**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Date** | **Time** | **Format** |
| Zoom | April 23, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. CT | Virtual |

**In Attendance**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Board Members** | | |
| Dave Devine | President | Present |
| Dan Pfeffer | President-Elect | Present |
| Joe Patterson | Immediate Past President | Present |
| Tony Gowell | Northeast Regional Vice-President | Present |
| John McPhail | Central Atlantic Regional Vice-President | Absent |
| Tim Doby | Southeast Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Walker Clark | South Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Rodney Cobb | Southwest Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Darrin Duistermars | Midwest Regional Vice-President | Present; Joined at 3:02pm |
| Mary Mahoney | Mid-America Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Dick Gulmon | Northern Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Rick Hansen | Northwest Mountain Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Christina Drumm | Pacific Coast Regional Vice-President | Present |
| Beverly Wiley | Elected At-Large Representative | Present |
| Sandy Searcy | Allied / Affiliated Members | Present |
| Jari Askins | Independent Director | Present |
| Valerie Arioto | Elite Athlete Representative | Absent |
| Ally Carda | Elite Athlete Representative | Present |
| Aubrey Leach | Elite Athlete Representative | Present; Joined at 3:35pm |
| Mike Lewis | Elite Athlete Representative | Absent |
| Blaine Milheim | Elite Athlete Representative | Absent |
| Nick Mullins | Elite Athlete Representative | Present |
| Codi Pannebaker | Elite Athlete Representative | Absent |
| Zac Shaw | Elite Athlete Representative | Present |
| **Others Present** | | |
| Craig Cress | CEO | Present |
| Cheryl Bond | CFO | Present |
| Chris Sebren | Chief Sport Development/Performance Officer | Present |
| Allison Flaig | Chief Operating Officer, Minute Taker | Present |
| Devin Loehrs | Chief Information Officer | Present |
| Todd Blyleven | Chief Marketing Officer | Present |
| Jay Hedrick | Director of Network Administration | Absent |
| Kevin Ryan | Independent Contractor, Director of Umpires | Present; Joined at 3:58pm |

**Minutes**



1. **Call to Order**

President Devine called the meeting to order at 3:00 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.

1. **Roll Call**

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

1. **Approve the Agenda**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 01 |
| To approve the agenda for the meeting as presented. | | | |
| Moved | Joe Patterson | Seconded | Walker Clark |
| CARRIED | | | |

1. **Management Reports**

CEO Cress announced two new staff additions to the National Office: Jordie Lindley, Director of Communications and Marketing, and Troy Canaba, Director of Stadium Operations.

CEO Cress updated that the USOPC Board of Directors accepted the 2023 audit with a Renewal Certification in Good Standing.

The final 2024 Production Reports were presented. The first 2025 production report will be presented at the June meeting.

CEO Cress stated there was a small volume bug and user error that has already been addressed with those impacted. More specific details will be in executive session.

CEO Cress outlined the five events at Devon Park that occurred in March.

CEO Cress summarized the updates to the Background Check Policy.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 02 |
| To approve the Background Check Policy as presented. | | | |
| Moved | Dick Gulmon | Seconded | Tim Doby |
| CARRIED | | | |

1. **Old Business**

CEO Cress provided an update regarding the Stripe payment processing system based on the Board action from the July 2024 meeting and requested more clear direction for the National Office as there was confusion on whether or not Stripe is mandated for all RegisterUSA transactions or optional. Directors Gulmon, Drumm, Cobb, Hansen, Mahoney, CIO Loehrs, and CEO Cress contributed to the discussion.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 03 |
| To not allow Stripe to be mandatory at this time. | | | |
| Moved | Rick Hansen | Seconded | Mary Mahoney |
| NOT CARRIED | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 04 |
| To table the Stripe discussion until Regional VPs can get feedback from the associations. | | | |
| Moved | Rodney Cobb | Seconded | Joe Patterson |
| CARRIED | | | |

1. **New Business**

CEO Cress presented the Bylaw Amendment to update Section 16.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 05 |
| To approve the Bylaw Amendment as presented | | | |
| Moved | Christina Drumm | Seconded | Sandy Searcy |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress acknowledged that impacted commissioners have been contacted regarding a compliance system issue.

1. **Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting is June 18, 2025, via Zoom at 3:00 p.m. CT.

1. **Executive Session**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 06 |
| To enter Executive Session at 3:55 p.m. | | | |
| Moved | Rick Hansen | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress announced that Keith Morell was chosen as the next commissioner of South Dakota.

CEO Cress announced that the panel determined that Louisiana is a viable association.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 07 |
| To approve Louisiana as a viable association and approve the panel to move forward with identifying the next Commissioner (or potentially a Working Director). | | | |
| Moved | Walker Clark | Seconded | Rodney Cobb |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress presented the Background Checks and SafeSport Trainings by Association

CEO Cress presented the options for Assistant Coaches for the Women’s National Team.

Director Carda abstained from all discussions and voting regarding the National Teams due to conflicts of interest.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 08 |
| To approve the recommendation of assistant coaches from the Selection Panel. | | | |
| Moved | Tim Doby | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED – Director Leach abstained due to a conflict of interest. | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 09 |
| To approve the roster update and assistant coaches for the U15 & U18 Women’s National Teams. | | | |
| Moved | Mary Mahoney | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 10 |
| To approve the recommendation to host a World Cup Stage Event in 2026. | | | |
| Moved | Rodney Cobb | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 10 |
| To approve the Border Battle rosters for the Men’s, Men’s Futures, Women’s and Women’s Futures teams. | | | |
| Moved | Tim Doby | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress notified the board that there will not be a national team competing in Columbia in June 2025.

CEO Cress presented the list of athletes that will be considered for the World Games and the subsequent roster that was later determined.

Director Gulmon presented the 2024 Financial Statement and Analysis for the organization.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 11 |
| To approve the 2024 Financial Statement and Analysis as presented and sent out to the Commissioners. | | | |
| Moved | Dick Gulmon | Seconded | Joe Patterson |
| CARRIED | | | |

Kevin Ryan and Director Gulmon presented the research of the Equipment Testing and Certification subcommittee that included manufacturers regarding compliance testing.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 12 |
| To approve the recommendation of the subcommittee to include a tolerance in the testing of bats. | | | |
| Moved | Dick Gulmon | Seconded | Rick Hansen |
| CARRIED | | | |

Director Gulmon presented the Mizuno and Marucci Supplier Agreements. CEO Cress provided additional information.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 13 |
| To approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the Mizuno and Marucci Supplier Agreements. | | | |
| Moved | Joe Patterson | Seconded | Tim Doby |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress presented the proposal for an agreement with Trackman. Directors Carda and Leach contributed to the discussion.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 14 |
| To approve CEO Cress to enter into an agreement with Trackman. | | | |
| Moved | Tony Gowell | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress notified the board that there is one more supplier agreement that will likely be distributed for vote via electronic mail.

CEO Cress presented a request to reduce the bid fees for 2026 Northern Nationals in South Dakota to support the financial success of this event and the financial commitment is onerous to the individuals trying to organize the event. Board President Devine requested a future Code change to be considered to better accommodate tournament hosts.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 15 |
| To approve the reduction in bid fees as presented. | | | |
| Moved | Joe Patterson | Seconded | Tony Gowell |
| CARRIED | | | |

CEO Cress presented the Monthly Stadium Financial Report for March 2025.

CEO Cress outlined the compliance oversight issues recently experienced and the safeguards that were developed to prevent future issues. While this impacted less than 0.4% of Youth Coaches, this has been addressed with high importance. All impacted associations have been directly contacted with instructions and a list of their impacted users. Director Hansen and CIO Loehrs contributed to the discussion.

CEO Cress provided an update on registration system integration.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-04 | 15 |
| To exit Executive Session. | | | |
| Moved | Mary Mahoney | Seconded | Dan Pfeffer |
| CARRIED | | | |

1. **Adjournment**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MOTION** | BD | 25-02 | 09 |
| To adjourn the April 23, 2025, meeting at 5:08 p.m. | | | |
| Moved | Rick Hansen | Seconded | Christina Drumm |
| CARRIED | | | |