

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Location	Date	Time	Format
Zoom	May 24, 2023	2:00 p.m. CT	Virtual

In Attendance

Board Members		
Joe Patterson	President	Present
Dave Devine	President-Elect	Present
Rodney Cobb	Immediate Past President	Present
Beverly Wiley	Northeast Regional Vice-President	Present
John McPhail	Central Atlantic Regional Vice-President	Absent
James Ellis	Southeast Regional Vice-President	Absent
Walker Clark	South Regional Vice-President	Present, left at 3:15 p.m.
Richard Merritt	Southwest Regional Vice-President	Present
Darrin Duistermars	Midwest Regional Vice-President	Present
Mary Mahoney	Mid-America Regional Vice-President	Present
Dick Gulmon	Northern Regional Vice-President	Present
Roger Garcia	Northwest Mountain Regional Vice-President	Present, joined at 2:05 p.m.
Anna Louie	Pacific Coast Regional Vice-President	Present
Donn Addante	Elected At-Large Representative	Present
Sandy Searcy	Allied / Affiliated Members	Present, left at 3:59 p.m.
David James	Independent Director	Present, left at 3:15 p.m.
Ally Carda	Elite Athlete Representative	Present
Nick Mullins	Elite Athlete Representative	Present, joined at 2:45 p.m.
Michelle Moultrie	Elite Athlete Representative	Present
Cam Schiller	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Joshua Johnson	Elite Athlete Representative	Present
Aubree Munro	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Kelsey Stewart	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Lovieanne Jung	Elite Athlete Representative	Present
Others Present		
Craig Cress	CEO	Present
Cheryl Bond	CFO, Minute Taker	Present
Chris Sebren	Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer	Present
Allison Flaig	Chief of Staff	Present
Andrea McKee	Director of Marketing	Present
Jay Hedrick	Managing Director of Network Systems	Present
Devin Loehrs	Director of IT	Present
Morgan Palmer	Director of Communications	Present
Steve Wolter	Strategic Plan Consultant	Joined from 2:14 p.m.- 3:08 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order

President Patterson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. CT.

Conflicts of Interest

“Is any member aware of any conflict of interest (that is, of a personal interest or direct or indirect pecuniary interest) in any matter being considered by this meeting, which should now be reported or disclosed or addressed under the USA Softball Conflict of Interest Policy?”

“If a Board member determines there to be a conflict of interest at any point during the course of the meeting when a specific subject is being discussed and / or action is being taken, a declaration of a conflict of interest should be made at this time.”

“This is also a reminder that no confidential information disclosed during this meeting, or while doing any of the business of USA Softball can be used for the benefit of any other entity.”

It was noted that all Commissioners on the Board have an inherent conflict of interest when discussing and voting on the proposed bylaw amendment related to board composition.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was determined as noted in the “In Attendance” grid.

3. Approve the Agenda and Minutes

MOTION	BD	23-05	01
To approve the agenda for the meeting as presented.			
Moved	Sandy Searcy	Seconded	Darrin Duistermars
CARRIED			

4. Management Report

CEO Cress reported that Director James Ellis passed away yesterday from cancer. The Board observed a moment of silence in James’ honor.

CEO Cress presented the updated production reports through April 2023. Reports are positive for 2023 but team registrations are behind 2022 to this point in the season and umpire registrations continue to lag based on the play occurring around the country.

CEO Cress presented the monthly stadium report for April.

5. Old Business

Steve Wolter and COO Flaig presented a slide presentation to the Board outlining the final strategic plan as developed by staff and the Board over the last 2 years. President Patterson, Directors Moultrie and Carda contributed to the discussion.

MOTION	BD	23-05	02
To approve the Strategic Plan as presented.			
Moved	Sandy Searcy	Seconded	Mary Mahoney
CARRIED			

6. New Business

Director Addante presented a Bylaw amendment from the Governance Committee related to the composition of the Board of Directors. Affected Bylaws would include 7.5, 7.6, 7.7 and 6.4. Directors Mahoney, Duistermars, Moultrie, Searcy, Johnson, Cobb, Wiley, Garcia, Addante, and President Patterson contributed to the discussion. The motion was tabled until the June Board of Directors meeting. Director Addante will forward the options to the Governance Committee and will also be considered for review by the Regional Vice Presidents.

MOTION	BD	23-05	03
To approve the amendment for Bylaw Sections 7.5 as presented.			
Moved	Dick Gulmon	Seconded	Sandy Searcy
Motion to table by Rodney Cobb and second by Bev Wiley - CARRIED			

MOTION	BD	23-05	04
To table amendment for Bylaw Sections 7.6 to the June meeting.			
Moved	Donn Addante	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

MOTION	BD	23-05	05
To approve Bylaw 7.7 amendment as presented.			
Moved	Donn Addante	Seconded	Beverly Wiley
CARRIED			

7. Executive Session

MOTION	BD	23-05	06
To enter Executive Session at 3:14 p.m.			
Moved	Darrin Duistermars	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

President Patterson and CEO Cress discussed the recent association review of Arizona in relation to viability following the retirement of Commissioner Pena.

MOTION	BD	23-05	07
To approve Arizona as a viable association.			
Moved	Anna Louie	Seconded	Darrin Duistermars
CARRIED			

CEO Cress noted that interviews for the Colorado commissioner will be tomorrow, and Jeff Sell has been selected as the new commissioner of Pennsylvania.

President Patterson reported on a recent meeting with CEO Cress, COO Flaig, President Patterson, President-Elect Devine, Past-President Cobb, Regional Vice President Merritt and Commissioner Thomas from Oklahoma regarding the status of the association.

CEO Cress presented the application for Andy Loechner as Commissioner Emeritus.

MOTION	BD	23-05	08
To approve Andy Loechner as Commissioner Emeritus.			
Moved	Bev Wiley	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

Director Gulmon presented the Finance Committee's recommendation to price all ACE levels at \$20.00 beginning on September 1, 2023, for the 2024 season. Directors Mahoney and Gulmon contributed to the discussion.

MOTION	BD	23-05	09
To approve the Finance Committee recommendation for ACE pricing effective for the 2024 season.			
Moved	Dick Gulmon	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented a request from Johnson City Tennessee for a reduction in the required fees for the 2023 championship from \$400 per team to \$100 per team. Director Mahoney contributed to the discussion.

CEO Cress presented a coaching change to the college team slated to play in Japan this summer.

MOTION	BD	23-05	10
To approve Mike Roberts as an assistant for the college team as recommended by the WNT Selection Committee.			
Moved	Bev Wiley	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented the Slow Pitch Selection Committee's recommendations of rosters and coaching staffs for the 2023 Border Battle and USA Showdown, which will be held July 28-30, 2023.

CEO Cress presented a partnership agreement from Polk County to continue to support softball in that area by hosting USA Events. CEO Cress will communicate the agreement with Florida Commissioner Sealy.

MOTION	BD	23-05	11
To approve the partnership with Polk County Florida.			
Moved	Anna Louie	Seconded	Dick Gulmon
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented a partnership agreement with Yakkertech as the exclusive ball flight sponsor in the Hall of Fame Complex.

MOTION	BD	23-05	12
To approve the partnership with Yakkertech.			
Moved	Ally Carda	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented the monthly stadium financial report for April.

CEO Cress updated the Board on the status of work being performed by SportsEngine, including support issues.

Rodney Cobb, Chairman of Commissioner Committee, presented the revised Commissioner and Association Agreements. Director Gulmon contributed to the discussion.

MOTION	BD	23-05	13
To approve the revised Commissioner and Association Agreements as presented.			
Moved	Dick Gulmon	Seconded	Bev Wiley
CARRIED			

MOTION	BD	23-05	14
To return to open session at 4:12 p.m.			
Moved	Darrin Duistermars	Seconded	Mary Mahoney
CARRIED			

8. Adjournment

MOTION	BD	23-05	15
To adjourn May 24, 2023, meeting at 4:15 p.m.			
Moved	Bev Wiley	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			