



## NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2023

#### **Call to Order: 7:04pm**

**Roll Call** – Darius Ejlali took the roll call

**Present:** Sam Cohen, Chad Garber, Bob Kepner, Paul James, Alex Vidaurri, Scott Eisenbraun, Vance Carlisle, Jeremy Mikell, Laura Collins

**Not Present:** Donna Langdon

Quorum determined

#### **Officer & Staff Reports**

- President – Welcome to the March meeting. Darius Ejlali, Donna Langdon, Bob Kepner, and I have just returned from San Diego where we attended the US Soccer Annual General Meeting. It is good to be reminded that we are part of a larger soccer community, the other adult state associations, the youth, the referees, the athletes, and pros.

NCASA's registration numbers are very strong, 40% higher than last year.

NCASA has been working with First Flight League. There is a new administration, and they are experiencing learning curves of league management as well as dealing with prior administrators issues with NC referee administrators. There have been several conference calls between NCASA and NCSRA to identify the issues and work towards resolving them with the First Flight League.

An important proposal coming up tonight, presented by Bob Kepner for a part time paid position.

- Executive Director – Our new registration system TeamPass, has been evolving nicely. Donna and I work regularly with the programmers to shape the system to meet the state needs of data and financial reporting, for the player's registration experience and the functionality as a league tool.

Early March, NCASA assisted Home Team Soccer Tournaments with holding the first out of state Beer City Cup. NCASA set up the Carolinas Cup and Celebrate the Tatas tents prominently at the complex. The event ran smoothly, we had great weather and the complex was fantastic. Team check-in for 92 teams was held in downtown Savannah and was very efficient.

Following up with SafeSport compliance for our NCASA board and our member leagues. USSF offered a SafeSport workshop in San Diego and US Soccer reiterated that adult state associations that do not register under 18-year-old players still have SafeSport mandates.

The State Association board and employee(s) must all take the SafeSport certification and annually re-new their certification and this is the same practice for all our league members, league boards and employee(s). All league websites are being reviewed to make sure they meet the minimum information and reporting links as defined by SafeSport.

The D&A committee has two more cases plus a mediation and the remaining 2022 docket will be cleared. So far in 2023 there has not been any Referee Abuse or Assault charges.

Carolinas Cup Charleston calls have begun, tackling the detail of the events. Registration is higher currently than last year. We received confirmation in San Diego that the US Deaf National Team will be registering for the event.

- Executive Vice President – No Report
- Treasurer – Treasurer circulated the treasurer's report. Our financial standing is strong. At the end of 2022, NCASA netted \$30,444.88. At the end of 2021 NCASA netted \$94,000.00 and at the end of February, NCASA received our portion of the International Game Fee from USSF of \$72,161.00 for the games held in 2022. The largest amount coming from the Chelsea vs Charlotte United match.

NCASA has categories of committed funds. \$100K for operational reserves, \$100K for investments, 25K for disaster relief and 10K for programs to address reduction of incidents of violent conduct.

International Game Fee formula has been restructured by USSF. The youth and the adults would split 2.5% of the gross receipts when an international game was played in the state. Now the 2.5% will be pooled and distributed to every state based on registration numbers. USSF also reduced the adult player registration from \$2.00 to \$1.00 and the reduction is passed directly to the states, instead of paying USASA \$14 per player, NCASA will now pay \$13 per player.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Minutes for the February 20, 2023, NCASA Board meeting were approved unanimously.

### **Growth Initiative**

- Registration Report – In Donna Langdon's absence, Sam Cohen reviewed the registration report. NCASA is approximately 40% higher in registrations as compared to last year at this time. All leagues have seen an uptick in registration.  
NCASA was one of several state associations recognized by USASA for significant growth since the pandemic; 10%-20% increase compared to 2019 registration numbers. Illinois, Massachusetts, North Texas, and North Carolina are the largest 4 state associations in the country.
- First Year Leagues Update – no update
- New League Update – no update

### **Competitions**

- Carolinas Cup – Registration is strong. Working on the details.
- Celebrate the Tatas – Committee has met, discussed dates, and decided Oct. 7- 8, 2023 in Huntersville, NC. Novant grant of \$2500.00.
- 2023 USASA Adult Soccer Fest – Tom O'Shea , a former NCASA board member and original contributor to the Vet Cup, is leading the charge to secure sponsors for the Adult Soccer Fest party. Tom has compiled four different options but still waiting details. Need to recruit NC Over 40 Men's teams and Over 30 Women's teams to round off those divisions. July 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Beer City Cup – 92 Team check in went well. Fun and efficient. 1377 rostered players, a mix of

registered players in and out of state, Tournament Only players, and Annual Registrations purchased through the tournament. Great facilities, weather, and competition.

### **Organizing Committees**

- D&A Committee – No new cases in 2023. Last cases scheduled and one mediation.
- Budget Committee- No report
- AGM Committee – No report
- Election/Nominations Committee – No report
- NCASA Awards Committee- No report

### **New Business (motions)**

- Transportation of Tatas Tent to BCC Savannah (see text below for motion)  
Motion made to approve; motion passes unanimously
- Elimination of Outdated NCASA Policies (see text below for motion)  
Motion made to approve; motion passes unanimously
- Creation of New Half-Time Paid Employee Position (see text below for motion)  
After extensive discussion, the motion was tabled; 2 Committees have been formed; one committee will define roles and responsibilities and the other committee will review the financial component and present summaries by April 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

#### **Old & New Business (discussions)**

- USSF Annual General Meeting (& USASA and Region III Meetings) – discussion will be held at April meeting.

#### **Additional New Business (discussions)**

#### **Takeaways/To Do Item Wrap-up**

#### **For the Good of the Game / Announcements**

#### **Adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn approved unanimously

#### **Approved Motions:**

- Transportation of Tatas Tent to BCC Savannah
- Elimination of Outdated NCASA Policies

**Ratification of Finance Committee Approval of Spending to Bring Celebrate the Tatas and other NCASA Tents to Beer City Cup Savannah for Marketing Purposes – Approved Unanimously**

Whereas, the directors of Home Team Soccer Tournaments invited NCASA to bring its tents to the Beer City Cup Savannah tournament held on March 4-5 in Savannah, GA, and

Whereas, having NCASA’s Celebrate the Tatas tents and other NCASA tents at the tournament provides a marketing benefit to NCASA, and

Whereas, this invitation was made close enough to the NCASA Board meeting on February 20, 2023, that price estimates for transporting the tents to the tournament were not obtained before the Board meeting and therefore no motion was available for the Board to consider at its meeting, but in discussion the Board generally indicated its willingness to approve this expenditure, and

Whereas, the Finance Committee subsequently authorized the spending of up to \$500 for all costs associated with transporting the NCASA tents (van rental, gas, etc.) to Beer City Cup Savannah pursuant to the authority provided by the Budgetary Spending Authority Policy, and

Whereas, the Budgetary Spending Authority Policy calls for spending authorized by the Finance Committee to be presented to the full NCASA Board for ratification at the first NCASA Board meeting after the Finance Committee has approved additional spending,

Be it resolved that the NCASA ratifies the Finance Committee decision to approve the spending of up to \$500 from the General Fund for all cost associated with transporting the NCASA tents to Beer City Cup Savannah, and

Be if further resolved that the actual total spending was \$481.86, with the breakdown of the spending being as follows:

- Van Rental: \$313.41
- Insurance: \$55
- Gas: \$113.45

**Elimination of Outdated NCASA Policies – Approved Unanimously**

Whereas, NCASA recently has amended and updated its Constitution & Bylaws to reflect current requirements and NCASA operating practices, and

Whereas, some NCASA policies no longer are appropriate for current NCASA operations,

Be it resolved that NCASA eliminate the following policies from the NCASA Policy Manual:

ARTICLE I	MEMBERSHIP .....	3
Section 1	New Provisional Membership Application Windows .....	3
Section 2	Determination Process .....	3
Section 3	Application .....	3
Section 4	Rights of Full Membership.....	4
Section 5	Responsibilities of Membership.....	4
Section 6	Presidents’ Training .....	5
ARTICLE II	REGISTRATION.....	5
Section 1	Player Registration.....	5
Section 2	Team Registration.....	6
Section 3	Transfer Players.....	6
Section 4	Multiple Roster Players .....	6
Section 5	NCASA Process.....	6
Section 6	Player Registration Windows .....	6
Section 7	Electronic Registration .....	6
Section 8	Eligibility for Play in Match or Scrimmage .....	6

ARTICLE III	NC STATE CUP .....	7
Section 1	Roster Requirements.....	7
Section 2	Rules and Regulations.....	8
Section 3	Target Dates .....	11

Be it further resolved that NCASA will approve updated Membership and Registration Policies no later than the end of July 2023 or the policies contained in Article I and Article II of the NCASA Policy Manual will be reinstated.

**Creation of New Half-Time Paid Employee Position (Bob Kepner) – Motion Tabled; related committees formed**

Be it resolved that:

- NCASA will create a new half-time paid employee position;
- The person hired to fill the position will begin on April 1, 2023, or as soon after that date as NCASA can (i) define the responsibilities and remuneration of the position and (ii) identify and hire an appropriate person for the position;
- The NCASA President will form an ad hoc special committee no later than one week after the passage of this motion to define the responsibilities and remuneration of the position;
- At a minimum, the NCASA Executive Vice President and NCASA Treasurer will be members of the ad hoc special committee;
- The position responsibilities will be defined by the ad hoc special committee without the need for review by the NCASA Board; and
- The ad hoc special committee will submit its remuneration recommendation to the Finance Committee, which is empowered by this motion to set the remuneration level without review by the NCASA Board.

## 2023 NCASA REGISTRATION REPORT

	Player Registrations												Total # Players			
	Jan	Feb	As Of March 12	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2023 TOTAL	2022	2021	2020 Covid
<b>Leagues:</b>																
ABASA	356	810	36										1202	1671	1433	932
AC Sandhills	0	0											0	0	0	31
Catawba	42	71	10										123	193	146	61
Charlotte Independence														692	485	0
North Meck	65	95	7										167			
Rock Hill	105	62	5										172			
Mooresville	85	200	2										287			
CPSL	518	18	13										549	690	661	614
First Flight League	0	68	123										191	279	484	0
Metrolina	27	671	14										712	889	727	688
NCASA Annual Pass	203	77											280	308	48	7
Pitt Greenville	6	59	38										103	210	182	134
Premier Adult	0	82	29										111	195	130	118
Seashore Soccer League	0	1	7										8	39	73	0
Swansboro	0	139	74										213	391	312	278
TASL	1997	281	56										2334	3327	2926	2413
OCASL @TASL	23	410	19										452	628	0	0
Wilmington	454	116	9										579	775	712	474
Winston Salem	53	116	2										171	184	201	218
<b>TOTAL League Players</b>	<b>3934</b>	<b>3276</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7654</b>	<b>10471</b>	<b>8520</b>	<b>5968</b>
<b>Tournament Only Passes:</b>																
Beer City Cup															841	879
Beer City Cup Savannah	421	320											741			
Carolinas Cup Charleston														32	24	
Carolinas Cup WS														426	401	
Celebrate the Tatas														93	47	
Queen City Cup														118	175	
Tourney Pass Other														34		
USASA Adult Soccer Fest														10	1	
<b>TOTAL Tourney Passes</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>1554</b>	<b>1527</b>	
<b>Temporary Passes</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>TOTAL # PLAYERS</b>	<b>4355</b>	<b>3596</b>											<b>8395</b>	<b>12025</b>	<b>10074</b>	<b>5968</b>