



NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2023

Call to Order: 7:03pm

Roll Call – Darius Ejlali took the roll call.

Present: Sam Cohen, Donna Langdon, Chad Garber, Bob Kepner, Paul James, Alex Vidaurri, Scott Eisenbraun, Jeremy Mikell, Laura Collins

Not Present: Vance Carlisle

Quorum determined.

Officer & Staff Reports

- President – Thank you to everyone for being on, this will be a quick meeting tonight, there are no proposals for consideration.

Congratulations to Darius Ejlali for his induction into the NC Soccer Hall of Fame. Bob Kepner, Jeremy Mikell and Cindy Morrison serve on the NC Soccer Hall of Fame committee. Thank you to the committee and thank you to Scott Eisenbraun for representing NCASA, when NCASA President could not attend. The induction evening is the same weekend as our Annual General Meeting, January 27th.

NCASA has finalized the Nomination Committee and they have been hard at work. Thank you to Chad Garber for chairing the committee and thank you to Laura Collins for being a committee member and two of our league Presidents, Steve Swift from TASL and Siler Southerland from PASL.

There was a D&A case that arose last month involving a racial slur. The racial issue fell outside USSF Policy and our NCASA D&A policy and I have asked our D&A Committee to review our authority. Racial abuse should fall within our policy to issue sanctioning for this offense. The D&A Committee has been asked to return with some recommendations.

- Executive Director – Summarizing the Celebrate the Tatas finances have been completed. A date for the check presentation has been secured. On December 6th, NCASA will present \$27,500 to Levine Cancer Institute and \$27,500 to Novant Health Foundation.

I've been working with our Treasurer, Bob Kepner, on building our 2024 Budget for the Finance Committee to review and adjust.

The Carolinas Cup is the big focus, processing the team applications and adjusting divisions. Cindy has been helping teams with rostering. She created a "Free Agent" list to assist teams that need a handful of players. Each year the "Free Agent" list grows, and we have built several teams of "Free Agents". The schedule has been difficult to make progress on, there are many divisions that are at odd numbers with teams still wanting to register. Currently we are at 74 teams.

- Executive Vice President – One of leagues, OCASL, had a player to suffer a heart attack on the field of play. The player was very fortunate that there were two doctors on the adjacent field that came to his aid. This has brought up several topics of concern, one the accessibility to defibrillators and an action plan in case of emergencies for captains and leagues. There should be best practices for our leagues. Massachusetts has a defibrillator program that is being looked at. ABASA has a defibrillator program, but the defibrillator has been stolen several times and ABASA is working on a better plan. Alex Vidaurri discussed ABASA having an emergency training program for captains. TASL would like consideration for the lowering of the state fee as the year gets closer to the end to attract players to round off the season.
- Treasurer – October Report has been sent and our financial picture is strong. This has been a consist performance all year long. The tournament budgets have increased in size and funding. Just as a reminder, the International Game Fee will not be returning in the manner we have been accustomed to, but since we never budget for the International Game Fee anyway, any contribution will be welcomed. The 2022 tax returns have been filed and deadline met, all board members have received a copy of the returns.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the October 16, 2023, NCASA Board meeting were approved unanimously.

Growth Initiative

- Registration Report – 12,205 regular players and over 2,000 tournament only players. The numbers look fantastic. Most leagues are already requesting their 2024 registration portal. Darius, Cindy and I have met with TeamPass and review an action item list in areas we see a need for adjusting. Response from TeamPass has been excellent, there are several items that need addressing.
- First Year Leagues Update – Wake Women's Soccer League has had a great inaugural season, 106 players. Looking forward to spring season.
- New League Update – The Winston-Salem Pick up league has continued talks with NCASA exploring what membership would look like for a pickup league that does not need rosters or referees.

Competitions

- Carolinas Cup – Working with the teams, referees, and NC Fusion about adjusting our scheduling block. To maximize fields and time slots, NCASA is considering shifting to an hour and forty-five-minute block instead of the customary two-hour block. This would add an additional time slot to work with but will add more time restrictions for teams finishing a match and teams preparing for their next match. We have contacted multiple high schools seeking volunteers to assist with set up, operations and breakdown.
- Celebrate the Tatas – In addition to the check presenting date, AAA has made an offer that The Celebrate the Tatas sign up for a program that will donate \$20 per subscription filled. I've reviewed the application and the process. NCASA would be responsible for promoting this program if we were to pursue this opportunity.

Organizing Committees

- D&A Committee – Managed the last two hearings. There are two more that have just been reported. NCASA has taken the racial abuse issue to USSF. USSF has assigned a committee to review USSF Policy 531, which is the policy that refers to the referees. The issue that racial abuse is not in the policy has been brought to their attention. Their chairman stated that was the #1 requested adjustment.
- Budget Committee – Looking for input for the 2024 Budget.
- AGM Committee – Gathering information for location and shaping the event.
- Election/Nominations Committee – the committee has received three nominations so far and that would be Donna Langdon for Executive Vice President, Bob Kepner for Treasurer and Fil Wilkinson for Community Development.
- NCASA Awards Committee - Nomination form is being sent to all members.

New Business (motions)

Additional New Business (motions - 2/3 vote required)

Old & New Business (discussions)

AGM structure and costs were discussed, including workshop and awards presentation. Partnering with the youth and the referees has always been a tradition pre-COVID. Do not have concrete costs regarding joining the other organizations. NCASA will need to decide soon whether to hold a stand alone event or partner with the other soccer organizations.

Additional New Business (discussions)

Takeaways/To Do Item Wrap-up

For the Good of the Game / Announcements

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn approved unanimously – 7:57pm

	2023 NCASA Player Registrations												Total # Players			
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2023 TOTAL	2022	2021	2020 Covid
Leagues:																
ABASA	356	810	65	27	103	258	36	172	129	40	7		2003	1671	1433	932
AC Sandhills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	31
Catawba	42	71	11	0	4	33	0	34	23	0	0		218	193	146	61
Charlotte Independence														692	485	0
North Meck	65	95	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		174			
Rock Hill	105	62	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		176			
Mooreville	85	200	9	2	26	76	1	77	11	0	0		487			
CPSL	518	18	19	4	7	6	1	29	84	8	7		701	690	661	614
First Flight League	0	68	134	16	26	12	1	0	0	0	0		257	279	484	0
Metrolina	27	671	20	2	1	0	27	208	12	22	1		991	889	727	688
NCASA Annual Pass	194	77	10	9	29	27	86	72	15	6	8		533	308	48	7
Pitt Greenville	6	59	115	18	10	9	68	18	60	35	2		400	210	182	134
Premier Adult	0	82	37	4	0	1	0	3	15	2	0		144	195	130	118
Seashore Soccer League	0	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		9	39	73	0
Swansboro	0	139	86	9	1	0	0	121	24	9	0		389	391	312	278
TASL	1997	281	121	51	519	146	363	187	68	36	0		3769	3327	2926	2413
OCASL @TASL	23	410	55	11	76	17	19	83	21	13	43		771	628	0	0
Wake Women's League	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	64	17	2	0		93			
Wilmington	454	116	15	46	99	8	8	104	23	1	0		874	775	712	474
Winston Salem	53	116	2	0	0	0	4	79	3	1	0		258	184	201	218
TOTAL League Players	3925	3276	726	203	901	593	624	1251	505	175	68		12247	10471	8520	5968
Tournament Only Passes:																
Beer City Cup						59	517	282	8				866	841	879	
Beer City Cup Savannah	417	314	34										765			
Carolinas Cup Charleston													0	32	24	
Carolinas Cup WS									1	285	14		300	426	401	
Celebrate the Tatas								9	62	26			97	93	47	
Queen City Cup						24	87	41					152	118	175	
Tourney Pass Other													0	34		
USASA Adult Soccer Fest				9	23	28	3						63	10	1	
TOTAL Tourney Passes	417	314	34	9	23	111	607	332	71	311	14	0	2243	1554	1527	
Temporary Passes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	
TOTAL # PLAYERS	4342	3590	760	212	924	704	1231	1583	576	486	82	0	14490	12025	10074	5968