



USA Softball Board of Directors
Telephonic Conference Call
September 9, 2019

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gouveia called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. CT

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Directors (BOD) members present were John Gouveia; Warren Jones; Rodney Cobb; Beverly Wiley; John McPhail; Carlton Benton; ET Colvin; Drew Wells; Darrin Duistermars; Joe Patterson; Dick Gulmon; Roger Garcia; Sam Ducato; Don Addante; Nick Mullins; Michelle Moultrie and Janie Reed.

Absent: Valerie Arioto

The CEO declared that a quorum had been established.

Staff: Craig Cress, Mark Loehrs, Chris Sebren, John Miller, Rich Cress, Savannah Edwards, Dre McKee and Codi Warren.

3. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Chris Sebren – National Team Head Coach Update

4. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

National Teams – Chris Sebren, Director

A. U-17 Women's National Team (WNT) World Cup Qualifier

Chris Sebren provided the BOD with a report on the U-17 Women's Pan American Championship that has been added to the 2019 international calendar for the junior women's program. This event, which serves as a qualifier for the 2020 U-18 World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Women's Softball World Cup, is slated to be held October 10-20 in Barranquilla City, Colombia. Craig Cress provided additional background on this event, detailing the restructuring of the WBSC's World Cup program to not only include additional age groups that are now eligible to compete, but also requires National Teams to qualify in the year prior to the World Cup. Information regarding the U-17 Women's Pan American Championship, including costs covered by the host organization, has recently come in (received in an email on September 5, 2019) from the WBSC Americas, which has enabled the National Office to put together a budget for this event, which was not originally included in the 2019 USA Softball budget. Additionally, the previously approved budget for the U-17 Men's Pan American Championship has been lowered due to the host organization covering accommodation and meal costs that were previously the responsibility of the National Federations. With the additional costs that host organizations are covering, the addition of the U-17 Women's Pan American Championship would add \$10,000.00 to the 2019 USA Softball budget.

Staff answered questions by the BOD on potential penalties for not participating at the qualifier, if a location for the 2020 World Cup has been established, how qualifying for the World Cup would affect the 2020 USA Softball budget, how athletes were selected for the 2019 U-17 WNT and if there would be a potential 2020 Selection Trials for the U-18 WNT roster in the event that the U-17 team qualifies. BOD members also shared concerns regarding the financial impact additional events could have on the USA Softball budget

going forward, how the National Teams are promoted to USA Softball's grassroots programs and the lack of information that is made available to National Federations regarding World Cups and qualifiers. Craig Cress shared that some countries are having the selected athletes contribute to the cost of being a member of their National Teams. It was also discussed that an option might be that our National Champions from the prior year could be selected to represent USA Softball the following year in the appropriate age group.

M/S/C – Motion to amend the 2019 USA Softball budget to include an additional \$10,000.00, bringing the total cost of the U-17 Men's and Women's Pan American Championships to \$95,000.00.

B. Gregg Leather Resignation as Men's National Team (MNT) Head Coach

Mr. Sebren informed the BOD of the resignation of MNT Head Coach, Gregg Leather, due to medical-related issues with his son, who is autistic. With the uncertainty of future episodes, Coach Leather felt it was in the best interest for his family and the USA Softball Men's National Team Program to resign as Head Coach. Mr. Cress thanked Coach Leather for his contributions to the MNT program and men's fast pitch at the grassroots level while President Gouveia and BOD member Warren Jones also expressed their gratitude to Coach Leather.

5. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m. CT on Monday, September 9, 2019.