



United States Adult Soccer Association, Inc.

A Division of the United States Soccer Federation

Affiliated with the Federation Internationale de Football Association

Attendance:

Bill Bosgraaf, Director & Utah
Barbara Trainor, Secretary
Albino Bejines, Cal South
Erin Langenwalter, New Mexico

Mike Maloney, Dep Director
Dan Trainor, Arizona
Donna Fouts, Hawaii
Roger Hamilton, Oregon

Graham Biles, Treasurer & Nevada
Ric Olivas, Cal North
Paul Scherer, Idaho
Tim Busch, Washington

League information to Barb – Barb sent out a request for league information to all of the State Association presidents, but only received response from 3-4 States. The purpose of the list is so the Region can better distribute information about the programs. Please send league information to Barb.

Event Hosting: There was discussion about how the expense keeps growing. States need to understand the costs of hosting before they bid. Reimbursement at the Region level is turned around fairly quickly, but at a National level takes considerably longer. Special activities, such as a barbeque, are typically decided and hosted the State and cost is absorbed by the State.

Action Item: Mike Maloney will send Barb the latest bid package; Barb will distribute the package (via email) to the State Presidents.

USASA Direction: The associations and businesses that are competition to the State Associations, such as US Club Soccer, US Specialty sports and businesses that offer “free” tournaments.

There was discussion about why we are affiliated with USASA and what we are offering to our customers (the players). USASA is not making money and the programs are expensive. Changes will need to happen in order to compete with these organizations.

Donna suggested that a short survey could be created and distributed to make sure we understand what the customers want. Dan talked about brand recognition and the fact that players don't know they belong to USASA, Region IV, or even a State Association. Paul mentioned that he has purchased FIFA flags and pins to give to new leagues because they recognize FIFA

Roger talked about how the average player may know about USSF or FIFA, but ultimately only cares about having the opportunity to play. Most of our customers are not competitive players, just the average Sunday player. Roger suggested some additional products, such as resources for teams, such as adult player skills materials, or team manager FAQs.

There were several suggestions about how to improve the services to our customers. The Presidents meeting should be an action item meeting. Region IV should propose these things to USASA, but if actions don't happen at that level, the Region should still move forward. Bill suggested that an additional dollar fee for the purposes of creating materials, DVDs, etc. for the average recreational teams may be an option.

Graham suggested that we each come up with a suggestion and we could assemble a consolidated list of concerns and suggestions from the region. The Region felt that USASA chairman needs to understand our concerns and suggestions and know that we will not support a Chairman that will not support the needs of our customers.

Action Items:

- Erin will get together with Barb to combine the ideas that came out of the meeting.
- Tim will work with Roger and Erin about the possibility of creating videos



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- Ric will put together a list of Spanish referee clinics
- Barb will check to see what the membership committee had already put together for putting together for assembling a league, team, etc.

Referees: There was conversation about the situation with the referees and how the other associations are being allowed to use USSF referees when the State Associations spend the time and money to develop them. The youth are also using large numbers of referees, but don't spend the money to send the referees to highest level camps and competitions to develop them. Referees are turning down adult games adults in favor of higher paying or easier games.

Select Program: USASA is still moving ahead with plans to move toward a National Select Camp. The Region IV National Camp worked far better than the previous time a camp that was held. The USASA was able to put together two solid camps to select the two National Select Teams. The men's team was able to beat the Chivas reserve team and then won their games in their trip to Ireland. The women's team Mexico tour was cancelled, but they may go down there to play a few games later in the year.

The Select committee is in the process of redoing the Select manuals to address the camp. The question came up about how to find the best players, in particular for a large organization. In order to be able to find the best players to send to the camp, it will probably take many "scouts" across the country.

There was a question about whether USASA is going to continue to fund the Donnelly Cup. Bill said that there are still people that feel that the Select Program is designed to feed teams to the Donnelly Cup, therefore USASA will probably continue to support ~~fund~~ it, but not for travel. Region I will most likely ~~has chosen~~ to continue to hold a tournament in the future. This is within their rights, but not funded.

Donnelly Cup: There is a Donnelly Cup this year because the other three regions chose to have a tournament. Region IV, not having a tournament does not have a representative. There was discussion about sending a team from Region IV. If there is more than one team that wants to go, there could be a play-down. There is no travel subsidy. Utah has teams that are willing to go to Donnelly Cup, so they are willing to host a play-down tournament. States who want a chance to participate would need to decide and notify Bill Bosgraaf by September 24th.

USASA President's Meeting: There was discussion about whether or not to participate in a USASA President's meeting at the upcoming meeting in Ft. Lauderdale. There was concern that the meeting would simply be a round-table discussion and the additional time required to come in early might not be well spent.

Action Item: Region IV (person TBD) will formally put a motion on the floor at USASA to hold a presidents meeting in the spring.

USASA Elections: The USASA Chairman and Secretary positions are up for re-election this year.

Demosphere: Erin gave a report on New Mexico's experience with Demosphere. Their hope had been to participate in providing feedback about what the product should do to serve the USASA customers. USASA provided a finished or nearly finished product with expectations that the pilot State Associations do de-bugging testing. Paul mentioned that he has not been able to load any players, only league information.



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USASA Budgeting: In the Region, we have people in office or committee positions that are not necessarily funded by a State Association. There was a suggestion that there could be some money set aside specifically for that purpose.

There was discussion about the seemingly elimination of USASA committees. Some of the standing committees were not funded in order to disable them since they could not be eliminated without a vote from the membership.

Veteran's Cup: Tim spoke about referee issues at the Veteran's Cup. With the size of the tournament, there should have been around 110 referees, but there were about 50. Next year Tim hopes to work with the four Regional referee coordinators to get enough referees at the appropriate levels to the Veteran's Cup tournament. There will also be a place to sign up online. It will be added to the Region IV website. Tim asked for State Associations' support to encourage the SRAs to send referees. They are looking for mostly Grade 5 and 6, and possibly some up and coming grade 7 referees. The veteran's Cup provides housing and most meals for the referees.

Region IV Hall of Fame: A nomination was submitted to induct Mike Edwards to the Region IV Hall of Fame. The nomination is pending the submittal of a resume for Mike.

USASA Hall of Fame: There are about a half dozen Region IV people that have been nominated to the USASA Hall of Fame.