



**USA Softball Board of Directors  
Video Meeting  
February 24, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Cobb called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. CT.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Board of Directors (BOD) members present were Rodney Cobb; John Gouveia; Joe Patterson (joined meeting at 3:20); Beverly Wiley; John McPhail; James Ellis; Walker Clark (joined meeting at 3:07); Darrin Duistermars (left meeting at 4:59); Mary Mahoney; Dick Gulmon (left meeting at 4:45); Roger Garcia; Anna Louie; Donn Addante; Sandy Searcy; Valerie Arioto; Michelle Moultrie; and Cam Schiller.

Absent – Drew Wells; David James; and Nick Mullins.

Staff: Craig Cress, Cheryl Bond, Chris Sebren, Rich Cress, Savannah Edwards, Jay Hedrick, Devin Loehrs, Destinee Martinez, Andrea McKee (joined meeting at 3:20), Kevin Ryan, and Julie Whiteaker.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Cress, declared that a quorum had been established. Mr. Cress also updated the board on the resignation of Katie Willis who has agreed to serve as a contract employee covering all NCAA duties, the posting of marketing and communication positions by Andrea McKee and the process to address IT staffing needs.

**3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

No amendments were made to the agenda.

**4. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

IT – Savannah Edwards, Managing Director

Ms. Edwards provided the latest production report numbers through January 31, 2021.

Sport Development/Performance – Chris Sebren, Chief of Sport Development/Performance Officer (CSDPO)

Mr. Sebren reported the Women's team had a successful February camp in Arlington, Texas that was hosted by the Texas Rangers Youth Academy. Weather forced camp to break early and games against Team Mexico were cancelled. March Camp will be held in Clearwater and Team Mexico will be there for a series of games and additional games are scheduled against USF and the University of Florida in preparation for Tokyo 2020. He also reported on the High Performance Program (HPP) outlining the success from the fall and how things were shaping up this winter and spring. Several identifiers on the schedule for the next couple of months and

the program continues to generate interest. Mr. Sebren also provided an update of The Alliance statistics noting an increase in January of 81 teams, 625 athletes and 192 support personnel. This would make The Alliance our 8<sup>th</sup> largest association if it were so recognized. Athlete Director Moultrie inquired about the HPP regional competitions in 2021. Mr. Sebren reported that not all regions will be able to host those events due to COVID restrictions and time constraints and alternate procedures will be utilized to field any national teams required in 2021.

#### Financials – Cheryl Bond, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Bond presented a proposed Board Policy that outlined a schedule for registration cutoff and rebate payments related to The Alliance. The schedule is as follows: Alliance Partnership Rebates will be processed in accordance with Company policy related to eligibility and based on the following schedule: Registrations received between 9/1 and 12/31 will be paid by February 28th. Registrations received between 1/1 and 4/30 will be paid by June 30th. Registrations received between 5/1 and 8/31 will be paid by October 31st.

**M/S/C – The Alliance Rebate Policy was approved.**

#### Umpires – Kevin Ryan, Independent Contractor and Director of Umpires

Mr. Ryan provided a verbal report on the 2021 umpire schools held around the country. So far in 2021, two clinics have been held 100% virtually, 1 was a hybrid of virtual and in-person and Arkansas as in-person. All have been well received and attended. The UIC Clinic had over 700 registered attendees and was held 100% virtually. The clinic was well received, and several Regional UICs will be using the leftover gifts as incentives to help market the program to newer umpires. Mr. Ryan also reported that USAS will supply 2 additional umpires to the 2021 WBSC U18 Women's World Cup.

#### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

No Old Business was addressed.

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

No New Business was addressed.

#### **7. BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE**

March 24, 2021 at 3:00pm CST regularly scheduled meeting

#### **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**M/S/C – Motion to enter Executive Session.**

**M/S/C – Motion to exit out of Executive Session with the following motions made:**

- A. Directed members to submit questions to staff regarding the finalized agreement with an awards provider by 12:00pm on Friday, February 26, 2021 and then agreement will be voted on electronically as soon as questions are answered to Board satisfaction.**
- B. Approved Dave Myers, Avon Meacham and Bob Piddock as assistant coaches for the U-18 Men's National Team.**
- C. Approved Mike Hopkins as an assistant coach for the U-23 Men's National Team; the Board of Directors requested additional information on the other two coaching staff recommendations.**
- D. Approved the Delinquent Association Rebate Policy.**
- E. Approved the resolution of issues with a local association.**
- F. Approved requiring Social Security Numbers for background checks starting with the 2022 season, which begins September 1, 2021.**

The Board was updated on sponsorship contract negotiations and informed of a secured sponsorship of the March WNT training camp.

**9. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m. CT on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.