held in Philadelphia for registrars. Updates will be made as States become familiar with the program and wishlists are submitted. Responding to questions from Branko Ilic (Illinois), Bill advised that player transfers will continue to be handled at the State level and that the level of administrative use will be customizable for specific needs. The advantage to the system is that as an organization, one method will be used by all members. Current systems can be uploaded to the system; the system does not have to be used in entirety; access can be managed by the State. Jack Ciraulo (Michigan) inquired if personally identifiable information (PII) will be protected. Bill advised that USASA is purchasing the server, not like the contract with Demisphere in which the information was stored on their servers. Gerhard Mengel (Michigan) asked if USASA secures sponsorship that the state already has, does the state relinquish theirs? Bill responded that if the state contract is prior to the national contract, the state contract overrides the national contract.

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The U23 nationals are to be held in Kansas City. This competition was not scheduled with USASA National Cups, but was scheduled with the national youth competitions. This provided an opportunity for U19, U17, and U16 to see our event.

The Referee Administrative Committee will attempt to make some resource available to reconcile issues and differences some states are experiencing with referees and referee programs. In many instances the issue is the assignors who make money assigning referees, but who will not supply the adult division with a list of referees. States can contact Adrien at USSF for a list of registered referees. Bill asked that if assignors are not providing state organizations a list of registered officials to contact him.

Secretary Report presented by Bruno Trapikas

Corrections to minutes of AGM include:

- Change Ken Conselyea's office – not secretary of Region
- Clarification regarding Wisconsin voting but no mention of what vote was – the vote was in regards to youth players registered as adults. The Region has received no income to prove the number of Wisconsin youth registered as adults. USASA is holding the funds in escrow. Wording to be added to minutes: "There was discussion about payments by Wisconsin being held by USASA specifically the voting strength of Wisconsin."
- Gerhard Mengel went over bond money – "\$2,000 maximum bond money per state. \$1,000 per team with max \$2,000 state."
- Under new business - "USASA director award" (page 5)

Minutes approved as amended.

Treasurer Wayne Wilson

Region is in process of closing current account and will open an account at financial institution closer to Wayne. Treasurer's report is current as of today.

Wayne is creating financial reports that will have historical expenditures and receipts.

10:18 Break

10:30 Reconvene

Bruno asked that state presidents or a representative from each organization have a short meeting after the conclusion of the Regional meeting. He thanked Ohio North for their hospitality and reminded attendees that dinner would be at Dubrovnic Restaurant.

Reports of Committees

National Cups Regional - Chairperson Debra Trapikas

Debra noted that of the 68 Regional teams that competed nine advanced to National Finals:

- Men's Open – Michigan Detroit United

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- Men's Amateur – Michigan Carpathia Kickers
- Men's Over 30 – Missouri Ajax
- Men's Under 23 – Chicago Fire and Illinois Inferno
- Men's Under 20 – Wisconsin Croatian Eagles
- Women's Open – Kentucky Wanderers
- Women's Under 23 – Minnesota Woodbury SC and Missouri Scott Gallagher

The Under 23 showcase will be held with the USYSA nationals in Kansas July 23-25, 2010.

Fields for Regional National Cups were improved from last year. Because of the rain, games were rescheduled, but all games were played. Debra thanked Illinois for their hospitality and hard work.

At the National Cups national finals in Philadelphia, Region II had solid representation by the referees. Referee problems at games level are because the Federation designates those games as a Level 3 event which means those games do not count for assessment. Federation should understand that these games are quality matches.

Forty-eight percent responded to Debra's survey regarding the National Cups. The results were:

- Most respondents were second year participants in National Cups.
- The format of play preferred by 70.8% was that all teams compete at a single location to play round robin with final teams playing runoff. Result: We leave the format alone and continue to play a round robin at one venue.

Debra reviewed National Cup rules.

- Teams must be registered with an affiliate of the USASA; playing in a league of at least four teams unless no competition is within an 80 mile radius; and must have submitted a National Cup entry form with appropriate fees to the appropriate commissioner before that competition begins.
- Youth team may enter any competition except the Men's Over 30 and is required to show proof of insurance. Individual youth players must be registered with adult team and cannot use youth pass, unless they are solely a team comprised of youth players.
- A player must be registered at least ten days prior to any game in the competition in which the player may participate even if player has not yet attained the proper age but will attain the proper age by the time of the tournament. A player cannot play for more than one team in the same playing division.
- There are no guest players in the National Cup. All players must be registered with the team.
- Players who have at any time registered as a professional must be reinstated as an amateur by USSF to play in the Amateur Cup. Debra will verify how many times you can go from pro to amateur. State registrars are responsible for insuring that players have amateur status. USSF has one person handling pro to amateur status so delays are occurring. Debra emphasized that states cannot allow players to participate at state level unless they have amateur status. Bruno said that a player could be registered as a pro player with the team that is entering. However if the player plays for a USL Division 2 team and another team, they need the loan form. To be reinstated,

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the player must complete the Amateur Reinstatement Form and submit it with \$50 to USSF. Clearance is usually given within a couple of days.

- The ITC (International Transfer Certificate) is required of any player who entered the United States after the age of 12 or a player who listed the last club they participated as belonging to a foreign national association. USSF forwards the ITC to the foreign organization. In some cases a provisional clearance can be given.
- Debra provided the following USSF contact information:
 - Manager of Registration - Steven Murry (312) 528-1214 smurry@ussoccer.org
 - Pro Player Registrar - Elena Petrey (312) 528-1213 epetrey@ussoccer.org
 - Office of the CEO/Director of Registration Adrian Garibay (312) 528- 1275 agaribay@ussoccer.org
 - Registration Coordinator Blake Ewing (312) 528-1215 bewing@ussoccer.org
- Gerhard Mengel noted in the USSF rules that if a player is a professional player for one year only, the player is automatically returned to amateur status. Debra added that 366 days must pass from last game played. Gerhard asked how the professionals can play a player and sign him in 24 hours. Debra responded that is the pros, the amateurs cannot. When you have a player in the Open Cup only, ask permission to use that player as a loan player by USSF for a specified period of time.
- Two years ago, it was voted to have a \$1,000 team bond with a maximum of \$2,000 per state. The bond checks stay with Debra and are mailed back if not needed. She proposes that we go back to \$500/team. Checks are not cashed. Item is placed under new business.

Website – Debra Trapikas

Because of problems with server, we have an additional 6 months free service.

WPSL – Debra Trapikas

Debra has been appointed as the WPSL representative. WPSL is in playoffs this weekend.

Appeals Committee – Brian Darling

No appeals have been submitted.

Veterans' Cup - Bruno Trapikas

Over 100 teams have registered to participate in tournament in Massachusetts with finals this weekend. Entry fee of \$400 waived for African Grannies, south African women. Tim Busch has indicated that he will resign as chairman of the Veterans' Cup as of Monday. Veterans' Cup 2011 is scheduled to be held in Orlando, Florida.

Co-ed Cup – Bruno Trapikas

The Co-ed Cup will be held the last weekend in October in Texas. Chairperson Jim Sadowski has resigned.

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Select Teams – Bruno Trapikas

Funds are still in the budget and Bill Bosgraaf is chairperson.

Regional Grants – Vic Boydo

The grant application deadline is November 30. Application forms were distributed.

USASA Grants – Harold Kahler / absent

National chairperson Dyann Pugliese reported that the USASA has budgeted \$20,000.

USASA Hall of Fame – Richard Williams

Being inducted are two referees, three administrators and two coaches. Although Region II has more Hall of Fame inductees than any other regions, this is the first time that no inductee is from Region 2. Applications must be submitted every year; submittals are not rolled over to the next year. Hall of Fame program ads are due by September 1st. The dinner will be held October 8th in Philadelphia. **Motion to take full page ad for Region 2 carried.**

Membership – Hector Nava / absent

Bruno reported that Hector is traveling to various events. Peggy Polley, chairperson of the Membership Committee, has resigned for health reasons. He does not know when an appointment will be made.

Coaching Education - Adrian Parrish/ absent

Referees – Ken Baldeosingh

Only three recommendations were submitted for the referee of the year award. The referee exchange program between Regions II and III has worked out very well.

For the Region II National Cups, five Region II associations sent referees. One referee went on to represent Region II at the National Cup Finals.

The Referee Committee is working with the federation regarding referees going to National Finals.

A mentoring program will be started this weekend during the Tournament of Champions. If you have an issue with a referee, Ken asked that you speak with the Tournament Director or committee chairperson. He discussed past problems with persons manner of complaining about tournament officials. This is to establish a procedure for complaints during tournament.

Pat Smith Award Committee – Samir Yasa / absent

Bruno announced that Brian Darling is this year's award recipient. Nominations are due December 31st for the following year's award.

Women's Development – Heidi Philyaw / absent

No report.

11:45am – Lunch

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1:15pm - Reconvene

Bruno advised that USASA rules proposals include a change in the structure of the USASA governing body. A survey that he conducted showed that 100% of the votes supported that the Regional structure remain unchanged. Fifty-nine percent felt that Regional administrator authority should remain as is. Sixty-eight percent voted that the Regional administrator authority should be maintained at current levels. A majority felt that voting strengths should not be changed. As a result of a compromise several years ago, Deputy Directors are on the national board but cannot vote nor are funded to attend meetings. The current structure is 50% national officers and 50% regional representatives. Seventy-three percent wanted to maintain that balance. A copy of this report was sent to the USASA Governance Committee which did not review it. The USASA Executive Committee was interested and the survey was adopted by the Executive Committee which sent it out nationally.

Rules Committee – Gregory Vlamakis

Members must be prepared for proposals to be made at the October Mid-Year. The Rules Committee has not met yet. Branko questioned what is best for Region II. Bruno responded that until the proposals are known on October 8th, we do not know what actually would be best, but most believe that control should remain with the regions. Region II is the smallest in the nation. As a result we have less influence.

Doug Pels asked what the proposals would look like when they come to the floor. Gregory responded that there could be five governance proposals.

Brian Darling discussed his participation with the Governance Committee under Brooks McCormick. Meeting and surveys were conducted. An issue with the survey was that people were essentially voting to take themselves out of office. The at-large director position was to allow non-soccer affiliated persons to be on the board such as in the USSF. The Summit showed that most people wanted some kind of change. Most on the committee had good intentions. De-regionalization was mentioned by one person who is frustrated by his own region. The committee tried to look to the future to see where USASA would be in 25 years. There was much influence by the consultant during the conversation who kept referring to non-profit corporations and that we should be like them. Brian said that our organization is a unique organization. Included in the picture is that the secretary and treasurer are not doing that much, so merging those positions makes sense. Bill Davey felt that the budget is being set to drive decisions and responsibilities to regional level, but then taking decision-making back to national level.

Doug Pels asked if it was the consultant who was driving the decision-making. According to Brian, the consultant gave three national models of non-profits. On the committees, it made sense to re-align the committees and power and charges. For example, a Competition Committee created to take over all tournaments. The consultant who was supposed to be in a neutral position had a lot of influence.

Nick Radu noted that to have a paid executive director, executive power would have to be ceded. He questioned whether they would be willing to do that.

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USASA Budget Committee - Nick Radu

When the committee requested what funds the committees needed, Toni Briggs provided a spreadsheet, but it contained nothing from the committees, no input. The Indoor Tournament is not being recommended for budgeting as there is not enough information. The amount of interest earned was overstated; committee reduced it. The President wanted to disburse his budget to others and travel on his own funds. However, the committee recognized that if he is not the president, the budget would include a president's expense account. The budget includes sponsorship income of \$75,000, but does not identify its source. Funds are allocated for the Implementation Committees without any explanation for its use.

Bruno advised that a proposal will be made to change the fiscal year to calendar year.

New Business

The 2011 Tournament of Champions has been awarded to Fort Wayne Sport Club and will be held August 5 & 6.

The 2012 Region II National Cups has been awarded to Fort Wayne Sport Club. There was discussion regarding a permanent date for the Tournament of Champions such as the first weekend of August, weekend after 4th of July, etc. This would permit states to plan their competition schedules.

Doug Pels proposed that the Fort Wayne Soccer Club be made the permanent site of the Tournament of Champions. Gerhard seconded. Bill proposed tabling decision until Board meets. Motion withdrawn.

Debra motion of "For the Regional National Cups competition, bonds will be \$500 per team." carried.

Ken Baldeosingh's motion of "Referee travel expenses and game fees for interstate Regional National Cup competitions will be \$300 per game for the officiating team." was approved.

Bruno recognized guest Cathy O'Neill who had served as the chairperson of the Women's Development and Publicity in the past.

2010-2011 Regional Budget – Wayne Wilson

- Assumes no changes to USASA budget year
- Regional fiscal year September 1 to August 31
- Historical budget incurred to date for a reference point – biggest item is an increase in player fee income assuming growing player base
- Grants chair Vic Boydo noted that we had agreed to carry forward whatever funds were remaining from the previous year. Wayne stated that the Budget Committee recognized that but wanted to know if it was realistic that we carry unawarded funds over on a consistent basis. The funds not awarded remain in the Region's account. Bruno advised that we cannot make a budget motion in perpetuity. Dyann Pugliese stated that if the funds are carried over and the budget amount does not include the carryover, the result would be a deficit budget that in reality is not a deficit budget. For example, if \$5,000 is carried over and the budget amount is \$5,000, the

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Committee could award \$10,000. However, it would appear that the Committee overspent by \$5,000, thus a deficit budget.

- Region II Cups show an increase of \$40,000 because travel subsidies are coming to the Region from USASA. The Region forwards the funds to the teams. The Region is the “middleman”.
- **Motion by Ken Conselyea to accept the Regional Budget carried.**

Good of the Game

Brian Darling attended the World Cup and toured African Catholic Relief Missions. Brian presented a slideshow of the mission and children.

Motion to reconsider Minutes

- **Page 5 paragraph 2 “ training materials for referees who work adult games.” Approved**
- **Correction of the spelling of John Motta name.**

Media all-star game in Illinois next weekend will be held in conjunction with the Chicago beach soccer tournament. The ISSA and IYSA will host more than 120 teams on Chicago’s beachfront.

Respectfully submitted,
Dyann Pugliese