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**USA SOFTBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City, Okla.
November 1-2, 2018**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gouveia called the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sam Ducato led the Pledge of Allegiance on Thursday and Dick Gulmon led the Pledge of Allegiance on Friday.

3. CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT/CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Each Board member and Proxy present for the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting signed a Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Agreement.

4. ROLL CALL

BOD Members present were: John Gouveia; Warren Jones; Rodney Cobb; Bev Wiley; John McPhail; Carlton Benton; ET Colvin; Drew Wells; Darrin Duistermars; Mary Mahoney, proxy for Joe Patterson; Dick Gulmon; Bill Parks; Sam Ducato; Dave Devine; Nick Mullins; Kasey Cooper, proxy for Valerie Arioto; and Jazmyn Jackson, proxy for Michelle Moultrie.

Absent: Janie Reed

The Executive Director declared that a quorum had been established.

Guests present:

Thursday Only: Darin Delgado, SoftBOK; Jeff Dubchansky, USA Softball of Sacramento Commissioner; Sheri Jenkins, USA Softball of Sacramento At-Large Player Rep; and Kevin Castillo, Elite Athlete Council Member.

Thursday and Friday: Roger Garcia, USA Softball of Alaska Commissioner; and Casey Borovac, proxy for National Sports Clinic.

Staff: Craig Cress, Mark Loehrs, John Miller, Savannah Edwards, Jay Hedrick, Shirley Adkins, Andrea McKee, Codi Warren and Rich Cress.

Approval of Proxies

M/S/C – Motion to approve Kasey Cooper as the Proxy for Valerie Arioto.

M/S/C – Motion to approve Jazmyn Jackson as the Proxy for Michelle Moultrie.

M/S/C – Motion to approve Mary Mahoney as the Proxy for Joe Patterson.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Old Business: National Championship Logos

6. REMARKS

- A. President remarks - President Gouveia provided a special acknowledgement to St. Pete/Clearwater Sports and Events for providing gift bags and breakfast for Friday's BOD Meeting.
- B. Past President remarks
- C. President Elect remarks
- D. Executive Director remarks

7. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 28, 2018 BOD MINUTES

M/S/C – Motion to approve the October 28, 2018 BOD minutes.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Long Range Planning Committee
Executive Director Craig Cress spoke on the report provided to the BOD and answered questions on the Long Range Planning Committee. Included in the report was information on the Training Modules that National Office staff has been developing with Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands. The Long Range Planning Committee is planning an in-person meeting in Oklahoma City around the May BOD meeting. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- B. Membership Committee
Bill Parks spoke on the report provided to the BOD from the Membership Committee meeting. ET Colvin requested a clarification on Procedural Manual Article 112 regarding Allied and Affiliated Members of USA Softball to which John Miller spoke on the terminology in the Procedural Manual and new USA Softball Bylaws. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- C. Equipment Testing and Certification Committee
Dick Gulmon provided a report to the BOD from the Equipment Testing and Certification Committee meeting regarding updates to Certified Equipment. Mr. Gulmon informed the BOD about the new USA Softball certification marks for equipment that would start in 2020 while the old ASA certification marks would be grandfathered in. Mr. Gulmon also informed the BOD that the Committee has reversed their decision to mandate compression numbers be printed on all Non-Linear Bats. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- D. ASA Properties
Mark Loehrs provided a report to the BOD from the ASA Properties meeting. Mr. Loehrs informed the BOD of the motion made by ASA Properties to provide a \$150,000 dividend to the USA Softball budget and answered questions from the BOD on the declining registrations and how that will affect the revenue for ASA Properties. Mr. Loehrs also discussed the vacant ASA Properties Board position for the Southern Territory that will be discussed during his Department Report. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.

9. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. Membership/Championships/USA HOF Complex – John Miller, Director
2019 and 2020 National Championships
Rich Cress provided a report to the BOD on the awarded 2019 and 2020 National Championship bids by the Executive Director.

2019 Men's Open East – Grand Rapids, Mich.

2019 Men's 40-Over Masters, 50-Over Masters, and 60-Over Seniors Fast Pitch – Prescott Valley, Ariz.

2019-2020 Coed Open Slow Pitch – Brick, N.J. and Valdosta, Ga.

2020 Boy's Slow Pitch, Men's 19-Under and Men's 21-Under Slow Pitch – Canton, Ohio

2020 Girl's 10-Under Class A East Fast Pitch – Findlay, Ohio

This was an informative report, which required no action from the BOD.

B. Production Report – Savannah Edwards, Director

Savannah Edwards provided the BOD with the latest Production Report dated 11/01/2018 and Executive Director Craig Cress answered questions from the BOD. This was an informative report, which required no action from the BOD.

C. National Teams – Chris Sebren, Director

2020 Tour Stop Information

Chris Sebren provided a report to the BOD regarding the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games Tour Stops. Executive Director Craig Cress spoke on the requirements for both Tour Stop hosts and USA Softball as well as costs for hosting:

- A standalone tour stop will cost \$35,000.00
- Two tour stops within a four-hour drive of each other will cost \$30,000.00 per stop
- Three tour stops within a four-hour drive of each other will cost \$27,500.00 per stop

Mr. Cress answered questions by the BOD regarding the Tour Stop agreements and advised those interested to contact Chris Sebren. An email will be sent to Local Associations with information on hosting the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Team by the first week of December.

M/S/C – Motion to approve the Tour Stop agreements and costs as presented to the BOD.

D. Chief Financial Officer – Mark Loehrs, Director

ii. ASA Properties BOD Member Election

M/S/C – Motion to approve Drew Wells, Region 5 Vice President, to the ASA Properties Board.

ii. 2019 USA Softball Budget

Mark Loehrs presented the BOD with a proposed 2019 USA Softball budget. Mr. Loehrs spoke on the increased dividend from ASA Properties while Executive Director Craig Cress spoke on the increase in the National Team budget from previous years due to the Olympic Team Selection Trials being in 2019, which requires a second National Team Selection Trials in 2019 as opposed to the standard one National Team Selection Trials.

M/S/C – Motion to approve the 2019 USA Softball budget as amended.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

- A. Accept the recommendations of the Commissioner Appointment Committee.**
- B. Accept the recommendations of the Compliance and Ethics Committee.**
- C. Approve the Executive Director to continue with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the city of Columbus (Ga.) and USA Softball of Georgia to host the 2019 USA Softball International Cup. The dates will be July 1-7, 2019.**

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. SoftBOK (Softball Body of Knowledge)

Darin Delgado, Coach Coordinator with USA Softball of Sacramento and creator of SoftBOK, gave a presentation to the BOD about SoftBOK, an online coaching education platform. Included in the presentation was the history and background of the program and a walk-through of the SoftBOK website. Jeff Dubchansky spoke on the partnership between SoftBOK and USA Softball of Sacramento, how successful the platform has been within their grassroots programs/leagues and how it is used as a membership benefit for their association. Following Mr. Delgado's presentation, John Miller and Andrea McKee spoke on USA Baseball's Amateur Resource Center (ARC) and how Major League Baseball (MLB) will assist USA Softball in producing a similar website while BOD members discussed the options for additional coaching education tools for membership.

Directive: President Gouveia requested that the National Office staff look into what platforms and services are available for coaching education platforms for USA Softball and provide BOD members with a link to USA Baseball's ARC.

B. National Championship Logos

Codi Warren presented the BOD with the changes requested by the BOD at the October 28, 2018 BOD Meeting that included variations of the proposed National Championship logo. BOD Members reviewed all National Championship logo options and Mrs. Warren answered questions from the BOD Members on branding and licensing the National Championship logos.

M/S/C – Motion to approve the original artwork proposed for the USA Softball National Championship logo to be implemented in the 2019 season.

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. ISSA (International Senior Softball Association) Partnership

The BOD reviewed a request by the Masters and Seniors Committee on the potential partnership opportunity between USA Softball and the ISSA. Tony Laws, USA Softball of North Carolina Commissioner, and RB Thomas, Executive Director of the ISSA, have discussed the possibility of a partnership in the past to increase participation at the USA Softball Senior National Championships.

M/S/C – Motion to give Tony Laws the authority to discuss a potential partnership with the ISSA and bring a proposal before the BOD for review.

B. 2018 General Council Housing Reimbursement

BOD Members discussed considering reimbursements based on the number of meetings and training sessions attended versus a set number of nights. President Gouveia will consider this discussion and look into establishing a sub-committee to review and establish parameters for reimbursements based on meeting attendance.

M/S/C – Motion to approve the General Council housing reimbursement of \$100.00 for up to six nights for all eligible Council Members who meet the requirements for reimbursement and up to eight nights for BOD Members and on a case-by-case basis for additional Committee Members.

C. 2019 BOD Meeting Schedule

- i. Spring BOD Meeting – May 3-4, 2019 in Oklahoma City, Okla.
- ii. Fall BOD Meeting – September 20-21, 2019 in Oklahoma City, Okla.

D. 2019 USA Softball Annual Meeting (Hotel and Date)

Hotel: Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nev.

Dates: November 9-15, 2019

E. At-Large Director to the USA Softball BOD

Executive Director Craig Cress spoke on the At-Large Director position for the USA Softball BOD. The position was presented in the proposed Bylaws to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). USA Softball is still awaiting confirmation on the acceptance of the presented Bylaws from the USOC. Once the Bylaws are approved, information for the At-Large Director will be sent out in December for the 2019 BOD.

F. Outgoing BOD Remarks

Bill Parks and Dave Devine both gave departing remarks.

13. ADJOURN

The BOD meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.