



MINUTES

Georgia Soccer Board of Directors Meeting November 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Virtual

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Neil McNab at 7:11 p.m.
- II. **BOD Attendance:**
 - A. **Voting Members Present:** Neil McNab, Karon Beyer, David Miles, Tricia Biando, Tommy Zavieh, Geriano Viveros, Donald Barksdale
 - B. **Non-Voting Members Present:** Kevin Biando, Jim Walker (Executive Director)
 - C. **Guests Present:** None
 - D. **Members Not Present:** Micah Wilson (voting), Melissa Camp (voting), Juan Castillo (voting), Mark Bloom (voting), Leigh Jakes (non-voting), AJ Hurst (non-voting)
- III. **Correspondence:** None.
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** Both of the below items were approved in a consolidated motion from Karon with a second from Tommy and were approved unanimously.
 - A. Approval of Minutes (October 27, 2025)
 - B. Approval of Financials (October, 2025)
- V. **Items Not on Consent Agenda:**
 - A. Jim provided an update on the following recent events:
 - a. GSSA Board/Staff/SRC holiday party on December 17.
 - b. Jim also advised that he had spoken with the manager of the National Training Center, and they are very interested in hosting as many events as possible – AGM, SAGM, Holiday Party, Coaching Education, Referee Education, ODP, etc. They will be sending a price sheet to Jim for review, possible modification, and consideration of potential events for the NTC to host.
 - c. Jim noted that he is engaged in conversations with Trace regarding a potential deal that would land a financial payment of \$15,000 to GSSA, as well as providing any interested GSSA team with a free Trace camera (though the subscription for each person would be at the individual's expense). Jim is attempting to secure five (5) free cameras and five (5) free PRO memberships for GSSA from Trace as part of the deal for use with ODP, State Cup/Presidents Cup, referee training, etc. with the potential for closure on the agreement in the near future.
 - d. Jim provided a brief update on the staff's work on the Wildly Important Goals (WIGs) with an eye toward presentation to the board in December or January, depending on everyone's calendars.
 - e. Jim noted that GSSA's Directors and Officers insurance is up on December 31 and the updated premium quote is \$3,258 for \$3M in coverage.
 - f. Jim and Neil both provided an update on the US Soccer member meetings in Atlanta two weeks ago, while Jim noted that much of the information was set forth on social media last week.
 - g. Jim gave an update on the State Cup/Presidents Cup results earlier this month.
 - h. Jim advised that GSSA was involved in the Dekalb County Sports Commission's (DCSC) World Cup Activation at the Chamblee Town Hall, wherein all 12 Dekalb County cities were present. GSSA's involvement was the result of an invitation from Rush Union, as DCSC had reached out to Rush National to participate and Rush Union subsequently invited GSSA's

participation to join them. GSSA signage, including signage for our primary sponsors, lined the three mini-pitches where players participated in small-sided games before the function. During the televised function, GSSA received recognition for its involvement in the activation from the Dekalb County CEO Lorraine Cochran-Johnson while our logo was displayed on the screens.

- i. Jim updated GSSA's participation in the Cobb County Tree Jubilee at Mable House from November 22-December 12, noting that GSSA decorated two (2) trees and had Christmas ornaments adorning both trees with the logos of all of our member clubs, along with GSSA sponsors.
 - j. Jim reminded everyone that the bylaw/rule proposal deadline had passed and that the BOD nominations were due next week on December 2.
 - k. Jim provided an update on the partnership with Marcet, a soccer academy in Barcelona, Spain that provides intense, high-level training to elite players who have the potential to play professionally. Per the terms of the agreement, GSSA identifies potential players for the Marcet program and if Marcet selects any of the players, the training, room, and board are provided by Marcet at no charge, with the player only being responsible for airfare from the US to Spain.
- B. Kevin provided an update on the referees, noting that an Advanced Clinic was held on 11/15 wherein four (4) fitness tests were given for four (4) different levels of referees. Attendance was good and the lunch provided was excellent. Great weather also made for a fantastic training session! Kevin provide a hearty shoutout to Anne Wright of GSSA for her wonderful work in organizing the session.
- C. Tommy noted that he had an excellent chat with Richy Serota, State Referee Administrator, following conversations with Jim over the weekend about poor treatment of referees by spectator parents at a match. Tommy spoke with the offending parents and was successful in curbing their behavior. Tommy and Kevin spoke on the idea of providing an outlet for positive and negative feedback for referees from others, thinking this may help minimize vocal complaints at the pitch if individuals know they have an outlet to voice their concerns and/or praise.

VI. Good of the Game:

- A. Jim advised that US Soccer had contacted GSSA about the need for a younger player to participate in a commercial involving USMNT player Diego Luna at the National Training Center. Despite the request coming on very short notice, GSSA was able to find a player to participate in the filming which should air sometime in the coming months.
- B. Neil noted that he had recently attended the Soccer in the Streets fundraising ball that celebrates influential women in the game. Neil was proud to advise GSSA that our very own Leigh Jakes was presented with the Politano Award for her work within the game.
- C. Karon thanked GSSA for its donation to their St. Nicholas Charity Soccer Event on December 7 which collects and donates toys for needy families in the community. She noted that they already have 42 teams participating which is already in excess of their planned estimate and capacity so they are hopeful that they will exceed the \$16,000 they made at last year's event. She also provided a special thanks to Jim's wife Tina for her creative assistance in putting the basket together.
- D. Neil noted that the Father Christmas charity event is the second weekend in December and they, too, are hopeful to exceed the numbers they achieved last year.

VII. Executive Session: None.

VIII. Adjournment: David made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Karon at 7:58 p.m. At this time, the next regularly scheduled board meeting is the January 31 Annual General Meeting.