

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Location	Date	Time	Format
Zoom	September 27, 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	Present
Al Dattolo	Southeast Regional Vice-President	Absent
Walker Clark	South Regional Vice-President	Absent
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
Anna Louie	Pacific Coast Regional Vice-President	Present
Donn Addante	Elected At-Large Representative	Present
Sandy Searcy	Allied / Affiliated Members	Present
David James	Independent Director	Present
Ally Carda	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Nick Mullins	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Michelle Moultrie	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Cam Schiller	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Joshua Johnson	Elite Athlete Representative	Absent
Aubree Munro	Elite Athlete Representative	Present
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
Jay Hedrick	Managing Director of Network Systems	Present
Devin Loehrs	Director of IT	Present
Morgan Palmer	Director of Communications	Present

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	23-09	01
To approve the agenda for the meeting as presented.			
Moved	Sandy Searcy	Seconded	Dave Devine
CARRIED			

4. Management Report

A moment of silence was observed to honor Jack Aaron who passed away last week.

CEO Cress presented the monthly stadium report for August. The OKC Spark, Armed Forces Championship and the All-American Games were hosted at the complex in August.

5. New Business

CEO Cress presented the Athlete Marketing Program agreement that requires Board approval for our designated elite athletes to participate in an NIL program through the USOPC. There is no monetary benefit or cost for USA Softball, just an enhancement to benefits available to our athletes.

MOTION	BD	23-09	02
To approve the agreement with AMP for USA Softball’s designated athletes to participate in the program.			
Moved	Donn Addante	Seconded	Sandy Searcy
CARRIED			

Director Addante presented the amendment of Bylaw 10.17(C) Communications Committee, to properly designate the committee in the bylaws as it is not competition related and should not be covered by the Procedural Code.

MOTION	BD	23-09	03
To approve the Bylaw 10.17(C) Communications Committee as presented.			
Moved	Donn Addante	Seconded	Sandy Searcy
CARRIED			

Director Addante presented the Governance Committee report.

CEO Cress updated the Board on the progress of the USOPC and SafeSport audits. Reports should be available during the October meeting.

CEO Cress has been asked to testify at a Congressional Hearing by Congressman Griffith. The meeting is currently planned for the end of October.

6. Executive Session

MOTION	BD	23-09	04
To enter Executive Session at 2:16 p.m.			
Moved	Mary Mahoney	Seconded	Anna Louie

CARRIED

CEO Cress updated the Board on the condition of Director Dattolo who was critically injured in a bicycling accident over the weekend.

CEO Cress announced that Dan Adkins has been named the Commissioner in Tennessee and Manny Alderete has been named the Commissioner in Central California. Interviews have been completed for the Arizona Commissioner’s position also. If deemed viable associations, the Idaho and Wyoming positions will be posted in the next few days.

MOTION	BD	23-09	05
To approve Wyoming as a viable association.			
Moved	Roger Garcia	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

MOTION	BD	23-09	06
To approve Idaho as a viable association.			
Moved	Roger Garcia	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

CEO Cress educated the Board on the history of the Spokane area which was assigned to Idaho several years ago. Due to the changes in Idaho association, it has been requested that Spokane be returned to the Washington state association.

MOTION	BD	23-09	07
To assign Spokane to the Washington state association.			
Moved	Roger Garcia	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

Director Gulmon updated the Board on progress on the 2024 budget proposal and CEO Cress updated the Board on discussion with SportsEngine. No action is needed on either issue currently.

Director Gulmon updated the Board of ongoing work of the Equipment and Certifications Committee. He noted that if the upcoming meeting results in recommendations that would require Board approval, the Committee will request a vote via email so that manufacturers can make any adjustments as soon as possible.

CEO Cress updated the Board on the results of U18 Men’s team in Columbia who have now qualified for the World Cup this fall in Mexico.

MOTION	BD	23-09	08
To approve the recommendations submitted by the Men’s Selection Committee to add an athlete to the U18 roster for the World Cup in Mexico.			
Moved	Dave Devine	Seconded	Bev Wiley
CARRIED.			

CEO Cress informed the Board that the WNT Selection Team will be announcing the 2023 Pan Am roster next week and the Board will receive the roster at the same time the athletes are notified.

CEO Cress presented a proposal by the Women’s Selection Committee to name a replacement coach for the Pan Am games in Chile as Cindy Ball-Malone is unable to travel to this event.

MOTION	BD	23-09	09
To approve Cody Thompson as an assistant for the Women’s National Team at the Pan Am games.			
Moved	Bev Wiley	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

CEO Cress noted that USA Softball has secured enough funding to send a Coed Team to the World Cup in Mexico this December. He publicly acknowledged Director Cobb for spearheading the fundraising efforts and to date, over \$40,000 has been raised. Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer Sebren provided the Board with the remaining team schedule for this year.

CEO Cress presented the 2024-25 Big 12 Conference Tournament agreement for consideration by the Board. The Big 12 has requested a 2-year agreement to bring softball in line with their other major championships.

MOTION	BD	23-09	10
To approve the 2024-25 Big 12 Conference Tournament Contract as presented.			
Moved	Rodney Cobb	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented a proposed agreement with ABI Attachments Inc., for field crew equipment. Director Garcia contributed to the discussion.

MOTION	BD	23-09	11
To approve the agreement with ABI Attachments Inc. as presented.			
Moved	Mary Mahoney	Seconded	Dave Devine
CARRIED			

CEO Cress presented the August stadium financials for the OKC Spark, Armed Forces Championship and the All-American Games.

It was noted that there were no production reports as there was minimal activity after the August system conversion.

MOTION	BD	23-09	12
To return to open session at 2:50 p.m.			
Moved	Mary Mahoney	Seconded	Donn Addante
CARRIED			

7. Adjournment

MOTION	BD	23-09	13
To adjourn the August 23, 2023, meeting at 2:54 p.m.			
Moved	Roger Garcia	Seconded	Anna Louie
CARRIED			