



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
January 26, 2025
Greensboro Coliseum, Greensboro, NC

Call to Order: 9:10am

WELCOME

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

President – Sam Cohen

Executive Vice President – Donna Langdon

Secretary – Chad Garber – *Not Present*

Treasurer – Bob Kepner

NCSRA Liaison - Paul James - *Not Present*

VP League Support – Jeremy Mikell – *Not Present*

VP Competitions Women’s and Coed – Alex Vidaurri

VP Competitions – Men – Scott Eisenbraun

VP of Marketing and Communications – vacant

VP Women’s Membership & Development II – Laura Collins

VP Membership & Development – vacant

VP Community Development – Fil Wilkinson – *Not Present*

D&A Chairman – Mario Garcia – *Not Present*

Non – Voting Board Member

Executive Director – Darius Ejlali

Assistant to the Director – Cindy Morrison

Asheville Buncombe Adult Soccer Association	6 votes
Catawba Valley Adult Soccer Association	1 vote
Charlotte Premier Soccer League	3 votes
Metrolina Adult Soccer League	5 votes
Mooresville Adult Soccer Association	2 votes – <i>Not Present</i>
Pitt-Greenville Soccer Association Adult League	2 votes
Premier Adult Soccer League	1 vote
Swansboro Soccer Association Adult League	2 votes – <i>Not Present</i>
Triangle Adult Soccer League	7 votes
Transylvania Adult Soccer Association	1 vote
Wake Women’s Soccer League	1 vote
Wilmington Adult Soccer Club	5 votes – <i>Not Present</i>
Winston-Salem Adult Soccer League	1 votes

Voting Strength

Leagues	37 votes
Executive Committee	10 votes
Total:	47 votes
24 votes simple majority	

Voting Strength at Roll Call

Leagues	27 votes
Executive Committee	6 votes
Total:	33 votes
17 votes simple majority	

- *Laura Collins representing WWSL and NCASA, voting as board member*

Approval of Minutes for 2024 AGM

Scott Eisenbraun made a motion to approve
Bob Kepner seconded
Motion passed unanimously

2024 REPORTS - President, Executive Director, Treasurer

President's Report - Presented by Sam Cohen, President

Welcomed everyone. Congratulated the leagues and board for a tremendous 2024. Discussed the growth of the association and achievements by leagues, board and staff.

Executive Director's Report – Presented by Darius Ejlali - ED

Highlighted the accomplishments of 2024.

Treasurer's Report - Presented by Bob Kepner, Treasurer

Treasurer's report presented, which outlined the success of 2024 and the budget process.

Celebrate the Tatas Report – Presented by Alex Vidaurri, VP Competition Women's and Coed

Our 11th annual Celebrate the Tatas Tournament was our biggest ever. The tournament added a new division, over 35. 17 teams competed in three divisions. The tournament had two special guests. Cindy Parlow-Cone, US Soccer's President spoke to the teams and mingled with the players, talking about some of her soccer experiences and taking photos. The second guest was Kim Crabbe, US Soccer's first African American player to compete on the Women's National Team. The event was a huge success raising \$65,000.00 to donate between Novant Health Foundation and Levine Cancer Institute, a \$10,000 increase from last year.

Carolinas Cup Report - Presented by Darius Ejlali

2024 Carolinas Cup Series

2024 Carolinas Cup – Charleston – 74 teams
20 teams NCASA / 39 teams SCASA / 15 out-of-state

2024 Carolinas Cup – Winston Salem – 82 teams
Largest Carolinas Cup to date.

14 Divisions

NCASA streamed matches all day Saturday and streamed Championships on Sunday.

2024 Carolinas Cup – Winston-Salem Champions and Finalists

Men's Amateur Platinum
Men's Diamond Amateur

Champion – Say Word FC*
Champion – FC Boone

Finalist – Tobacco Rd. FC
Finalist – Camel City FC

Men's Gold Amateur	Champion – Frostbite FC	Finalist – Boca Jr.
Men's Silver Amateur	Champion – Lake Norman FC	Finalist – Misfits FC
Women's Amateur Platinum	Champion – Capital Pride FC*	Finalist – Queen City FC*
Women's Over 35	Champion – Lady Beagles	Finalist – SEWVSA
Men's Over 30	Champions – Extra Crisp*	Finalist - Queens 1990*
Men's Over 40	Champion - Sporting TRFC*	Finalist – NC Fusion*
Men's Silver Over 40	Champion – Out West FC	Finalist – FC Boone
Men's Over 50	Champion – ACR Fitty	Finalist – Valhalla Vikings
Men's Over 55	Champion – Kentucky Waterfall	Finalist – Silver Elite 55
Men's Over 60	Champion – Curmudgeons	Finalist – CPSL Charlotte
Coed Gold	Champion – Off-Season FC	Finalist – La Real QCFC
Coed Silver	Champion – Pup-N-Suds	Finalist – SCU Heat

USASA National Cup Regional Championship will be held in Greenville, NC - June 13-15

*Teams that will be representing NCASA at the 2025 USASA National Cup Regional Championship on their pursuit of a National Championship.

NCSRA Report – Submitted by Paul James

Submitted the NCSRA Report stating the number of registered referees and the programs that NCSRA does to educate referees, retain referees and to recruit referees.

Reports by Member Leagues

PGSAAL – Dean Froelich - PSSAAL has doubled in size. Offering 3 seasons; spring, summer and fall. The league has introduced a new Open division. The over 40 and Women's divisions have been successful, and the coed division is strong.

MASL – Andrew Lee – Metrolina Adult Soccer League has done very well in 2024. We have experienced a fair amount of growth this year. The demand for play has outpaced our field access. MASL is looking to lock down more turf fields due to weather and grass field quality. The league has added an over 35 division. We are all very proud of the accomplishments of MASL this year.

WSASL – Sep Domenech – In 2024, WSASL had 10 8v8 teams, we offer prize money for the league champion and then we go into a tournament play-off which also offers prize money to the champion. Moving into 2025, WSASL has grown by 8 teams.

PASL - Siler Southerland – We are a an 11v11 division of committed teams. It is a very competitive division. The league is fun, and it provides the players and teams with what they want. We want to provide more 11v11 opportunities. Looking into a possible 11v11 league for women.

WWSL – Laura Collins – We had a great year. We almost doubled in size. 2024 we registered 8 teams and are looking to grow to 10 teams in 2025. The league also offers pre-season training sessions for players to hone their skills. The pre-season training has been well received, over 24 women signed up. We are really happy with TeamPass registration system and utilizing the app. It's been a great tool for the league.

CPSL – Jeff Carpenter - We've started our 2025 spring season early. We have already started our season due to field access, weather and lack of makeup time, utilizing the turf fields in the area. Only lost one team from 2024 and we were able to place the players on to existing teams. Looking forward to 2025.

TASL – David Zabarsky – We've had a very good year. We've continued to grow. We have approximately 5,200 players. Coed makes up our largest division. We identify VIP players such as women and goalies to assist teams. Having an Executive Director and assistance is the way we keep everything running smooth. We work closely with the youth organization, NCFC, who are developing fields. We have a good working relationship with our referee assigner, Jude Carr. TASL does not do any social media outreach.

ABASA - Felice Lopez Bell – ABASA had an excellent 2024 season until Hurricane Helene. ABASA had served over 1500 players. We were focused on providing more opportunities for our players, we implemented the guest pass program that helped us bring on new players and create more opportunities. We developed trans-athlete policy and had it reviewed by a DEI agency. The policy lines up with NCAA trans-athlete policy. Prior to Helene, ABASA was excited about a second division for women, following what WWSL had implemented. ABASA recruited over 100 new women players between the ages of 18 to 65, taking the league from 18% to 22% women. ABASA used the partnership with the Asheville City SC, ABASA set up a booth and gave away free women’s soccer cleats. We conducted clinics for the women, utilizing the former professional soccer players living in the Asheville area. We are planning to pursue adding the women’s division in spring 2025 given availability of fields.

TASA – Adam Spencer – Our first season was positive. Brevard is a small sleepy mountain town, and we have our first lighted field in 2023. It started out with an app to organize adult pick up to see what the interest was from the community. Within a month we had over 100 people. That interest grew to over 200 players. I contacted Fil Wilkinson at MASA and appreciated his guidance. We have a large Brazilian community, and they put in a team. TASA wants to document each season. We make a highlight video of each season from a player that has his own production company. We have an end of the year celebration and viewed the videos. It was a great year, and we are excited for more.

New Business

2025 NCASA Proposed Budget – Presented by Sam Cohen

See Appendix A For 2025 Proposed Budget

Floor open to questions

Friendly amendment made & accepted to replace the previously circulated version of the budget with a corrected version of the budget (addressing calculation errors in earlier version).

Motion to approve the 2025 NCASA Proposed Budget (as amended)

Budget is approved unanimously.

Permitting Players Under Age 18 to Participate in NCASA-Sanctioned Activities – Presented by Sam Cohen

See Appendix B

Floor open to questions

Motion to approve

Motion approved unanimously.

Definition of Registered Player for AGM Voting Strength – Presented by Sam Cohen

See Appendix C

Floor open to questions

Motion to approve

Motion approved unanimously.

Elections

Positions up for election, President, Secretary, VP Competition Men’s, VP Women’s Membership and

Development, VP Marketing and Communications, VP Membership and Development.
Paul James runs the elections:

There were no contested elections, all candidates were elected by acclamation.

- Sam Cohen was elected as NCASA President.
- Chad Garber was elected as NCASA Secretary.
- Scott Eisenbraun was elected as NCASA VP Competition - Men.
- Laura Collins was elected as NCASA VP Women's Membership and Development.
- Lan Dunne was elected as NCASA VP Marketing and Communications.

The position of VP of Membership & Development remains vacant.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 NCASA Award Winners

We want to recognize our 2023 award recipients.

Crampton - Harrison Award – Andrew Lee

Dave Williams Award – Chad Rogers

John M. Bouda Award – Michael-Jon Tehini

Coach of the Year – Women – Ana Jimenez

Coach of the Year – Men – Elias Burch

Media Award – Dominic Rajagopal

Ejlali – Langdon Award – Mary McLamb

Good of the Game

Thank you to Bob Kepner for all that he has done for soccer in NC. What NCASA is today is a result of the vision and seed planted over 30 years ago, Thank you Mr. Kepner.

Motion to Adjourn

Appendix A

2025 NCASA Budget

Whereas, the NCASA Constitution & Bylaws require the NCASA Board of Directors to develop an annual budget and provide it to Council members in writing at least 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting (AGM) so that it can be approved at the AGM, and

Whereas, reimbursement for any expense that is not in the budget must be voted upon by the Board Be it resolved that the NCASA Board of Directors recommend the following budget for approval by the Council at the AGM:

2025 Proposed Budget with Comparisons

	2024 APPROVED BUDGET	2024 AMENDED BUDGET (see note 1)	2024 ACTUALS (see note 2)	2025 PROPOSED BUDGET	
OPERATIONAL BUDGET					
INCOME					
Interest	15,000.00	15,000.00	26,746.04	17,000.00	Federal Reserve has been lowering rates, may continue into 2025
Credit Cash Rewards	750.00	750.00	896.32	800.00	
Player Registration (11,750 @ \$30)	330,000.00	330,000.00	389,144.10	352,500.00	11,750 players
Player Registration (150 @ \$20)			4,240.00	3,000.00	1 new potential league at 150 players; assumes using Incentive Fund to reduce annual player pass to \$20
Transfer to Operational Budget from Incentive Fund				1,500.00	\$10 per player from new league
Single Event (700 @ \$15)	15,000.00	15,000.00	12,615.00	10,500.00	700 players
League Affiliations @ \$50.00	650.00	650.00	650.00	700.00	13 Current leagues plus 1 new league
Permission to Host Fees @ \$25.00	50.00	50.00	-	75.00	Hummer in the Summer, Queen City, & Beer City Asheville
International Game Fee	-		6,777.28		Intl Game Fee is not budgeted
USASA Reimbursement for D&O	465.00	465.00	465.00	465.00	
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME	361,915.00	361,915.00	441,533.74	386,540.00	
Direct Public Support			5,000.00		Donation
TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT			5,000.00		
Other Types of Income			12,000.00	12,000.00	AED Reimbursement: assumes 30 AEDs; reimbursement from USASA and leagues/teams purchasing AEDs
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS INCOME			12,000.00	12,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	361,915.00	361,915.00	458,533.74	398,540.00	
EXPENSES					
Payments to USASA					
USASA Affiliation Fee	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	USASA Annual Affiliation
Player Registration Fee	128,160.00	128,160.00	152,244.00	138,960.00	11,580 players @ \$12
PREMIER Registration Fee	4,480.00	4,480.00	5,292.00	4,480.00	320 players @ \$14
Single Event Registration Fee	8,000.00	8,000.00	6,624.00	5,600.00	700 players @ \$8
SUBTOTAL	140,740.00	140,740.00	164,260.00	149,140.00	

Appendix A continued

Contract Services

Accounting Fees	7,500.00	7,500.00	8,155.28	8,200.00	See Technology Category
Outside Contract Svcs		-	-	-	
Website hosting Svcs/Social Media					
SUBTOTAL	7,500.00	7,500.00	8,155.28	8,200.00	

Facilities and Equipment

Depr and Amort – Allowable	400.00	400.00	1,563.68	1,700.00	Equipment Repair
Equip Rental and Maintenance	200.00	200.00	527.84	800.00	
Rent (appeared in 2023 Operations)	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	
SUBTOTAL	3,000.00	3,000.00	4,491.52	4,900.00	

Operations

Bank Charges (Arbiter)	300.00	300.00	897.62	900.00	Arbitor Pay, Quickbooks, Payroll, Medical. Finance Charges, Morgan
Merchant Discount Online Fees	1,300.00	1,300.00	800.57	900.00	Stripe Fees, PayPal Fees, Square Fees
Registration TeamPass Fees	24,000.00	24,000.00	30,672.00	25,200.00	12,600 players @ \$2.00 per player
Postage, Mailing Service	100.00	100.00	225.42	250.00	
Supplies & Copies	1,000.00	1,000.00	691.25	750.00	
Telephone, Telecommunications	1,300.00	1,300.00	2,165.45	1,600.00	
Technology	7,000.00	7,000.00	5,650.53	7,000.00	Online services - Computer Services, website domains and services; Constant
SUBTOTAL	35,000.00	35,000.00	41,102.84	36,600.00	

Other Types of Expenses

Marketing/Advertising/Outreach	5,000.00	5,000.00	4,514.05	6,000.00	Professional Assistance
Insurance - Liability, D & O	465.00	465.00	465.00	465.00	
Grants			23,997.98		
NC Soccer Hall of Fame	1,520.00	1,520.00	1,520.00	1,680.00	NCSHoF Donation plus table of eight
AED Program Purchases			20,460.00	19,800.00	2025 AED Program 30 units @ \$660
Other Costs (Donations, Regionals support)	3,000.00	3,000.00	2,162.01	3,000.00	Potential Hosting Support
Miscellaneous				3,000.00	
SUBTOTAL	9,985.00	9,985.00	53,119.04	33,945.00	

Payroll Expenses

Salary & Wages	94,650.00	94,650.00	92,056.98	94,650.00	EE Salaries
Payroll Tax Expense	7,098.75	7,098.75	7,461.42	7,098.75	7.50%
6% Benefit	4,261.00	4,261.00	5,477.94	4,261.14	6% for full time employee
Medical Insurance	7,354.00	7,354.00	7,441.20	7,491.12	8.00%
SUBTOTAL	113,363.75	113,363.75	112,437.54	113,501.01	

Travel and Meetings

NCASA AGM (in-person)	8,000.00	8,000.00	6,012.28	7,000.00	Hotel, Membership Book, Awards, Meals, Meeting Space
Executive Comm/Conf Calls /Zoom	150.00	150.00	159.90	160.00	
Regional/National Meetings	18,000.00	18,000.00	13,434.70	18,000.00	US Soccer AGM - 5 attendees, USASA AGM - 5 attendees, Region III Workshop -
NC Soccer HOF Dinner	2,250.00	2,250.00	975.00	1,100.00	Additional NCSHoF tickets
Travel (BOD Non-Meeting)	200.00	200.00	165.05	200.00	
SUBTOTAL	28,600.00	28,600.00	20,746.93	26,460.00	

Appendix A continued

Competitions Support

Carolinas Cup-Charleston					
Tournament Support	2,185.00	2,185.00	1,492.74	1,700.00	Staff & Volunteers
Carolinas Cup - WS					
WNC Team Subsidy			8,500.00		
Beer City Cup Travel	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,487.04	1,600.00	Staff & Volunteers
Queen City Cup Travel	800.00	800.00	725.39	850.00	Staff & Volunteers
Other Tournaments				1,000.00	Staff & Volunteers - potential new event
SUBTOTAL	4,085.00	4,085.00	12,205.17	5,150.00	

National Cup (Reg III) Support

Team Entry Fees	2,450.00	2,450.00	2,450.00	3,250.00	\$150 Amateur Men, \$150 Amateur Women / \$350 RIII USASA Regional Fee (8 teams - 1men;s amateur, 2 women's amateur, 2 men's over 30, 2 men's over 40 and 1 men's over 50
Team Travel Support	5,500.00	8,500.00	6,500.00	8,500.00	\$1000 per Champion / \$500.00 per Finalist to Regionals / Travel Subsidy for potential National Final Four (\$2K)
Referee Travel	-	-	-	1,200.00	Top Referee from Carolinas Cup to Regionals
Officer Travel	4,000.00	6,000.00	4,513.99	6,000.00	2 officers to regionals, 1 officer to Final Four, 1 officer to Champions of Regions
Tournament Equipment	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,086.51	1,000.00	
SUBTOTAL	13,950.00	18,950.00	15,550.50	19,950.00	

TOTAL EXPENSE	356,223.75	361,223.75	432,068.82	397,846.01	
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NET INCOME	5,691.25	691.25	26,464.92	693.99	
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Note 1 - NCASA voted to increase team travel subsidy by \$3,000.00 and officer travel by \$2,000.00 due to NCASA having two teams in the National Final Four

Note 2 - NCASA BOD had several unbudgeted expenses - \$24,000 for six sets of goals, \$8,000.00 in AED costs and \$5,000.00 increase to team and officer travel

Appendix A continued

COMPETITIONS BUDGET

Carolinas Cup

	2024 Approved Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Proposed Budget
INCOME			
Tournaments	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 73,800.44	\$ 59,500.00
EXPENSES			
Tournaments	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 71,124.52	\$ 59,500.00
NET INCOME	\$ -	\$ 2,675.92	\$ -

Celebrate the Tatas

	2024 Approved Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Proposed Budget
INCOME			
Tournaments	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 9,350.00	\$ 8,800.00
EXPENSES			
Tournaments	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 8,321.33	\$ 8,800.00
NET INCOME	\$ -	\$ 1,028.67	\$ -

NC State League (State-Wide League)

	2024 Approved Budget	2024 Actuals	2025 Proposed Budget
INCOME			
Leagues	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 9,570.00	\$ 12,000.00
EXPENSES			
Leagues	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 9,280.02	\$ 12,000.00
NET INCOME	--	\$ 289.98	\$ -

Permitting Players Under Age 18 to Participate in NCASA-Sanctioned Activities – Presented by Sam Cohen

Whereas, the NCASA by-laws require a player to be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to apply for membership with NCASA, and

Whereas, this requirement was imposed in response to concerns over the impact of SafeSport requirements on NCASA and/or Affiliates permitting players younger than 18 years of age to participate, and

Whereas, prior to SafeSport, some NCASA Member Leagues chose to permit a small number of players under age 18 to participate, and

Whereas, other USASA state associations and other USASA member organizations continue to allow players younger than 18 years of age to participate while maintaining compliance with SafeSport requirements, and

Whereas, NCASA and some NCASA Member Leagues may wish to permit players younger than 18 years of age to participate in appropriate circumstances, and

Whereas, changes to the NCASA By-laws require a two-thirds vote of Council members present and voting at an officially called meeting,

Be it resolved that the NCASA Board of Directors recommend the following actions be approved by the Council at the Annual General Meeting to be held in January 2025:

1. Strike the text of NCASA By-Laws, Article II – Membership, Section 3, and replace it as follows:

~~Application of membership by individuals to Affiliates or to NCASA must be submitted through NCASA's approved electronic registration process under signature of the applicant. Players must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to apply for membership with NCASA.~~

Application of membership by individuals to Affiliates or to NCASA must be submitted through NCASA's approved electronic registration process under signature of the applicant. Players must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to apply for membership with NCASA, unless the Affiliate through which they are registering has informed NCASA that it has chosen to permit players younger than eighteen (18) years of age to participate and the player has completed all waivers required by the Affiliate and/or NCASA. No players younger than sixteen (16) years of age may apply for membership with NCASA.

2. Strike the text of the NCASA Player Registration Policy, Section 3 Player Registration, and replace it as follows:

~~Players must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to register.~~

Players must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age to register, unless the Affiliate through which they are registering has informed NCASA that it has chosen to permit players younger than eighteen (18) years of age to participate and the player has completed all waivers required by the Affiliate and/or NCASA. No players younger than sixteen (16) years of age may register.

3. Instruct NCASA to amend its SafeSport Policy no later than its April 2025 Board meeting to ensure that NCASA and its Member Leagues remain in compliance with SafeSport if players younger than eighteen (18) years of age are allowed to participate. At a minimum, NCASA will amend its SafeSport Policy, Section 4 Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy, to include

appropriate provisions for interacting with minor athletes. NCASA also will revise its policies to (i) require that Affiliates wishing to permit players under the age of eighteen (18) have in place appropriate SafeSport policies and (ii) describe how compliance with these requirements will be monitored & enforced.

Appendix C

Definition of Registered Player for AGM Voting Strength – Presented by Sam Cohen

Whereas, the number of voting representatives for each Affiliate at the NCASA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is determined by the Affiliate’s player registrations, and

Whereas, the NCASA By-laws specify that player registrations for determining Affiliate voting power are based on actual payments received by NCASA, and

Whereas, NCASA’s practice has been to interpret this provision by assigning a player registration to the Affiliate through which the player first registers in a registration year, even if the player subsequently registers with another Affiliate during the same registration year, and

Whereas, another method for counting player registrations would be to give credit for a player registration to each league to which a player registers during a registration year, even though the NCASA player registration fee is paid only once,

Be it resolved that the NCASA Board of Directors makes the following recommendations to the Council for approval at the Annual General Meeting to be held in January 2025:

1. For purposes of Council voting strength, a player shall be counted as a registered player of each NCASA Affiliate league to which that player registered, as described and implemented more fully below:

2. Strike the text of NCASA By-laws Article III, Section 2, and replace it with the following:

Each Affiliate’s player registration number at the end of the previous calendar year based on actual payments received by NCASA shall be used to determine that Affiliate’s voting power.

The voting power of each Affiliate shall be based on the Affiliate’s total number of registered players during the previous calendar year. The term “registered players” shall refer to those persons who (i) registered to an Affiliate league and paid the league fee; and (ii) also registered and paid for an annual NCASA Player Pass. The term “registered players” does not include persons for whom the annual NCASA Player Pass fee is refunded.

3. For purposes of clarity:

NCASA will consider a player to still be a “registered player” if a NCASA Affiliate issues a refund of its league fee to a player, but the annual NCASA Player Pass fee is not refunded.

A “guest player” shall be counted as a “registered player” of each NCASA Affiliate to which that player registered.