

**GSSA Board Meeting  
March 24, 2014 Minutes**

**Attendance**

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

**Attending by teleconference**

Scott Moran, Independent Director

**Non-voting members in attendance**

Greg Griffith, Executive Director/Secretary

**Guests**

Jade Beaulieu, Director of Operations  
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 7:04 p.m.

**II. Correspondence**

None

**III. Guests (to address the Board)**

None

**IV. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Minutes (February 25, 2014)
- B. Board and Committee Reports
- C. Staff Reports
- D. Financial Reports (February 2014)

Delroy Ziadie made a **motion to approve** the consent agenda; Bryan McDermott **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries** unopposed.

**V. Items Not on Consent Agenda**

- A. Recognize New Board Members  
New members were welcomed.

- B. Financial Management Policies & Procedures  
Eric Keller made a **motion to approve** the revised Financial Management Policies & Procedures. Chris Etheridge **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries** unopposed.
- C. Field Marshals  
Eric Keller made a **motion** to send out the suggested best practices for field marshals, as amended, as a recommendation from the Board of Directors. Peggy Pruitt **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries** with none opposed.
- D. Approval of Committee Appointments  
Bryan McDermott made a **motion** to approve the committee appointments as updated. Delroy Ziadie **seconded** the motion. The **motion carries**, with Eric Keller opposed.
- E. Upcoming Contracts for Signature  
The Executive Director shared plans for building mini pitches, with funding assistance from the Arthur Blank Foundation and Boris Jerkunica, in a cluster of six locations along Buford Highway. The Latin American Association is helping us to identify appropriate locations. Georgia Soccer would be a sponsor, but not an owner, of the pitches, which will help to grow our sport and increase membership.
- The Executive Director will also apply for a Region III grant to help support a membership drive for our affiliate members, leveraging the increased interest in soccer during the 2014 World Cup.
- F. Premier League Changes for 2015  
The VP-Youth outlined the changes that are proposed for Region Premier League play; new rules would go into effect Mar 31. A major change would be the inclusion of U13 teams, to begin with the spring 2015 season. Options for team selection were discussed.
- G. Referee Assignors  
A Referee E&G complaint against a referee assignor was not upheld because the complainant did not submit evidence to back his allegations. He has since gathered supporting evidence, and the board felt that he should re-submit the complaint to the Referee E&G committee. The US Soccer staff attorney advises us that, because there will now be evidence included, the complaint can be reheard without violating the hearing procedures set out in US Soccer Bylaw 701 to assure due process.

The President suggested a need for Georgia Soccer to define a *sanctioned game* for liability purposes; Eric Keller will spearhead this project.

**VI. Good of the Game**

- A. Record-breaking attendance at the Mexico vs. Nigeria game!  
Soccer United Marketing wants to bring more international games here.
  
- B. Seeding from U12 Academy to U13 – how to make it fair?  
Eric Keller made a motion to approve an 8v8 U12 flight at State Cup, with U13 fall placements at stake in Classic I and II and Athena A and B. Juan Castillo seconded the motion. The motion was amended to apply to U13 placements without regard to division. Motion carries without opposition.
  
- C. Congratulations to the U14 National League champions, United FA 00 Elite boys and Tophat 18 Gold girls!

**VII. Executive Session**

Executive session not held.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.