



NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2025

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, Ian Dunne

Not Present: Paul James, Laura Collins, Fil Wilkinson

Quorum determined.

Officer & Staff Reports

- President – Welcome. This is our last meeting of the summer, as everyone is getting ready for the Fall season. Plus, tournament season with the Celebrate the Tatas in October and Carolinas Cup in December.

Thank you to Laura Collins for the quarterly newsletter.

To all board members, thank you for the support everyone has shown to Cindy Morrison and Darius Ejlali and for attending Landon Morrison's Celebration of Life.

- Executive Director – Thank you to all for your support during our challenging times. As usual, August has been a busy month. Towards the end of July, NCASA prepared 4 teams traveling for the USASA Final Four. NCASA traveled to Charlotte to member tournaments, The Kedo Cup and the 10th Anniversary Queen City Cup. Met with NC Fusion to discuss Carolinas Cup. Members have been playing because injury claims are being filed. Celebrate the Tatas committee meetings are regular, and the Carolinas Cup committee will begin after Labor Day.
- Executive Vice President – Assisting leagues opening registration as they get ready for the Fall season.
- Treasurer – The treasurer's report was distributed and a review of income and expenses as compared to where the association was in the previous year was given.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve July 21, 2025, minutes.
Minutes were approved unanimously

Growth Initiative

- Registration Report – As of the end of July, NCASA registration is over 11,000. As Fall registration opens, our registration numbers will grow quickly. Registration numbers are strong; the registrar reports show NCASA just under 11,000 annual passes at the time the report was created but as of the meeting date,

NCASA has registered just over 11,000 players but still tracking slightly behind 2024 numbers. Summer registration has just begun for most leagues.

- First Year Leagues Update – No report
- New League Update – No report

Competitions

- Carolinas Cup – Costs for the facility has significantly increased, and NC Fusion is now charging separately for certain items that previously were built into the contract, such as security, parking attendants and Port-a-Potty cleaning services.

On a positive note, Fusion has expanded the size of field 13 making it large enough to add to our scheduling ,which will be a welcomed additional field.

- Celebrate the Tatas – Tatas committee meets regularly. Registration is open and teams are signing up. Currently 7 teams registered and paid with 10 other teams have given verbal commitments. This year looks on course to be one of our largest Tatas tournaments to date.
- Queen City Cup – Held its 10th anniversary. Teams came from many areas around NCASA, Wilmington won the Open division, TASA team won the Competitive Coed, and the weather was great. It was a very successful Cup.
- KEDO Cup – Held in Mooresville. The tournament was small with five very competitive teams, two from the Raleigh area, two from the Charlotte area, and a fifth team, which was an all-star team from multiple teams, that won the event. It rained almost the entire time. Alex Joseph, the organizer, really appreciated NCASA's presence and support of the event.
- Beer City Cup – Labor Day weekend in Asheville, has 116 teams.
- USASA National Cup Championships – The National Men's Amateur Cup and Women's Amateur Cup, along with the Men's Over 30 and Men's Over 40 Final Four, took place in Milwaukee, WI, July 25-26. NCASA had teams in all four events. NCASA's Women's champion, Capital Pride, made it to the Championship only to lose to 3-peat Champion, Pan World Elite. Queens 1990 defeated Cheshire SC from Region I to become USASA National Champion in the Men's Over 30. Sporting TRFC lost to Athletico Torino in the National Championship for the Men's Over 40, and our NCSL league Champions Say Word FC lost to Adria from Chicago 1-0 in a hard-fought match. Adria lost to West Chester United in the National Amateur Championship. Every Region secured a Championship; Region I secured the Men's Amateur Championship, Region IV took the National Women's Amateur Championship, Region III won the Men's Over 30 title, and Region II won the Men's Over 40 title.

Organizing Committees

- D&A Committee – Cases are all up to date.
- Budget & Finance Committees – No Report
- AGM Committee – No Report
- Election/Nominations Committee – No Report
- NCASA Awards Committee – No Report

Board Member Reports

New Business (motions)

- Carolinas Cup Budget – (see below)
Motion passed unanimously

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

Old & New Business (discussions)

- TST discussions regarding a play-in tournament for amateurs. TST has sent a proposal that is geared towards licensing their name to run a play-in tournament versus a partnership event. With the financial numbers presented, on the surface it does not look feasible for NCASA to pursue. There will be ongoing conversations.
- Regarding the Over 30 and Over 40 National Cup, discussions were held with several USASA NBOD at the USASA National Cup in Milwaukee. The responses varied, but the O30 and O40 will not be part of the Men and Women's Amateur Cup, and thus it would not be funded by the national office. However, the O30 and O40 competitions may be implemented by the regions. Region III Director is interested in holding the O30 and O40 competition in conjunction with the Region III Men and Women's Amateur Regional Championships.
- NCASA needs to appoint a member to the State Referee Committee. There have been no nominees. Scott Eisenbraun volunteered, and he will serve the remaining time of that position's term, and we will revisit the appointment when that term is up.
- Bob Kepner led the discussion on Field Development Initiative. The idea holds merit and deserves to be discussed at length to vet the topic. Explore utilizing our reserves to assist and support leagues taking serious steps towards building fields.

Finding ways to partner with leagues, municipalities, governing organizations and local community support will be essential. The ideas raised included assisting locals in fundraising and combining forces in areas where there are multiple leagues to have a stronger foundation moving forward. This item is a big concept and needs more information.

For the Good of the Game / Announcements

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn approved– 8:17pm

Carolinas Cap Budget

Whereas the Budgetary Spending Authority Policy requires the Carolinas Cup committee to present to the Board for approval a proposed budget describing how funds already budgeted in the annual budget for the Carolinas Cup are expected to be spent no later than three months before the start date of the Carolinas Cup tournament;

Whereas the Budgetary Spending Authority Policy allows the Carolinas Cup committee to expend funds beyond the budgeted funds up to the amount of revenues from the event, and

Whereas the August 18, 2025, NCASA Board meeting is the final Board meeting occurring more than three months before the start date of the Carolinas Cup tournament,

Be it resolved that the Board authorizes the Carolinas Cup committee to spend funds in a manner consistent with the following proposed budget (with permitted spending adjustments for increases or decreases in the number of actually registering teams), which covers the spending of the already budgeted funds of \$59,500 plus necessary additional funds, with the additional spending primarily paid for by additional revenues from the event (e.g., additional registration fees, sponsorships, and donations, including in-kind donations), and the remainder to be covered by money from the NCASA's general fund:

[Motions continued on next page]

Carolinas Cup (State Cup) Budget Proposal - 2025		
	82 Teams	Comments
Income		
Team Registration	\$ 69,700	\$850 per team; same fee as 2024; 2024 actuals & budget include NCSL payments for champion entries
Western NC Team Entry Fees	--	NCSA paid entry fees for 10 teams from Western NC impacted by Hurricane Helene from the General Fund
Player Pay Team Entry Fee Overage	--	In 2024, began allowing teams to pay the team entry fee by having players directly pay a portion of the fee; overage occurs when per player fee was set at a level that exceeded normal entry fee due to number of players who registered (compared to captain's initial expectation)
National Cup Entry Fee (\$100)	\$ 1,200	Collected \$100 National Cup Entry fee from all teams entering the Men's Amateur and Women's Amateur divisions; National Cup Entry fee was on top of the Carolinas Cup entry fee; assuming 8 Men's Amateur & 4 Women's Amateur teams enter; do not know yet if there will be a National Cup entry fee in 2025, but including in our registration amount
Apparel Sale	\$ 1,845	Sold \$2,140 in 2024 with 82 teams; sold \$1.6K in 2023 with 76 teams; estimating \$22.50 in apparel sales per team
Hotel Rebate	\$ 325	Had budgeted \$730 in 2024 based on 2023 actuals; generally receive \$5 per room booked (Stacey also gets \$5 per room booked), plus 1 room comped for every 15 booked; showing revenue here and showing full cost of rooms in Expenses
Hotel Comp room value	\$ 450	Had budgeted \$450 in 2024 based on 2023 actuals; generally receive \$5 per room booked (Stacey also gets \$5 per room booked), plus 1 room comped for every 15 booked; showing revenue here and showing full cost of rooms in Expenses
SC Contribution (Referee Hotel Rooms)	--	South Carolina generally covers housing costs of referees from SC (direct payment) - normally covers cost of 6 rooms (3 per night); not showing amounts on revenue or expense line-items (not clear if SCASA has paid for referees to attend in the last few years)
NCASA Subsidy	--	No subsidy included in NCASA budget (but any shortfall is covered by NCASA general fund)
Food & Alcohol sales	--	Beer vendor (Small Batch Brewery) retains all revenue from beer sales, but donates championship beer; per contract, Truist Park handles food vendors (and retains revenue subject to agreements with food vendors)
Sponsorship	\$ 2,810	Exploring options for additional sponsorships; budget (but not actuals) includes estimated value of in-kind donations - McAllister's lunch (for budgeting purposes, valuing at \$10 per lunch), Championship Beer (for budgeting purposes, valuing at \$5 per beer, 23 people per division) (same value for in-kind donations reflected in applicable expense line items)
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 76,330	\$59,500 included in 2025 NCASA Budget (based on 70 teams @ \$850/team)
Expenses		
Fields - Truist Soccer Park	\$ 15,000	Includes Fields, Lights, Carts (x2) Cost no longer included as part of base facility rental; per conversation with Truist, police care fee = \$25/day; police officer = \$45-\$60 per hour (depending on availability); must have one police officer I using every field and/or having alcohol (and we have both); assuming will have officer for 14 hours (8 am - 10 pm) each day; assuming \$50 per hour for budgeting
Fields - Truist Soccer Park - Security	\$ 1,400	Cost no longer included as part of base facility rental; per conversations with Truist, estimating 3 parking attendants per day, \$35 per hour, working 8 am - 3 pm (Saturday) & 8 am - 12 pm (Sunday) (based on 2024 actual parking attendants); Parking attendants must work a minimum of 4 hours.
Fields - Truist Soccer Park - Parking Attendants	\$ 1,155	Cost no longer included as part of base facility rental; \$35 per portable restroom per cleaning; 11 portable restrooms projected; need to clarify if need one cleaning during tournament or one per day (i.e., two cleanings during tournament); budgeting for two cleanings
Fields - Truist Soccer Park - Portable Restrooms	\$ 770	For additional fields (beyond Truist Park) to handle expanded tournament; estimate is a WAG pending further discussions with Fusion; with each field location, will also have other associated costs, e.g., trainers, that will need to be added to the budget
Fields - Additional Fields	\$ -	
Referees		
Game Referees & ARs	\$ 27,450	\$215/match - Men's Amateur Platinum, Men's O30 Gold, Men O40 Gold, Women's Amateur Gold \$185/match - All other divisions Include \$65/match for 4th officials for qualifying division finals (4 divisions) Referee fees kept at same level as 2024
4th Officials	--	\$65/match - for qualifying division finals only (Men's Amateur Gold, Men's O30 Gold, Men's O40 Gold, Women's Amateur Gold); included in Game Referee & ARs expense line
Reserve Officials	\$ 780	\$30 per reserve; limiting to 2 reserves per time slot (based on 2024 decision); 26 total (13 time slots) (Standard per SRA - Allocate 1 ref reserve (in case of injury) per 4 games per time slot)
Assigning	\$ 2,100	\$15 per match
Ref. Coord.	\$ 850	Includes on site coordination/per diem (approx. \$37.50/day)/travel (approx. \$55); 2023=\$600; may need bigger increase for expanded tournament
2nd Ref. Coord	\$ 900	TO DISCUSS WITH REFEREE ASSIGNOR - Includes on site coordination/per diem (approx. \$37.50/day)/travel (approx. \$55); 2023=\$550; may need bigger increase for expanded tournament
Additional Ref Coordinators	\$ -	Used to pay for 3rd & 4th ref coordinators; stopped paying for them, but now cost of 2 ref coordinators appears to be equal to former payments for all four coordinators
Saturday Lunches - Refs & Staff (McAllister)	\$ 1,200	Saturday lunches sponsored by McAllister; in-kind value of lunches included in budget (in income & expense section), but not in actuals; for budget, assuming value is \$10 per lunch; covered lunches for 115-120 people in 2024 w/82 teams - Refs, Assignors, Assessors, Fusion Staff, NCASA staff & volunteers; assuming 1 additional ref per additional team
Saturday Lunches - Refs & Staff (additional)	\$ -	Payment for additional lunches if number donated by McAllister is not sufficient; occurred in 2024 because underestimated the amount needed (amount spent is included in Sunday lunch actuals); assuming all 2025 Saturday lunches will be donated
Sunday Lunches - Refs & Staff	\$ 1,200	\$10 per lunch; 115-120 people in 2024 w/82 teams - Refs, Assignors, Assessors, Fusion staff, NCASA staff & volunteers; assuming 1 additional ref per additional team; NCASA providing on Sunday, but McAllister is donating lunches on Saturday; 2024 actuals include some extra Saturday lunches that needed to be purchased on top of the donated lunches; \$782 in 2023; snacks/water included separately (see tournament admin expenses)

		In 2024 - said would not spend more than \$5K "out-of-pocket" for "room nights"...but spent \$6,500; "comped rooms" from referee paid rooms will be provided to referees/assignors
		Does not include rooms paid for by SCASA for referees -- not clear that they are currently bringing any referees (perhaps related to SC ref registration fees)
Ref Lodging	\$ 6,500	In 2024 - Friday night - 32 rooms; Saturday night - 30 rooms (2 rooms were comped each night) In 2023 - Friday night - XX rooms; Saturday night - XX rooms (\$5,152 - \$271 comped = \$4,881)
SC ref registraton fees	\$ -	Fees associated with registering South Carolina referees in Arbiter so can be paid/assigned matches; NCASA not paying this fee (covered fee in 2022, but not since)
Transaction Fees	\$ 275	X% of ref-related charges (excluding lodging) - from Arbiter; using 1% of ref fees (per 2024 actuals)
Referee "overage"	\$ 1,000	Assorted, unexpected additional referee-related expenses; based on past experience compared to budget; "actual" overages are included in relevant line-items, e.g., ref lodging
Tournament Amenities		
Trainers - Saturday & Sunday	\$ 3,645	2024 - cost \$3,600 instead of projected \$2,730 because used NC Fusion trainers who have a higher rate; 4 trainers [approx. one for every 4 fields]; Fusion rate = \$45/hour for lead trainer, \$40 per hour for each additional trainer; previously had paid \$35 per hour for non-Fusion trainers, but rates for non-Fusion trainers also have increased; 1 cart per trainer (expense shown in cart expense line); lead trainer x 25 hrs (8am-9:30pm; 8am-7:30pm), Trainer 2 x 23 hrs (8am-9:30 pm; 8am-5:30pm), Trainer 3 x 21.5 hrs (8am-9:30pm; 8am-4:00pm); Trainer 4 (8am-4:30pm; 8am-4:00pm); plus \$10/trainer/day for medical supplies; additional trainers for off-site locations (for 94 & 100 team tournaments) shown on additional fields line item.
Trainers - Friday night	\$ -	Checking to see if 92 & 100 team schedules require Friday night games; ability to now use Field 13 a full size 11v11 field may alleviate need for Friday night games even with expanded tournament
Trainers - Additional fields	\$ -	Including budget for equivalent of 1 full day of trainer services at off-site/additional field
Match Broadcasts/Streaming	\$ 2,000	Paid for from NCASA's general marketing budget in 2024; cost \$2,000 (\$1,000 per day for one field)
Photographer	\$ 1,500	Tournament getting too big for photographer to get around to every match; so added second photographer
Social Media coordinator	\$ 500	
Trophies	\$ 6,300	1st & 2nd place trophies for each division; currently projecting \$450 per B&C (\$215 & \$200 plus tax) set for 2025 (16 divisions for 94 & 100 teams; 13 divisions for 70 teams); B&C = \$450 for 2025; in 2024 - 14 divisions; \$384.28 per division (B&C size trophies); had projected only \$4,500 in trophy costs (vs. \$5,400 actuals due to division & per trophy price increases); some "contemporary" trophy costs for \$300 per pair, so may be able to reduce costs
Championship Beer	\$ 1,610	Championship beer being donated by Small Batch Brewing (Tim); 1 beer for each champion (for budgeting purposes, valuing at \$5 per beer, 23 people per division); showing estimated value in budget for 2025, but not 2024 actuals (also showing in sponsorship revenue); 2024 actuals shows beer bought at store when Small Batch ran out
Championship Shirts	\$ 3,864	23 shirts/division (full roster + coach) for Champions = 332 champion shirts (14 divisions) in 2024 \$12/shirt (actual was \$11.35)
Merchandise/Apparel for Sale	\$ 840	Quantities/items for 2025 TBD; have inventory remaining from 2024 so do not need to buy as much, plus looking into setting up an on-line store for advance sales to reduce need for on-site inventory; for now, budgeting for 50 shirts for sale plus 20 volunteer shirts; in 2024, spent about \$12 on merchandise for sale per team
Captain Gifts	\$ 1,148	Approx. \$10/team (traditional cost) for item; closer to \$14/team total in 2024 (with set-up & shipping); estimating \$14/per team for 2025
Outdoor Space Heaters	\$ -	Heaters and propane refills included as part of facility rental
Food & Alcohol	\$ -	Beer vendor (Small Batch) retains revenue, but donates championship beer; per contract, Truist Park handles food vendors (and retains revenue subject to agreements with food vendors)
Tournament Administration		
Staff/Officer Lodging	\$ 881	2024 actuals - 3 nights for Darius/Cindy; 1 night for Donna; 1 night for Alex; \$681 in 2023; also including \$200 in comped hotel room value; Darius for 3 nights; plus volunteer for 3 nights
Officer/Staff/Volunteer Per Diem	\$ 500	\$343.14 in 2023; in 2024 - covered a few extra volunteer meals (\$616)
Food/H2O/Ice	\$ 675	\$665 in 2024, includes snacks for refs
Van Rental/Gas	\$ 300	\$257 in 2024
Miscellaneous	\$ 50	\$50 in 2024
Scoreboards	\$ 308	\$197 in 2023; lamination donated in 2024, so only paid for printing; normally \$13 per sheet for lamination; prints are \$9 per color sheet; \$2 per black & white sheet
Check-In	\$ -	
Fusion Volunteer Tip	\$ -	
Carts	\$ 800	6 carts (used 4 in 2024); only 2 carts covered by contract; first two additional carts are \$200 (need to clarify that this is for two days); additional carts (beyond first two) may cost more per cart; projecting need for 6 carts based on trainer requests for carts, assuming all additional carts are \$200
Soccer Balls	\$ -	None needed in 2025
Sponsorship Expenses	\$ -	E.g., sign printing, etc.
USASA National Cup Entry Fee	\$ 800	Fees for 2025-26 not established yet; based on 2024-25, \$50 per team in Men's Amateur & Women's Amateur Platinum (qualifying); plus \$100 extra per champion of these divisions; assuming 8 Men's teams & 4 Women's teams will enter
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 86,301	\$59,500 included in 2025 NCASA Budget (based on 70 teams @ \$850/team)
NET	\$ (9,971)	

2025 NCASA PLAYER REGISTRATIONS														TOTAL # PLAYERS			
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	2024	2023	2022	2021
ABASA	22	519	556	48	42	44	13						1244	2067	2007	1671	1433
Catawba	17	75	0	2	44	0	0						138	207	219	193	146
Charlotte Independence														0	0	692	485
North Meck														0	174	0	0
Rock Hill														0	176	0	0
CPSL	525	10	6	5	0	0	6						552	672	707	690	661
First Flight League														0	261	279	484
Metrolina	406	588	80	27	1	0	12						1114	1283	1016	889	727
Mooreville	197	144	15	6	1	102	2						467	559	491	0	0
NCASA Annual Pass	80	3	2	31	24	42	40						222	411	497	308	48
North Carolina Soccer League	0	81	129	16	22	9	-1						256	159	0	0	0
Pitt Greenville	50	170	62	7	6	66	10						371	397	402	210	182
Premier Adult	0	83	11	0	0	0	0						94	130	144	195	130
Seashore Soccer League														0	9	39	73
Swansboro	0	35	163	14	1	0	16						229	372	390	391	312
Transylvania Adult Soccer	0	17	59	4	0	41	2						123	114	0	0	0
TASL	1951	415	156	126	656	157	328						3789	4162	3763	3327	2926
OCASL @TASL	41	413	107	68	92	46	26						793	1026	777	628	0
Wake Women's League	106	61	24	4	1	1	7						204	196	94	0	0
Wilmington	657	93	11	96	110	31	80						1078	1150	869	775	712
Winston Salem	64	192	9	3	1	0	3						272	275	251	184	201
TOTAL LEAGUE PLAYERS	4116	2899	1390	457	1001	539	544	0	0	0	0	0	10946	13180	12247	10471	8520
TOURNAMENT ONLY PASSES:	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL				
Beer City Cup Asheville							8						8	43	866	841	879
Beer City Cup Indianapolis														2			
Beer City Cup Nashville														17			
Beer City Cup Savannah	3	7	0										10	109	807		
Carolinas Cup Charleston				18	51								69	77	7	32	24
Carolinas Cup WS														415	382	426	401
Celebrate the Tatas														98	81	93	47
KEDO Cup							42						42	48			
Queen City Cup						1	63						64	64	128	118	175
Tourney Pass Other							1						1	2	0	34	
USASA Adult Soccer Fest														0	52	10	1
WSASL Summer Clash						15	43						58				
TOTAL TOURNAMENT PASSES	3	7	0	18	51	16	157	0	0	0	0	0	252	875	2323	1554	1527
Temporary Passes														0	0	0	27
TOTAL # PLAYERS	4119	2906	1390	475	1052	555	701	0	0	0	0	0	11198	14055	14570	12025	10074