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PROCEEDINGS

UNITED STATES ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld
Orlando, Florida
February 9, 2018
2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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(Commencing at 2:15 p.m.)

PRESIDENT MOTTA: So we will go on with opening the USASA Adult Council, the National Council Meeting.

Tony, do we need to do roll call again, right?

MR. FALCONE: Yup. To save time, the change in the roll call at this meeting is that the Adult Commissioners are not members, voting members of this USASA Adult Council or Adult Association.

So, we do have the officers, and some are wearing two hats, put on their second hat, and I will go through the regions and affiliates. I will again go through the ones that were missing at the previous meeting, and we'll make the record of the ones who were present at the Adult Council meeting present for this meeting. Is there any objections?

So the National Regional Officers for USASA, and I'm calling those who are present; you don't need to let me know you are here. President John Motta.

PRESIDENT MOTTA: Here.

MR. FALCONE: Vice-President Richard

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Moeller. Secretary Shonna Schradel. Treasurer Lori Stoneburner. Director-at-large, Werner Fricker. Director-at-Large, Cezar Wasecki. Region I Director, Fritz Marth. Region I Deputy Director, Anthony Falcone. Region I Secretary, Scott Mapes is representing Vermont for this meeting, not in his capacity as secretary. Region I Treasurer, John Kampke. Region II Director, Bill Davey. Region II Deputy Director, Nick Radu. Region II Secretary, Dyann Pugliese. Region II Treasurer Wayne Wilson. Region III Director, Darius Ejlali, Region III Deputy Director, Chaz Ballish. Region III Secretary, Karon Beyer. Region III Treasurer, Nick Calabro. Region IV Director, Paul Scherer. Region IV Deputy Director, Sergio Bolioli. Region IV Secretary, Roy Carlson, and Region IV Treasurer, Roger Hamilton.

Past presidents that are present: Mike Edwards and Richard Groff, each with one vote.

The only state association that was missing in the previous meeting was Delaware.

5	<p>1 Has anyone from Delaware shown up? And then</p> <p>2 among the leagues and the affiliates, we had</p> <p>3 Michigan at the last meeting, National Premier</p> <p>4 Soccer League. Anyone here from National Premier</p> <p>5 Soccer League? NPSL. Anyone here from the</p> <p>6 United Premier Soccer League?</p> <p>7 That should give us the total vote</p> <p>8 count, if everyone voted, of 207 votes.</p> <p>9 Jen, did you come up with the same</p> <p>10 number?</p> <p>11 MS. SUNDERLAND: I'm entering it</p> <p>12 right now.</p> <p>13 MR. FALCONE: It should be 207 votes.</p> <p>14 If Jen comes back with something a little</p> <p>15 different, I will come back and make everyone</p> <p>16 aware.</p> <p>17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. So I will</p> <p>18 just give you a brief report on USASA happenings</p> <p>19 since it's a whole new different National</p> <p>20 Council.</p> <p>21 This is just a couple of items I</p> <p>22 wanted to touch on, on stuff that has happened in</p> <p>23 the last few weeks. And a couple of weeks ago, I</p> <p>24 got invited to the Women's Premier Soccer</p> <p>25 League's Annual General Meeting in Las Vegas,</p>	7	<p>1 real interest in that cup.</p> <p>2 Speaking with the new ownership</p> <p>3 group, there's definitely a new spark of interest</p> <p>4 within that group to bring back the U.S. Women's</p> <p>5 Amateur Cup, the Michelle Akers Cup. And the one</p> <p>6 thing that we talked about when I spoke with the</p> <p>7 individual team owners at the meeting, which</p> <p>8 sparked a lot of interest, was the possibility of</p> <p>9 starting within U.S. Soccer, a U.S. Women's Open</p> <p>10 Cup, that would mimic what we do with the Men's</p> <p>11 Open Cup in U.S. Soccer. I think we're at a time</p> <p>12 where that discussion needs to be held.</p> <p>13 We do have a Women's Premier League</p> <p>14 who has been around now going on its sixth year.</p> <p>15 We have a lot of women in amateur teams, and</p> <p>16 having, again, David meet Goliath at the women's</p> <p>17 level would be a great competition and great</p> <p>18 stories to be told on that.</p> <p>19 So I'm very excited with the new</p> <p>20 league. And Jerry is here. Jerry, can you stand</p> <p>21 up for us. Everybody give Jerry a hand.</p> <p>22 (Applause.)</p> <p>23 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Jerry Zanelli.</p> <p>24 And the one thing that the league did</p> <p>25 that, well deserved, is they called the Women's</p>
6	<p>1 just a couple of weeks ago, and as many of you</p> <p>2 know, Jerry Zanelli started the Women's Premier</p> <p>3 Soccer League and has run it for pretty much 20</p> <p>4 years, I believe, and has finally decided to sell</p> <p>5 the league to another group. And they invited me</p> <p>6 over to their Annual General Meeting in Las</p> <p>7 Vegas, and I was quite impressed with the level</p> <p>8 of professionalism, and the level of ownership</p> <p>9 that's taken over this group.</p> <p>10 Is -- is Sean in the room, Sean</p> <p>11 Jones, is he here?</p> <p>12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right here.</p> <p>13 PRESIDENT MOTTA: There's Sean. Sean</p> <p>14 is one of the new owners of the Women's Premier</p> <p>15 Soccer League, and like I said, I was very</p> <p>16 impressed with what I saw in Las Vegas.</p> <p>17 I had a good meeting with the three</p> <p>18 new owners where we discussed the future of</p> <p>19 Women's Soccer within USASA, and what it's going</p> <p>20 to look like, and it was a breath of fresh air</p> <p>21 where we finally started talking about bringing</p> <p>22 back the Women's Amateur Cup, the Women's Open</p> <p>23 Cup, something that has been away from our game</p> <p>24 for the last four or five years -- not because we</p> <p>25 didn't want to do it, because it was a lack of</p>	8	<p>1 Premier National Championship Trophy named after</p> <p>2 Jerry Zanelli. So that was a very good tribute.</p> <p>3 I'm glad I was there.</p> <p>4 (Applause.)</p> <p>5 PRESIDENT MOTTA: So I see a lot of</p> <p>6 exciting things happening within women's soccer</p> <p>7 in the next year or two. My goal is to get the</p> <p>8 U.S. Women's Amateur Cup back on, enrolled in by</p> <p>9 2019. We're kind of a little behind. I know we</p> <p>10 have new ownership, and they're working on what</p> <p>11 they're going to do and getting their league</p> <p>12 started, but I'm more than confident that by next</p> <p>13 year, we will have that women's program back,</p> <p>14 back where it belongs.</p> <p>15 So again, thank you, gentlemen, for</p> <p>16 the invite, and good luck in your future league.</p> <p>17 Another meeting that I held with</p> <p>18 Duncan, which for me is very exciting, while we</p> <p>19 were in Philadelphia, I reached out to the, one</p> <p>20 of the founding members of the American Outlaws.</p> <p>21 Now everybody here knows who the American Outlaws</p> <p>22 are? They are the most passionate rabid fans in</p> <p>23 U.S. Soccer. These people, they party the night</p> <p>24 before, they buy tickets. They're at the field.</p> <p>25 They scream, they yell. This is what they call a</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>1 fan.</p> <p>2 So I was thinking to myself, what can</p> <p>3 we, how can we partner up with the American</p> <p>4 Outlaws and get them, being part of USASA? And</p> <p>5 make them part of our family and grow our</p> <p>6 association with, probably a membership that we</p> <p>7 don't have, commonly in USASA.</p> <p>8 So we've met with them, and we're</p> <p>9 going to have a follow-up meeting next week with</p> <p>10 them, with the American Outlaws, about what our</p> <p>11 vision is, that every time there's a national</p> <p>12 team game in the United States, whether it's a</p> <p>13 men's or a women's or whatever, these people,</p> <p>14 they always attend, and they have a whole bunch</p> <p>15 of different chapters from different parts of the</p> <p>16 country and different parts of the state. They</p> <p>17 all come and converge to watch the game.</p> <p>18 Why can't we, the night, the week,</p> <p>19 the day, before the game, set up mini-tournaments</p> <p>20 and have all of these different groups compete</p> <p>21 against each other?</p> <p>22 And when we had the meeting with all</p> <p>23 the commissioners, we also brought the idea up</p> <p>24 maybe at the MLS final, we hold a final the night</p> <p>25 before with the champions of these American</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>1 like I said, we're going to meet again this week</p> <p>2 with them, and I'm really looking forward to some</p> <p>3 really good outcomes with the American Outlaws.</p> <p>4 So saying that, those are probably</p> <p>5 two of the big things I see happening during this</p> <p>6 year, for USASA, to grow our membership.</p> <p>7 So, with that, I think I will</p> <p>8 conclude my rant here, and we'll go on with the</p> <p>9 agenda.</p> <p>10 We need to Confirm our Minutes from</p> <p>11 the Midyear Meeting, which was held in the fall.</p> <p>12 So, anybody have any additions or -- yes.</p> <p>13 MR. MOORE: Just a quick procedural</p> <p>14 comment on the minutes. I'm sure you probably</p> <p>15 e-mailed them out at some point prior to this</p> <p>16 meeting. They aren't on the website, which is</p> <p>17 probably because they haven't been approved yet,</p> <p>18 but they're not in here. And so we've got</p> <p>19 delegates who come by their state associations,</p> <p>20 not on the e-mail distribution list; if there's</p> <p>21 some way we can find in the future getting draft</p> <p>22 minutes to folks so that we all have a chance to</p> <p>23 get them.</p> <p>24 PRESIDENT MOTTA: I agree. I think</p> <p>25 administrative didn't put them into the book.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p>1 Outlaws that have been competing all year around</p> <p>2 different things. So I see it as a great</p> <p>3 opportunity for growth for USASA, you know,</p> <p>4 getting them involved with us, because those are</p> <p>5 the people that really love the game.</p> <p>6 And the one thing that really was</p> <p>7 interesting to me is while we were having this</p> <p>8 conversation, you could see that there's a</p> <p>9 love/hate relationship with U.S. Soccer. Even</p> <p>10 though they said they like the shield, and they</p> <p>11 like being part of U.S. Soccer, but they want an</p> <p>12 arm's length away from U.S. Soccer. They want to</p> <p>13 be able to go on social media and say something</p> <p>14 that they're not happy with and not have any</p> <p>15 repercussions. So that was one thing.</p> <p>16 And the second thing that really</p> <p>17 meant a lot was, he said, You know something,</p> <p>18 John? I was worried that this year because we</p> <p>19 did not qualify for the Men's World Cup that our</p> <p>20 membership would dwindle, because there's really</p> <p>21 nothing for our members to wrap their arms</p> <p>22 around. This might be the perfect band-aid for</p> <p>23 the American Outlaws to continue our growth and</p> <p>24 continue having our members excited with these</p> <p>25 tournaments and getting involved with us. So</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p>1 We'll do that next time.</p> <p>2 Thank you.</p> <p>3 Do we feel comfortable approving the</p> <p>4 minutes based on what was just said?</p> <p>5 So make a motion --</p> <p>6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Make a motion</p> <p>7 to approve, John.</p> <p>8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay, we have a</p> <p>9 motion to approve. Second?</p> <p>10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Second.</p> <p>11 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Any corrections or</p> <p>12 deletions? Okay, so they've been approved.</p> <p>13 Thank you.</p> <p>14 We have no other New Business. We</p> <p>15 have no Old Business.</p> <p>16 Yes, we have one election left to do,</p> <p>17 and that would be the Election for our</p> <p>18 Independent Director for USASA.</p> <p>19 And this has been a process that's</p> <p>20 been going on for over a year now. And we all</p> <p>21 believe that we do have the right candidate for</p> <p>22 this position to help USASA grow, and new ideas.</p> <p>23 I noticed some reluctance out there on bringing</p> <p>24 in a new independent director, but I give you my</p> <p>25 word that we've met this person. The Governance</p>

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1 Committee did their job and interviewed this
 2 person. So I'm going to ask everyone today to
 3 accept this nominee that they will present to the
 4 membership, by acclamation. Thank you.
 5 MR. GUTHRIE: Just to remind the
 6 Council, the Nominating Committee was tasked with
 7 finding an independent director, actually, two.
 8 The first one that we put forward, his name is
 9 Brett Hurwitz, is the gentleman that we place
 10 before the Council for your consideration today.
 11 The process, if you will think back, started back
 12 in 2016, when the Council voted to change our
 13 bylaws to allow these slots to be part of the
 14 Board of Directors.
 15 Secondly, when the nominating
 16 committee was given the task of going about
 17 finding and vetting this person, that process has
 18 taken place, and I can assure you the vetting
 19 process was more than any other candidate has
 20 ever been put through. They have actually passed
 21 a background check. They have passed BOD
 22 process. They have now met your Board of
 23 Directors.
 24 The individual has an extremely
 25 positive background. When I look at our Board of

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1 Directors, looking at the Governance Committee
 2 position, we have strengths, and we have some
 3 areas where we need to shore up our Board of
 4 Directors. The independent director position
 5 allows us to do that. This gentleman has
 6 generated over a half a billion dollars in
 7 sponsorship revenue. He was with Madison Square
 8 Garden, he's been with the New York Nicks, he's
 9 got a lot of experience. What an independent
 10 director does is bring an independent
 11 perspective. Even though the guy doesn't play
 12 soccer, I think I told you last time, his soccer
 13 career ended with a broken leg in college, he's
 14 not immersed in it, so he can work on it, if that
 15 makes sense.
 16 Too many times when we are in the
 17 business, we don't get a chance to step back and
 18 work on it. An independent director gives you
 19 that perspective. So I urge you, very much urge
 20 you, to vote favorably for this gentleman. And
 21 it will be for a two-year term.
 22 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you,
 23 Dave.
 24 Can I get a motion to --
 25 MR. BALLISH: Can I just ask a

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1 question? Is this a two-and-a-half year term?
 2 PRESIDENT MOTTA: No, it will --
 3 MR. BALLISH: Will, this will be our
 4 mid-year -- that's my question.
 5 PRESIDENT MOTTA: No.
 6 MR. BALLISH: Is it two and a half or
 7 a year and a half?
 8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Year and a half.
 9 MR. BALLISH: Thank you.
 10 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Yeah, we have one
 11 in a year and a half term, so this person, if
 12 elected today, will be eligible for reelection in
 13 2019 at the AGM.
 14 MR. BORTS: David Borts from the
 15 state of Rhode Island.
 16 I respect the process that the
 17 Governance Committee has gone through, having
 18 served on the committee, and the work that
 19 Mr. Guthrie has done.
 20 There is a problem, though, and I
 21 have to state it. We've talked about it this
 22 morning in our regional meeting, is that -- and
 23 I'm not saying it's -- you gentlemen and women
 24 have met and done what you consider your due
 25 diligence, and in all honesty, we are being asked

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1 to do something on good faith. We don't know.
 2 We don't have a resume. We have no knowledge.
 3 And, you know, given the way things
 4 have been transpiring, and not concerning this
 5 organization, perhaps, on the Federation this
 6 year, which has given a lot of people new
 7 perspective, it leaves you with some questions,
 8 not about the individual, but the process.
 9 Also, there was great concern in
 10 Tahoe about not seeing a face, which once again,
 11 we're not seeing, but we don't have any
 12 knowledge, which is worse than a face, is we
 13 don't have, we have not received a detailed
 14 background and knowledge about this individual.
 15 I don't have it today, and I know our membership
 16 doesn't have it.
 17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Dave.
 18 MR. GUTHRIE: Back on September 21st
 19 of '17 is when a packet went out, and in that
 20 packet was this gentleman's resume, his
 21 background, some comments from the Nominating
 22 Committee. So you have seen it. It's been a
 23 while since you have seen it, but it was there.
 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who did it go
 25 to?

17

1 MR. GUTHRIE: It went out to -- well,
 2 30 days prior to the meeting last year. One of
 3 the obligations is to make sure that the members
 4 of this council receive a packet of information.
 5 It was in that packet of information, and Duncan,
 6 if you would be kind enough, you could probably
 7 fill in some more detail.

8 MR. RIDDLE: There was a packet
 9 around the gentleman that went out on the 21st of
 10 September, 30 days before the Tahoe meeting. So
 11 I'm a little confused what I'm hearing now,
 12 because we talked about it on the floor at the
 13 meeting because everyone knew about it. So the
 14 information did go out because we had that
 15 conversation, and if you remember, rightly in
 16 Tahoe, there were some questions that the board
 17 wanted to put to the guy. And so we took it off
 18 the floor, if you remember rightly, and then he
 19 was then introduced to the board, and I think
 20 Fritz is going to talk about that right now.

21 So you have seen the information.
 22 You did get his packet. So I'm a little
 23 confused.

24 MR. MARTH: Fritz Marth, Region I.
 25 I spoke against the nomination at our

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1 meeting in Tahoe. I made them -- I was the first
 2 person to actually speak against it. I spoke
 3 against the nomination. I did not speak against
 4 the individual, because I did not know the
 5 individual at that time. That's actually why I
 6 spoke against it. I had never met the individual
 7 beforehand.

8 In the meantime, we did have a
 9 chance, the board did have a chance to meet him.
 10 We had dinner with him at our meeting in
 11 Philadelphia, and a couple of us actually went
 12 out there to where the coaches convention was and
 13 just met him socially and had a drink with him.

14 Having met with him -- and I know you
 15 haven't met him, but now the board, the
 16 Governance Committee has met him, now the board
 17 has met him. I certainly find that he is a
 18 qualified individual. He's a very nice person,
 19 let me put it that way. He's a nice guy, but
 20 apart from that, he seems to be a very competent
 21 individual, and he certainly does bring something
 22 to the board as far as his background goes that
 23 we don't have.

24 So, I certainly would speak in favor
 25 of Mr. Hurwitz being elected to the board at this

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1 time.

2 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Yes. Dave.
 3 MR. LARABA: Dave Laraba, West By God
 4 Virginia.

5 As we talked in the regions meeting
 6 today, and Fritz, he expressed that he had a need
 7 to know more and to meet the person.

8 And my remark, with all due respect,
 9 what's the difference for us?

10 I would assume that the board had the
 11 documents that Dave and Duncan referred to on
 12 this gentleman, and if that wasn't good enough
 13 for you, why is it good enough for us? That's a
 14 question I have.

15 MR. GUTHRIE: If I may respond to
 16 that.

17 You have a committee, a Governance
 18 and Nominating Committee. One of our roles and
 19 responsibilities is to evaluate how we operate as
 20 a council, how we operate as a board, so that we
 21 can be more high-performing.

22 To suggest that each of us would have
 23 to actually meet a person suggests that we're
 24 going to go back to a kitchen table type of
 25 operation. And I would highly recommend that we

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1 not do that. If we want to grow our
 2 membership -- and we have been flat for a long
 3 time -- we've got to step forward. We've got to
 4 start operating in a much more high-performing
 5 manner. We want to gain the respect of whoever
 6 is on the Board of Directors of U.S. Soccer. We
 7 have to operate as a high-performing group. We
 8 cannot operate still on a kitchen table.

9 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Dave.
 10 MR. BUSCH: Mr. Chairman?
 11 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Tim.
 12 MR. BUSCH: Tim Busch, Washington.

13 We passed the bylaw to add
 14 independent directors to our Board of Directors.
 15 In our discussions and having worked at -- with
 16 the board and not being on the board, but being
 17 an Adult Commissioner working on committees
 18 throughout the years, I value people from all
 19 over the country. And at some point in any
 20 organization, you have to ask an obvious
 21 question: Are you committed to making the change
 22 that the membership voted for? Or are we going
 23 to argue like they did in the Paris Peace Talks
 24 for four years about the shape of the table? And
 25 that's what it's really boiled down to.

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1 If you have a qualified candidate,
 2 where the game is solvent, as far as membership
 3 is concerned, we desperately need a different
 4 point of view. And as you mentioned, the term
 5 was a year and a half. And so at some point,
 6 it's time to either fulfill our commitment to add
 7 somebody to the board, or somebody should make a
 8 bylaw change and back out of it.

9 Thank you.

10 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Tim.
 11 Well said. Bill -- who is speaking? Oh, I'm
 12 sorry, Tom.

13 MR. MOORE: Tom Moore, Northern
 14 California.

15 I'm going to vote in favor of this,
 16 but then I was at the Tahoe meeting and did at
 17 least get to look at some of the paper, and I
 18 would like to have seen a face myself, but I do
 19 think we need to make a decision. But I do have
 20 to defend a couple of my noted California folks
 21 who weren't here at the Tahoe meeting, and
 22 therefore never did get a chance to see it, so I
 23 just remind us that probably, if we bring
 24 something back, it needs to go out to all the
 25 delegates who are coming to the current meeting,

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1 because this is a somewhat fluid membership and a
 2 little unfair to some of those folks who haven't
 3 seen anything.

4 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you.
 5 Bill.

6 MR. GEORGE: Hi, good afternoon.
 7 Bill George, from Maryland.

8 I -- because Brett is in my own
 9 backyard, he actually lives -- I live in Towson,
 10 Maryland, U.S. Lacrosse is based in Hunt Valley,
 11 just ten miles from my home. I work downtown at
 12 T. Rowe Price, and Brett just lives in South
 13 Point. For those of you who are familiar with
 14 Baltimore, it's two miles from me. So I just
 15 took it upon myself as an active member of this
 16 body, it was like, he is potentially going to be
 17 on my board.

18 So we had a very thorough and nice
 19 lunch meeting for an hour-plus, and I can tell
 20 you that he is very qualified for the job. He
 21 has got tremendous sports marketing experience
 22 from his time in Madison Square Garden network
 23 with U.S. Lacrosse, but he understands, like
 24 inventorying assets, what do we have to sell?
 25 How can we activate partnerships to add value for

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1 our sponsors and our partners? So he absolutely
 2 would be valuable for us.

3 And I raised this in Tahoe, so I
 4 wanted to address it a little bit -- I'm not
 5 going to go into too much detail about it here --
 6 but I know there were some concerns about
 7 conflicts of interest. One, I think, we talked
 8 about fields, and I had mentioned this myself,
 9 that's kind of a red herring. I don't think
 10 everyone can disregard that. He has no role in
 11 that, in U.S. Lacrosse, and I can tell you in
 12 Maryland, we compete with lacrosse all the time,
 13 but in any event, he may actually even be an ally
 14 to actually help foster communications with his
 15 role on the board. So I think that's a red
 16 herring. People shouldn't be hung up on that.

17 Now, in terms of his role with U.S.
 18 Lacrosse and being a board -- a director on our
 19 BOD, he has a fiduciary duty, a duty and a
 20 loyalty to us. He will potentially have a duty
 21 of loyalty to his employer, but I don't foresee
 22 that as a barrier. I think conflicts come up
 23 potentially all the time, right? And we -- just
 24 make sure we have a process to recuse him, if
 25 there's a certain thing that comes before the

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1 board that we have a process that he gets
 2 recused and removes himself. So I know that's
 3 come up, so I don't think we should be hung up
 4 on that.

5 I'm afraid we have been stringing him
 6 along for a while. He is a candidate, and we
 7 don't want to lose him. We should take conflicts
 8 of interest seriously, check into his
 9 environment. We have seen all the chatter with
 10 federations.

11 So to the extent we don't have a
 12 thorough policy or maybe we need to take this
 13 opportunity to also revisit our conflicts policy
 14 and make sure it's tight and sound, it should be
 15 someone who has maybe dual obligations for,
 16 potentially, from a team entity, in terms of
 17 sponsorships and partnerships, maybe that should
 18 be -- this is an opportunity to take a look at
 19 that, but I don't think that needs to be a reason
 20 for us to not vote.

21 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.
 22 Any other comments?
 23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Move the
 24 question.
 25 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. So, I don't

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1 think we have any other nominees.
 2 So, by a show of hands, everyone
 3 in attendance that approves the nomination of
 4 this individual to our board, please raise your
 5 hand.
 6 Okay. So it looks like it passes.
 7 Thank you very much.
 8 I think this was a great decision
 9 based on the individual and based on the needs of
 10 the board.
 11 Again, we put in two independent
 12 directors, because we wanted some expertise on
 13 our board of certain areas that none of us have.
 14 And one of the things we have been lacking for a
 15 very long time is marketing expertise, which is
 16 his forte.
 17 I'm going to challenge everybody --
 18 which this has been my goal -- as the second
 19 independent director, I would really love to see
 20 a Hispanic person that is involved highly in
 21 media, Hispanic media. So, if anyone out there
 22 knows of an individual who is of Hispanic
 23 descent -- because one thing we talk about all
 24 the time is we need to reach out to the
 25 affiliates in the Hispanic community, and what

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1 best way, if we can get an independent director
 2 that's involved with the media, on a good level,
 3 that is Hispanic and has a respect of the
 4 Hispanic community nationally, what a great
 5 person that could be on this board.
 6 So I'm challenging everyone in this
 7 room, because we come from all parts of the
 8 country, all parts of life, if you know of an
 9 individual that would be interested that meets
 10 that criteria, either let myself know or the
 11 governance committee know or Duncan, because I
 12 think that would be another link that would
 13 strengthen this board and bring something that we
 14 desperately need to this board.
 15 So that's a challenge to everyone in
 16 the room to come up with that individual.
 17 Okay.
 18 So, we're moving on. Let's get to
 19 the Good of the Game. Anybody who would like to
 20 speak to the Good of the Game before we adjourn?
 21 Yes, Peter.
 22 MR. PINORI: Usually, and it's
 23 probably us, we are, very quickly criticize what
 24 the board does, and when I think that they do
 25 something right, we should also recognize them.

27

1 A while back, I asked John -- you
 2 know, I got an e-mail from the youth one time, by
 3 mistake. They actually gave a recap of what
 4 happened at the USSF meeting. And I thought it
 5 was something that we should have gotten too. So
 6 I asked John to do that for us. And most of you
 7 know, we receive an e-mail every time there's a
 8 USSF meeting, actually John sends out a res- -- a
 9 summary of what happened, which keeps us all
 10 informed, and I think it's a good thing. So I
 11 wanted to recognize that. Like I said, I'm quick
 12 to criticize, but I also want to say thank you
 13 for that, John.
 14 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you.
 15 MR. PINORI: And the other thing I
 16 also wanted to mention is another good thing that
 17 the board did, with Duncan and John and I guess
 18 the rest of the board, you know, we have a major
 19 election coming up, right? Tomorrow. Something
 20 we haven't had for a very, very, long time, and I
 21 think John took the lead with Duncan, and as all
 22 of you received the questions that they sent out
 23 to the candidates and their responses, and I
 24 think that makes us better, because at least you
 25 listen to what they're saying, not that it means

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1 that they're going to do it, because everybody
 2 promises you everything when they are running for
 3 something, right? At least, we know the insights
 4 from the people. So I wanted to say thank you
 5 for that also.
 6 Okay. That's all I have to say.
 7 (Applause.)
 8 MR. DAVEY: Bill Davey, Region II
 9 Director.
 10 I just have a couple of things on the
 11 Good of the Game, and -- excuse me -- one
 12 addresses the concerns that I just heard about
 13 the process of nominating an independent
 14 director. The board learned a lot of valuable
 15 lessons on the procedures, on how you are going
 16 to -- we had a long discussion yesterday about
 17 how we can make the process better, tweak up the
 18 policy, and ensure that the membership gets
 19 involved with notifications and information about
 20 those being brought forth. So please rest
 21 assured that the board heard what you said and
 22 had already discussed it yesterday. And we're
 23 going to work on making the process a little bit
 24 more transparent for the membership. That's
 25 Number 1.

<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p>1 Number 2 is involving the National 2 Cups. As you all will recall, we combined our 3 National Cup programs into a U.S. National 4 Championship. 5 A couple of us in the room have been 6 around a long time, and some of our teams 7 scrambled and talked to us, Fritz and I, in 8 particular, about, well, we like the Over 30, and 9 we like the Men's Open Cup. So the regional 10 directors got together, and we resurrected the 11 Werner Fricker Cup and the Gerhard Mengel Over 30 12 Cup and probably will add an Over 40 National 13 Championship this year. 14 This is done regionally and funded 15 primarily by the region who hosts. So we have 16 done it two years in a row with quite great 17 success, and the regional directors know all 18 about it. So if you have teams that are 19 interested, it's regional champions this year. 20 Region I was the first year, Region II, second 21 year, Region III is going to be this year, and it 22 will be held, I'm speaking for Region III, it 23 will be held this year in Sarasota, Florida, the 24 second weekend in August -- 25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Third.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">31</p> <p>1 It is patterned after some of 2 Southern California's rather firm open governance 3 laws, but we're certainly open, since it's in 4 draft form, to anyone's specific opinions about 5 that policy. 6 I would be happy to provide an 7 electronic copy to anyone, or if there's enough 8 demand for it, Duncan might distribute it on the 9 USASA website, but we can certainly be looking 10 for your feedback on it, what parts of it you 11 like, what parts of it you don't, or simply to 12 answer questions to make folks fully understand 13 it. 14 Thank you. 15 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Tom. 16 Rob. 17 MR. LA VIELLE: Thank you, John. 18 For the Good of the Game, I want to 19 recognize Richard Groff, who is now, not on the 20 Adult Council anymore, but I really want to thank 21 him for spearheading the ask for the fee 22 reduction, and we will continue it. I hope I can 23 continue the good work also on the Adult Council 24 and get this done, and I, actually tomorrow, I 25 would like to call it a rollback, which it is,</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>1 MR. DAVEY: Third weekend in 2 August -- I'm sorry -- the third weekend in 3 August -- you should have said this -- the third 4 weekend in August in Sarasota, Florida, and we 5 will compete for the Men's Open Cup, the Over 30 6 Gerhard Mengel Cup, Werner Fricker Cup is the 7 Open Cup, and we would like to solicit opinions 8 on a name, if we have the Over 40 National 9 Championship, to have an Over 40 National Cup 10 named for a prestigious individual that's been 11 part of our membership for a period of time. 12 So please talk to your regional 13 directors on how you go about getting teams 14 qualified to come do this. It's been a great 15 experience the last two years, and the teams and 16 the players love it. So, thank you. 17 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Tom was next, and 18 then we'll go to Rob. 19 MR. MOORE: So we've heard a lot of 20 discussion over the last couple of months about 21 concerns from the Federation with respect to 22 transparency. So in Northern California, we have 23 drafted a transparency policy, a very specific 24 one that we do intend to bring before the 25 Federation next year.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">32</p> <p>1 and the support that this council comes together 2 and unanimous, to stand up, and just show the 3 Federation that this is very, very important to 4 their membership, their membership, not the other 5 way around. 6 Thank you, Richard. Appreciate your 7 work. 8 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thank you, Rob. 9 (Applause.) 10 MR. BUSCH: I also want to echo what 11 Rob said about working with Richard. It's been a 12 real pleasure, as much as you all know that we 13 have fiercely opposed each other at times, you 14 have a good heart and you do lots of good work, 15 so I've appreciated working with you a lot. So 16 thank you. 17 As the host of the Soccer Fest, we're 18 really proud that we will be hosting the event in 19 July, July 10th through the 15th, in Bellingham. 20 We're the only location -- I think it will be the 21 fifth time we've hosted it. We currently have, I 22 think, 74 teams that are participating, and we 23 have lots of athletes around and clubs who are 24 looking for players. We will work with the 25 Chicago office on that.</p>

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1 The other thing that John appointed
 2 me to run a task force last year to deal with
 3 Walk Soccer. We have a marketing person through
 4 USASA that's trying to build the brand. We're
 5 looking at some domain names. We have added
 6 people to the committee, to that Task Force, from
 7 all around the country.

8 So during the Soccer Fest, we will be
 9 offering both exhibitions and play for players
 10 throughout the five days of the event. You can
 11 either come as a team, you can be a player on one
 12 of the rosters, you get a strong opportunity to
 13 play, and there's no cost; you simply have to be
 14 registered with USASA. So it's a great
 15 opportunity.

16 And in addition, we are going to do
 17 another exhibition of Walk Soccer in Buffalo.
 18 Ours was sort of disrupted by, I believe, the
 19 referee discussion in Tahoe -- I'm sure that's
 20 probably four hours we will never get back -- so
 21 thank you.

22 PRESIDENT MOTTA: All right.
 23 MR. CULLEN: Darag Cullen.
 24 So again, welcome everybody to
 25 Florida.

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1 Just want to let everybody know that
 2 after we adjourn, we're going to kick a ball
 3 around in the back by the pool, there's good turf
 4 grass back there, so if you have your runners, or
 5 you just want to walk, that's fine, we're just
 6 going to knock the ball around.

7 Later on this evening, when we get
 8 back from Hollywood Studios, we have a
 9 hospitality suite, and it's on the 7th floor. If
 10 you have a pen, you can write this number down,
 11 it's 7067, and the secret password to get in is
 12 knock-knock.

13 Welcome home.

14 MR. MOELLER: Richard Moeller here.
 15 Just wanted to let everybody know
 16 again, to remind you -- some of you don't know,
 17 come see me, I'll explain a little more about
 18 it -- but let's not forget there is a U.S.
 19 Soccer, a growth initiative fund that has \$2.5
 20 million in it, and they started it last year. I
 21 wanted to again commend Tim Busch for Washington
 22 State Adults for actually submitting a grant
 23 request and getting \$40,000-plus for the Walking
 24 Soccer idea, the only adults, I think, that did
 25 something like that. There were a lot of youth

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1 organizations that got funds, including for
 2 Futsal and Alaska youth, things like that. So
 3 remember that if you have ideas, anything,
 4 whether you tried it before or something
 5 brand-new that could grow the game of soccer
 6 you could put a grant request in, and you would
 7 probably get approved.

8 So, let's not forget about that. Not
 9 just for state associations, but also USASA. We
 10 should look into that as well for some of the
 11 programs that we want to do. So please, if you
 12 need help with anything, let us know, and we'll
 13 try to help you out.

14 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Are you ready to
 15 speak, Dave?
 16 MR. LARABA: Dave Laraba, West By God
 17 Virginia.

18 As we were talking about the
 19 Federation and not making the World Cup and all
 20 the pandering that's going on and how bad things
 21 are, just take a little walk back how far we have
 22 come and some of the people that made it happen.
 23 And Sunil is one. And the other one is our good
 24 friend, Richard Groff. And it wasn't always
 25 peaches and cream. I remember taking a group of

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1 about 8-, 12- 14-year-old boys in a van over to
 2 RK Stadium for "U.S. versus IX," right, Richard?
 3 And we got there early -- because it was -- to
 4 get across West Virginia, you got to make sure
 5 you leave some time. So we had some time. We
 6 got there two and a half hours early. We walked
 7 up to the front entrance, and there's Richard
 8 standing there with a stack of program boxes. He
 9 said, We forgot to get anybody to sell the
 10 programs. You are in charge. Here.

11 The next thing you know, we have 8-
 12 or 9-, 12-, 13-year-olds running around the
 13 stadium selling programs.

14 It worked out. But it was, kind of,
 15 that's the way things were back then.

16 And you know Richard made a lot of
 17 things happen that everyone takes for granted
 18 now. But it wasn't that way in the '80s and the
 19 organizers. So, Richard, you still owe me for
 20 some of those programs, but thank you for
 21 everything you have done to lift this game.
 22 (Applause.)
 23 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Tony.
 24 MR. FALCONE: Tony Falcone, Deputy
 25 Director Region I.

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1 This morning at our Region I meeting,
 2 we presented and announced a few of our honorees
 3 for awards for our region. The first was
 4 presented by Sal Rapaglia of Eastern New York,
 5 the Livio D'Arpino Award where they recognize an
 6 individual from our region who has provided
 7 service both within the state association and/or
 8 the region.

9 And our recipient this morning was
 10 Jim Sadowsky of Metro D.C. Virginia. So
 11 congratulations, Jim, on receiving that Livio
 12 D'Arpino Award.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. FALCONE: Fritz also announced
 15 that they will be presenting these awards more
 16 locally. Our coach this year, and that was
 17 Austin Friehl, who coached the Landowne Bhoys,
 18 who won, listed the Fritz Marth Trophy for the
 19 Amateur Cup, and the Werner Fricker Open Cup, as
 20 well as winning the Cosmopolitan League, and
 21 several other Eastern New York Cup competitions.

22 So congratulations to Austin from
 23 Eastern New York.

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. FALCONE: Andy Weiss presented to

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1 us the Lifetime Achievement Award for our
 2 Referees. And Andy, please remind me of the name
 3 of the individual --

4 MR. WEISS: C.J. Morganti.

5 MR. FALCONE: C.J. Morganti of?

6 MR. WEISS: Of West P.A.

7 MR. FALCONE: -- of P.A. West, so
 8 congratulations to C.J.

9 And then the final award was the
 10 Rocco Amoroso Award for Fair Play. Many of you
 11 remember Rocco. He passed away a few years ago,
 12 and he would always come here and speak about
 13 fair play and how we needed to instill that in
 14 all of our programs, whether it be youth, adult,
 15 or professional. And this year's recipient was
 16 Michael Fricker of Eastern Pennsylvania. And
 17 Michael has been doing a great deal promoting,
 18 not only for Region I, but all of USASA, for our
 19 various competitions, leagues, people from the
 20 past who contributed to this great game.

21 So we would like to congratulate
 22 Michael for the outstanding job that he's done.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. RIDDLE: I have one very quick
 25 one. Talking about recognition of people, we

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1 talked a little bit earlier about our minutes,
 2 and they take a lot of work at these National
 3 Council Meetings, and Deb Resling has been taking
 4 our minutes for many, many, many years, and has
 5 been inducted into the soccer family. Debbie is
 6 actually retiring.

7 So I would like, if everyone would
 8 just give a Deb a round of applause because it's
 9 going to be very hard to replace her.

10 (Applause.)

11 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Thanks, everyone.

12 This will be the last comment, and I
 13 want to end it with the elections.

14 As we all know tomorrow, we have a
 15 very serious election going on for President of
 16 U.S. Soccer. We have eight candidates, which
 17 have talked to all of you, have sent out more
 18 information than we've ever had. So I think you
 19 are pretty well informed on what you are going to
 20 do tomorrow and, you know, who you are going to
 21 support.

22 I have taken the -- I made the
 23 decision early on that I was not going to
 24 publicly endorse anyone, and I can say that
 25 in front of everyone here and state I have not

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1 made one call to anybody in this room to change
 2 your mind or to give you my opinions or to tell
 3 you who to vote for, because I think everybody in
 4 this room is capable enough to make that decision
 5 on their own.

6 But it's going to be a very important
 7 decision tomorrow. The one thing I will say is no
 8 matter who wins -- and I have talked hours with every
 9 one of these candidates -- I feel very confident
 10 that whoever becomes the leader of U.S. Soccer
 11 tomorrow, we will be in a very good place, whether
 12 it's Kathy or Carlos or Eric or Kyle, or any of the
 13 others, we will be in a very, very, good place. So --
 14 I know I didn't mention the other four -- my memory,
 15 my memory is going. I'm getting old. I knew I was
 16 going to get crap for --

17 (Multiple simultaneous conversations.)

18 PRESIDENT MOTTA: In all
 19 seriousness, it's a big decision, and the one
 20 thing I will say is, you know, I have been
 21 around this game, like Richard and Dave, you
 22 know, for 30-plus years, went through many
 23 kinds of elections. This one has to go
 24 down in the history as the nastiest, the
 25 dirtiest election I have ever been involved with.

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1 And there's no need for that in our game.
 2 Because at the end of the day, all eight
 3 candidates, they want what's best for the game,
 4 what's best for U.S. Soccer. Everybody in this
 5 room wants what's best for U.S. Soccer and what's
 6 best for us, right, but the nastiness that's
 7 going on out there and has been going on for
 8 months and months and months, there's no need for
 9 that in our meeting. And you know, I want to
 10 commend most of the people in this room that we
 11 didn't stoop to that level. You know, we kept it
 12 above board. Everybody has got their decision,
 13 they've made their opinions, you know, but I have
 14 seen a couple of, maybe, friendships broken over
 15 this, which is a sad piece of the puzzle, because
 16 at the end of the day, we're doing this because
 17 we love the game. And again one thing, I'm
 18 confident in, is, whoever comes up president
 19 tomorrow will be in a very good place and their
 20 heart will be in the right place to lead us
 21 forward.
 22 So good luck tomorrow. Have fun in
 23 Disney tonight. And I want to thank everyone for
 24 the vote of confidence in me again, another
 25 couple of years. What's that?

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Do we need a
 2 motion to --
 3 PRESIDENT MOTTA: We need a motion to
 4 adjourn.
 5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So move.
 6 PRESIDENT MOTTA: Okay. Thank you.
 7 (Applause.)
 8 (Adjourned at 3:00 p.m.)
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 2 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
 3
 4
 5 I, DEBRA K. RESLING, RMR, and Certified
 6 Realtime Reporter appointed to take the meetings of
 7 the United States Adult Soccer Association, do
 8 certify that the within proceedings of the National
 9 Council Meeting were taken by me stenographically in
 10 Orlando, Florida, on February 9, 2018 then reduced to
 11 typewritten form consisting of 43 pages herein; that
 12 the foregoing is a true transcript of the proceedings
 13 had.
 14
 15
 16 In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand
 17 this 7th day of March, 2018.
 18
 19
 20 
 21 _____
 22 Debra K. Resling, CRR, RMR
 23 Registered Merit Reporter
 24 and Notary Public.
 25 4 Cheyenne Blvd.,
 Colorado Springs, CO 80905
 My commission expires February 28, 2021

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