



**USA Softball Board of Directors
Nugget Casino Hotel Resort – Cascade 3
Sparks, Nevada
Sunday, November 10, 2019 @ 12:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Gouveia called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. PT

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Darrin Duistermars, Midwest Regional Vice President, delivered the invocation and Donn Addante, At-Large Representative, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. 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; Valerie Arioto; Michelle Moultrie and Janie Reed.

The CEO declared that a quorum had been established.

Staff: Craig Cress, Mark Loehrs, Chris Sebren, John Miller, Shirley Adkins, Savannah Edwards, Jay Hedrick, Devin Loehrs, Destinee Martinez, Dre McKee, Megan Schallom, Codi Warren, Julie Whiteaker and Katie Willis.

4. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Donn Addante – Bylaws Amendment Procedures
ET Colvin – Annual Council Meeting

5. REMARKS

- a. President remarks
- b. Immediate Past President remarks
- c. President-Elect remarks
- d. CEO remarks

6. INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL TEAMS

Chris Sebren introduced members of the National Team Programs who were attending the Annual Meeting: Ron Hackett, Men's National Team (MNT) Head Coach, Ken Eriksen, Women's National Team (WNT) Head Coach, and the 2020 U.S Olympic Softball Team. Aubree Munro, a member of the 2020 WNT, addressed the BOD and thanked them for their support of the WNT and their journey to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The BOD and guests in attendance congratulated the 2020 WNT and recognized them for their accomplishments.

7. APPROVAL OF PROXIES FOR COUNCIL MEETING

M/S/C – Motion to approve the 2019 General Council Proxy List with the conditional exception for proxies who have not met the requirements.

8. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

- A. Communications – Codi Warren, Managing Director
Codi Warren provided a written report on the Communications Department. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- B. Information Technology – Savannah Edwards, Managing Director
Savannah Edwards provided the BOD with an updated production report. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- C. Championships – Rich Cress, Managing Director
Rich Cress provided a written report to the BOD on recent meetings that he and USA Softball of Minnesota Commissioner, Dan Pfeffer, had with Brian Wegman from USSSA. Topics discussed during the meetings included each organization's Player Classification systems and finding more common ground between the two, establishing more tournaments that would be co-hosted by both organizations. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.

- D. Major League Baseball (MLB) – Destinee Martinez, Event Manager
Destinee Martinez provided a written report to the BOD on recent meetings between MLB and National Office staff to discuss grassroots development and sponsorship opportunities for the “Stand Beside Her” tour. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- E. Events/U.S. Games – Dre McKee, Managing Director
Dre McKee provided a written report on the status of the U.S. Games and meetings that have taken place between USA Softball and USSSA to discuss rules, umpires and participant selections. National Office staff answered questions by BOD members on how many teams USA Softball will be sending and inquired about sending USA Softball’s 12-Under and 14-Under Class A National Championship Finals top finishers regardless if they’ve aged out for the next year. This was an informative report, which required no action by the BOD.
- F. Finance – Mark Loehrs, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
Mark Loehrs provided the BOD with an updated 2019 USA Softball Balance Sheet and Budget for the BOD to review. Mr. Loehrs also informed the BOD that he will be providing an updated 2020 USA Softball Budget for the BOD to review and discuss at the next BOD meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15, 2019.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update on Nomination of Elected Officers
The BOD was informed of the selections for Regional Vice President (VP) positions that were up for election: John McPhail (Region 2), Walker Clark (Region 4), Drew Wells (Region 5), Darrin Duistermars (Region 6), Mary Mahoney (Region 7) and Anna Louie (Region 10). Mary Mahoney will assume the role of Region 7 VP for a one-year term to replace President-Elect candidate Joe Patterson.
- B. USA Softball All American Games (AAG)
Members of the AAG Committee, Kristi Allen, Casey Borovac, Mary Mahoney and Cassi Ponzio, addressed the BOD on their concerns with a contract that has been presented to the AAG Committee. The AAG Committee discussed the background and administration of the event while BOD members addressed how the AAG Committee and BOD can work together towards a resolution of the contract. Director Benton asked if it would be appropriate to have a BOD Committee meet with the AAG Committee during the week to discuss their concerns and report back at the Thursday, Nov. 15, 2019 BOD Meeting. President Gouveia appointed Mr. Benton, Mr. McPhail and Ms. Arioto to that committee, and the CEO will assign a staff member to attend as well.
- C. USA Softball Registration Website Update
Savannah Edwards provided the BOD with a verbal update on the progression of a new registration and tournament platform for USA Softball. The progress will be further explained at the Thursday, Nov. 15, 2019 BOD meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Community Foundation
Mr. Cress and Mr. Loehrs provided the BOD with a written report on the 2019 distribution from USA Softball’s National Teams Endowment Fund with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation (OCCF). This is the first year USA Softball will receive a distribution, which totaled \$7,041.00. Members of the BOD discussed reinvesting the funds back into the Endowment Fund for the long-term investment into the National Team Programs.

M/S/C – Motion to reinvest the \$7,041.00 received from the USA Softball National Teams Endowment Fund distribution back into the USA Softball National Teams Endowment Fund.

- B. Annual Council Meeting
ET Colvin updated the BOD on efforts to shorten the USA Softball Annual Council Meeting. Mr. Colvin has been working with Mr. Cress on evaluating the current agenda for the Annual Council Meeting and has a proposal that would eliminate two days off the Annual Council Meeting. Mr. Colvin and Mr. Cress answered questions by the BOD and guests in attendance on what the proposed schedule might look like, and further discussions will be had at the Thursday, Nov. 15, 2019 BOD meeting.

M/S/C – Motion to proceed with a proposal for shortening the USA Softball Annual Council Meeting for discussion at the Thursday, Nov. 19 BOD meeting.

- C. Bylaws Amendment Procedures
Donn Addante spoke on the restructuring of USA Softball’s Bylaws, Procedural Manual and Code and how proposed changes would be handled going forward. All proposed changes to USA Softball’s Bylaws be reviewed and voted on by the BOD, and as there could be a large number of proposed changes, Mr. Addante is recommending the following procedures for Bylaws change proposals: the author of Bylaws proposals would address the Legislative Committee on their proposal and the Legislative Committee would review the Bylaws proposals and provide recommendations to the BOD for their final vote. BOD members

discussed the possibility of having Bylaws proposals go before the BOD during their first meeting at the Annual Council Meeting and if that would add to the length of the meeting. Mr. Cress provided further clarification on the breakdown of the USA Softball Bylaws and Procedural Code and recommended waiting to adopt a formal procedure until 2020 when the documents are merged.

11. **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. Motion to approve a two-year agreement with Dick's Sporting Goods as the "Official Sporting Goods Retailer" of USA Softball and an "Official Licensed Merchandise Vendor" for the "Stand Beside Her" tour.***
- B. Motion to approve the nomination of the following Assistant Coaches for the 2020 USA Softball Women's National Team and Olympic Team: Laura Berg, Howard Dobson, Tairia Flowers and Heather Tarr.***

12. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. PT on Sunday, November 10, 2019.