



MINUTES

Georgia Soccer Board of Directors Meeting September 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Virtual

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Neil McNab at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **BOD Attendance:**
 - A. **Voting Members Present:** Neil McNab, David Miles, Tommy Zavieh, Geriano Viveros, Melissa Camp, Matt Dismer, Sam Zebarjadi, Tony Lamb, Donald Barksdale
 - B. **Non-Voting Members Present:** Dave Edwards, Jim Walker (Executive Director)
 - C. **Guests Present:** None.
 - D. **Members Not Present:** AJ Hurst, Walter Martinez, Leigh Jakes, Karon Beyer
- III. **Correspondence:** None.
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** The below items were approved in a consolidated motion from Melissa with a second from Tony and were approved unanimously.
 - A. Approval of Minutes (July 27, 2026)
 - B. Approval of Minutes (August 8, 2026)
 - C. Approval of Financials (July 2026)
 - D. Approval of Financials (August 2026)
- V. **Items Not on Consent Agenda:**
 - A. Jim provided an update on the results of the USYS Annual General Meeting, focusing on the vote pertaining to the proposed bylaw change regarding USYS governance, as well as elections.
 - B. Jim also provided an update on the USASA Annual General Meeting.
 - C. Jim led discussion regarding the results of the GSSA Semi-Annual General Meeting and provided an update on dates for the Annual General Meeting in early 2027.
 - D. Jim reminded folks of the upcoming Cerebral Palsy World Cup in October, 2026 at the NTC.
 - E. Jim advised of GSSA alignment with the NWSL Atlanta 2028 group (Atlanta City FC) and partnership efforts with their organization, including potential joint watch party events for the USMNT and USWNT
 - F. Jim gave a brief update on Soccer for All
 - G. Jim advised that three Innovate to Grow grants were submitted to US Soccer – one for Soccer for All, one for Goals for the Future, and one for Girls in the Game. Results of those applications will be received in or about December, 2026.
 - H. Jim gave an update on the GSSA Holiday Party in December
 - I. Melissa raised the idea of potential training on how to run SAGMs/AGMs with respect to Robert's Rules, noting that more knowledge and a potential script on rules would be helpful, particularly on items like discussion time limits, number of times an individual can speak, etc.
 - J. Melissa also raised some concerns about what committee would hear particular E&G type complaints in light of the revised bylaw creating a referee committee in the E&G department. Dave E. provided some guidance in this area with respect to what should be heard by the referee group, as opposed to the normal E&G committee.
 - K. David M noted that he, Melissa, and Cristina had been meeting regarding the upcoming Rec Fest tournament in December in Columbus and suggested a conference call with the GSSA recreational teams to help promote attendance and participation at the Rec Fest. He also noted that the RIAS schedule has been difficult this fall due to the limited number of participating teams, suggesting some thought on creative efforts to attract teams by potentially offering

discounts. Neil noted that he and Jim had some conversations with the Executive Director of Georgia Recreation and Parks about their likely changing of their rules to coincide with GSSA's age groups, potentially generating a new scheduling partner for some GSSA teams seeking additional games. Dave E. also raised appreciation to David M. for Columbus' recent hosting of a referee course.

- L. Sam offered his written report regarding the select group update.
- M. Karon's update was provided by Donald. He mentioned that there had been a recent RAP hearing on an adult matter wherein an adult player received a red card and then he and teammates further abused the referee crew, resulting in police being called to the venue. Donald noted a forthcoming hearing wherein the player may receive a suspension from all GSSA leagues. Donald also noted that they were preparing for Adult State Cup and qualifications for the US Soccer Open Cup. Jim noted that Karon had stepped down as Secretary for USASA but had been elected as Secretary for Region III at the USASA AGM.
- N. Dave E advised that referee trainings were going better and noted a R90+ referee program through US Soccer for specialized training and that 8 individuals from GA had been accepted into the program.

VI. Good of the Game:

- A. Unanimous appreciation was expressed for Richy Serota's efforts on behalf of GSSA, along with congratulations to him on his recent position with US Soccer.
- B. Discussion occurred regarding the excitement of the NWSL team coming to Atlanta and the upcoming name/logo reveal on October 4.

VII. Executive Session: None.

VIII. Adjournment: Melissa made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Tommy at 8:09 p.m. The next board meeting with normal business operations will be virtual on October 26 at 7:00 p.m.