

**GSSA Board Meeting
January 27, 2014 Minutes**

Attendance

Russel Rankenburg, President
Eric Keller, Treasurer
Glenn Garrison, Vice President – Adult
Bryan McDermott, Vice President – Youth
Juan Castillo, Director of Youth Recreation
Steve Keiss, Director of Youth Select
Andrew Egan, Director of Adult Competition
Peggy Pruitt, Director-Player Athlete
Delroy Ziadie, Director at Large
Peter Valentino, State Referee Committee Chair
Jim Smith, Independent Director
Chris Etheridge, Independent Director

Attending by teleconference

Scott Moran, Independent Director

Non-voting members in attendance

Greg Griffith, Executive Director/Secretary

Guests

Craig Cunningham, President, Georgia Express
Kim Bowen, Director of Programs
Sharron Safriet, Director of Marketing and Tournaments
Jacob Daniel, Director of Coaching
Suzanne Donahue, Executive Administrative Assistant, minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Correspondence

None

III. Guests (to address the Board)

A. Craig Cunningham, president of Georgia Express, spoke regarding tournaments and black-out dates. He proposed forming a tournament task force to find ways to increase state tournament revenues. Mr. Cunningham requested a waiver to allow Georgia Express to host its academy tournament on May 11-12.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes (December 19, 2013)
- B. Financial Reports

- C. Board and Committee Reports
- D. Staff Reports

Eric Keller made a **motion to approve** the consent agenda; Glenn Garrison **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries** unopposed.

V. Items Not on Consent Agenda

- A. Georgia Express Request
Eric Keller made a **motion** to allow Georgia Express to have their Academy tournament the same weekend as Academy Cup (May 10-11, 2014); Juan Castillo **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries** unopposed. Georgia Express will be asked to coordinate with the Georgia Soccer tournament director next year so these two tournaments do not conflict in 2015.
- B. AGM Overview and Schedule
The revised AGM schedule was presented.
- C. Welcome to New Executive Director
Greg Griffith came on the job on January 6.
- D. February Board Meeting Date
The board will meet on Tuesday, February 25.
- E. US Youth/NSCAA Report
The Vice President – Youth and the Chair of the State Referee Committee shared information from the US Youth Soccer Workshop.
- F. USSF AGM 2/28 – 3/2/14 New York
Four Board members plan to attend the US Soccer AGM.
- G. Board Nominations for AGM
There was a discussion about desired qualifications for the independent director positions.
- H. ODP update
The Director of Coaching also shared news from the Workshop. US Soccer is revamping its coaching education program, adding courses and making existing courses more comprehensive. The ODP program is adopting the style of play that pioneered in Georgia and has been very successful for Region III. Now all 55 state associations will be implementing a consistent style of play.
- I. Member Credentials for AGM
Outstanding financial obligations were discussed. Eric Keller made a **motion** to allow ASISA, Bryson Park, Coastal Outreach, and GA-SC Bulls to remain in provisional good standing, noting that

some but not all player registrations for each affiliate are paid. The Board will re-evaluate their status at the March meeting. Each affiliate will be allowed one vote at the AGM. Jim Smith **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries**, with one vote against. Eric Keller offered to pay the outstanding bill for Coastal Outreach to support the good that Shawn Williams does with his program. Juan Castillo volunteered to assist ASISA.

- J. The Board agreed to support the appeal of the Georgia Soccer fourth-place U14 Boys team that was passed over for a wild-card place in the Region III Premier League. Members felt that Georgia's system of ranking teams was being disregarded.

VI. Good of the Game

- A. WNT vs Russia. We have a super suite again, and are working with Michelle Akers to offer a promotional package.
- B. Board members are invited to come up with ideas for engaging the public in the World Cup

VII. Executive Session

- A. The Board met briefly in executive session.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.