



NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2023

Call to Order: 7:05pm

Roll Call – Darius Ejlali took the roll call

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

Not Present: Jeremy Mikell

Quorum determined

Guests: Bruce Bode – USASA Executive Director,
David Turner – Director Home Team Soccer Tournaments

Officer & Staff Reports

- **President** – Introduces guests. Welcome to the May meeting. We have two NCASA policies to consider tonight as NCASA rebuilds the policy manual to reflect current practices. A Conflict-of-Interest policy will be coming and hopefully will be on next month's agenda.

Hope everyone has reviewed the treasurer's report and noted NCASA is in good financial shape.

That ties into the next proposal on the table. With all costs going up, one of those items was traveling to San Diego for the US Soccer AGM. Travel to San Diego exceed projected costs. Also, NCASA was informed at the regional meeting in San Diego that Region III has scheduled workshops in June. NCASA has not budgeted for the workshops. NCASA will be attending the USASA AGM in September. This motion is to add some additional appropriations for travel for the Region III workshop and USASA AGM. To give flexibility to decide on how many officers will attend, the motion asks for a higher appropriation, and all of it may not be used.

We all know about The Soccer Tournament that is scheduled in Cary this June. I've had ongoing conversations with them about being a partner, to hopefully get NCASA some publicity. Talked with their operation component and realized with all the national and international attention that their interest in a local partner diminished significantly. Five months ago, it seemed like a partnership was a possibility. Basically, NCASA has been asked to circulate an email blast to secure volunteers, which we have done.

- Bruce Bode, USASA's Executive Director was introduced. Bruce shared USASA's recent planning session; setting goals and objectives for the next 18 months. Bruce discussed the series of workshops being offered at the upcoming USASA AGM and is looking forward to being in Greensboro for the Adult Soccer Fest in July.
- Executive Director – Carolinas Cup Memorial Day in Charleston is within 10 days, so wrapping up details has been our focus. 68 teams competing and 15 are from North Carolina, 36 South Carolina and the rest are from surrounding states with Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky being the furthest. Working to tie down a long-term contract with James Island Complex and access to the second complex for the future.

Donna, Cindy, and I have worked with Team Pass creating our tournament registration set up. Queen City Cup will be the first event to utilize the set up.

Bob, Cindy, and I met with Debbie Maffeo, our CPA, to review finances, and then the next week, we met with a Morgan Stanley advisor to review options and next steps for investing in CDs.

Carolinas Cup meetings, Tatas meetings, normal office activities and assisting teams preparing for regionals are just some of the areas of focus over the past month.

- Executive Vice President – No Report
- Treasurer – Treasurer circulated the treasurer's report. Our financial standing is strong. Looking forward to enhancing the return on funds in our savings account.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the April 17, 2023, NCASA Board meeting were approved unanimously.

Growth Initiative

- Registration Report – Registration is strong. The registration report shows by early May, NCASA is close to 2022 numbers.
- First Year Leagues Update – Mooresville Adult Soccer Association has separated from Charlotte Independence Soccer Club, but the league is remaining affiliated with NCASA. (MASA also had been affiliated with NCASA before going under the CISC umbrella.)
- New League Update – NCASA was contacted by a league from Gastonia with 22 teams. The league representative was a former board member of First Flight league. NCASA sent all the information the league requested.

Competitions

- Carolinas Cup – Both NCASA and SCASA are ready.
- Celebrate the Tatas – Committee continues to meet regularly. NCASA has collected \$7,500 in early donations. There are \$17,500 committed in donations on paper. Cindy has secured the donated truck for the event, a saving of \$500.00.
- 2023 USASA Adult Soccer Fest – Registration is strong, but still needs teams in the following divisions to round them out: women's over 30, men's over 40 and men's over 55.

Organizing Committees

- D&A Committee – Cases are scheduled.
- Budget Committee- No report
- AGM Committee – NCSHoF has committed to a date of January 27, 2024, which is close to when NCASA normally holds the AGM, and NCASA should consider scheduling the AGM on the same weekend to enable our members to attend the NCSHoF ceremony.
- Election/Nominations Committee – No report
- NCASA Awards Committee- No report

New Business (motions)

- Travel to USASA Meetings – Region 3 & National Meetings (see text below for motion)
Motion passes unanimously.
- NCASA Player Registration Policy (see text below for motion)
Motion passes unanimously.
- NCASA Membership Policy (see text below for motion)
Motion passes unanimously.

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

& New Business (discussions)

- USASA Player Registration fee categories – USASA has implemented new registration categories and fees. The discussion was centered around the definition of the Premier Players and the merits of a social club player registration.

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:

- Travel to USASA Meetings – Region 3 & National Meetings
- NCASA Player Registration Policy
- NCASA Membership Policy

Travel to USASA Meetings – Region 3 & National Meetings

Whereas, travel to USASA meetings this year is more expensive than anticipated, and
Whereas, USASA Region 3 is holding a regional meeting this year, but the expense for travel to this meeting was not included in the NCASA budget,

Be it resolved that NCASA approves the expenditure of an additional \$8,500 for the “REGIONAL/NATIONAL MEETING” budget line item, and

Be it further resolved that this funding may be used for events including, but not limited to, the Region 3 workshops being held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on June 23-25, 2023, and the USASA Annual Meeting being held in Bonita Springs, Florida, on September 21-24, 2023.

NCASA Player Registration Policy

Be it resolved that NCASA adopts the following NCASA Player Registration Policy:

NCASA Player Registration Policy

May 15, 2023

In accordance with the NCASA Bylaws, all aspects of registration addressed in this article must be handled by and through a designated registrar of an NCASA Affiliate.

Section 1 Purpose and Applicability

- a. This policy applies to Affiliates that register players or teams and to players that register with NCASA.
- b. Players may register through an Affiliate or directly to NCASA.
- c. The registration of players must be submitted through NCASA’s approved electronic registration process under signature of the applicant.
- d. Affiliates must collect individual player registration data as required by state or national associations.
- e. An Affiliate and its members may not allow games or tournaments involving teams or players that are not properly registered and not in good standing with NCASA.
- f. Affiliates may be audited to ensure the requirements of this policy are followed. Any breach in the policy would be considered grounds for the Affiliate to be placed in bad standing.

Section 2 Player Registration Fees

- a. The player registration fees, and registration categories will be established annually by the Board of Directors and approved by the Council. A list of player fees shall be published in the annual budget document.
- b. The player registration fee must be paid annually to NCASA prior to the player participating in any game, tryout, practice, or activity of an Affiliate or in any tournament play.

Section 3 Player Registration

- a. Players must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to register.
- b. Players must register annually to participate. The registration period provides coverage for players from January 1 to December 31 of each year.
- c. Players must be registered and appear on a team roster before they participate in any game, tryout, practice, or activity of an Affiliate or in any tournament play.

Section 4 Insurance Liability Waiver Forms

- a. Affiliates must ensure that a USASA approved Insurance Liability Waiver is digitally or physically signed each year by each player as part of the registration process.
- b. NCASA or the Affiliate must maintain a copy of each such signed form for a period of no fewer than seven years.

Section 5 Team Registration

- a. An Affiliate may register teams and may establish regulations for participation by players on teams within competitions governed by the Affiliate, but such regulations must comply with the state and national requirements.
- b. Players on a league team roster shall be registered under the annual player pass category.
- c. Players on a tournament team roster may be registered under the annual player pass or the temporary tournament player pass category.
- d. An Affiliate or a tournament competition may establish their own age requirements for divisions of play.
- e. Players participating in state, regional, and national competitions must meet the age requirements as established by the rules of the competition, which may differ from Affiliate or other tournament competitions.
- f. The maximum number of players allowed to register for a team within competitions governed by an Affiliate may be determined by the Affiliate.

NCASA Membership Policy

Be it resolved that NCASA adopts the following NCASA Membership Policy:

Membership Affiliation Policy

May 15, 2023

Section 1 Affiliate Membership

Soccer organizations of a minimum of four teams may apply for NCASA membership as an Affiliate. Soccer organizations include, but are not limited to, Leagues and Tournaments. Playing leagues of fewer than four teams may apply for and be granted membership if the NCASA Board believes doing so will be beneficial to the development of new leagues.

Organizations granted membership are Affiliates. An organization may apply to become an Affiliate at any time of the year.

Section 2 Application Process for Affiliate Membership

A soccer organization applying for membership as an Affiliate must submit a complete application to NCASA. The application will be completed and submitted in the manner determined by NCASA, and the application will include at least the following information:

- Official organization name on application
- List of city or areas in which organization will hold competitions.
- Organization point of contact, with mailing address, email, and phone number.
- Organization mailing address and web address.
- A list of officers with addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses, including president, registrar to be trained by NCASA, and discipline and appeal chairperson.

- Every organization applying for membership will have a United States Soccer Federation (“USSF”) certified referee assignor (“certified assignor”) who is properly and currently registered through the North Carolina Soccer Referees Association (“NCSRA”) responsible for assigning the officials to its matches. If the league/entity does not have one listed with complete contact information, NCASA and NCSRA will assist in providing options.
- Signature of organization president/administrator confirming an understanding of the application requirements and determination process.
- A copy of both the Ruling Charter and the By-Laws of the organization, as well as any other policies required by NCASA, USASA, or USSF.
- A general description of the anticipated annual playing calendar and organizational meeting dates.
- Application Fee as set by NCASA.
- Any other information requested by NCASA.

Section 3 Determination Process

Each applicant must submit a complete membership application, including the required affiliation fee. Upon receipt of an application, NCASA will notify the applicant of any information that is missing and must be submitted before the application can be deemed complete. Applicants will be granted provisional status as an Affiliate upon the NCASA Executive Director informing the NCASA President and the NCASA Executive Vice President in writing that the potential Affiliate’s application is complete. Applicants will have all the rights and responsibilities of membership upon being granted provisional status as an Affiliate.

The NCASA President will inform the NCASA Board of Directors and current Affiliates that a completed application for Affiliate status has been received by NCASA at least one week before the next NCASA Board meeting occurring after the NCASA President and Executive Vice President have been informed that a complete application has been received. (If the completed application is received less than one week before the next NCASA Board meeting, the NCASA President will inform the Board and current Affiliates at least one week before the immediately following Board meeting.)

The applicant will be granted permanent status as an Affiliate at the conclusion of the NCASA Board meeting occurring at least one week after the NCASA President has informed the Board and current Affiliates that a completed application for Affiliate status has been received unless a majority of the Board takes specific action to prevent the applicant from receiving permanent status as an Affiliate before the meeting adjourns.

Section 4 Responsibilities of Membership

Affiliates will not discriminate against any individual based on race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin.

Affiliates’ organizational governance documents must include the recognized authority of NCASA, USASA, USSF and FIFA.

Each Affiliate must have a discipline and appeal committee and procedures.

Each Affiliate will register all its players, coaches, teams, and administrators with the NCASA in accordance with the NCASA Registration Policy and timely pay all dues and fees.

Affiliates must annually pay an affiliation renewal fee by January 31 to retain access to NCASA membership benefits, including but not limited to the right to register players, access to field insurance and other insurance coverage, and to maintain voting rights. The amount of the renewal fee is established by the Council.

Affiliates must provide NCASA with any other requested information on an ongoing basis, including information on each Affiliate's current officers, discipline and appeals chairperson, registrar, and referee assignor.

Section 5 Rights of Full Affiliate Membership

Affiliates in good standing with NCASA in accordance with the NCASA constitution, by-laws and policies will enjoy all benefits afforded by NCASA, USASA, and USSF to its members, in accordance with the constitution, by-laws and policies of NCASA, USASA, and USSF.

The benefits of NCASA to its Affiliates include but are not limited to:

- Specialized Affiliate Management Software
- Centralized Communication
- USASA's insurance program for Affiliates and players
- NCASA, USASA and USSF competitions and tournaments
- Access USSF certified assignors and match officials through NCSRA.
- Access to Referee Training, Certification, and Development through NCSRA
- USSF coaching education programs
- Affiliate vote at the NCASA Annual General Meeting
- Annual NCASA Awards
- Eligible to become officers of NCASA, USASA and USSF
- Access to staffed State Office/ Single point of Information
- Affiliate Administration Support and Consultation
- Annual NCASA Workshops
- Interactive website

2023 NCASA REGISTRATION REPORT

Leagues:	Player Registrations													Total # Players					
	As of												2023	2020					
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May 8	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	2022	2021	Covid			
ABASA	356	810	65	27	23								1281	1671	1433	932			
AC Sandhills	0	0	0	0	0								0	0	0	31			
Catawba	42	71	11	0	0								124	193	146	61			
Charlotte Independence														692	485	0			
North Meck	65	95	11	3	0								174						
Rock Hill	105	62	8	1	0								176						
Mooresville	85	200	9	2	0								296						
CPSL	518	18	19	4	4								563	690	661	614			
First Flight League	0	68	134	16	11								229	279	484	0			
Metrolina	27	671	20	2	1								721	889	727	688			
NCASA Annual Pass	203	77	10	9	3								302	308	48	7			
Pitt Greenville	6	59	115	18	5								203	210	182	134			
Premier Adult	0	82	37	4	0								123	195	130	118			
Seashore Soccer League	0	1	8	0	0								9	39	73	0			
Swansboro	0	139	86	9	1								235	391	312	278			
TASL	1997	281	121	51	35								2485	3327	2926	2413			
OCASL @TASL	23	410	55	11	13								512	628	0	0			
Wilmington	454	116	15	46	15								646	775	712	474			
Winston Salem	53	116	2	0	0								171	184	201	218			
TOTAL League Players	3934	3276	726	203	111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8250	10471	8520	5968			
Tournament Only Passes:																			
Beer City Cup																	841	879	
Beer City Cup Savannah	421	320	34										775						
Carolinas Cup Charleston				20	4								24	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				8	5								13	10	1				
TOTAL Tourney Passes	421	320	34	28	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	812	1554	1527				
Temporary Passes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27				
TOTAL # PLAYERS	4355	3596	760	36									9062	12025	10074	5968			