**NCSL Board Meeting**

**May 1, 2023**

**Via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m.

**I. Roll Call**

The following clubs were in attendance/represented by a proxy at the meeting: Alexandria Soccer Association, Alliance Soccer Club, Annandale Boys & Girls Club, Arlington Youth Soccer Club, Bethesda Soccer Club, Blue Ridge United, Braddock Road Youth Club, Brookland FC, Burke Athletic Club, Calvert Soccer Association, Calverton Soccer Club, Clarke County Soccer League, DC Soccer Club, DeMatha Soccer Academy, Epic Soccer Club, Fairfax Police Youth Club, FC Charles, FC Dulles, FC Frederick, FCVA Ashburn, Fredericksburg FC, Great Falls – Reston, Hagerstown Soccer Club, Herndon Youth Soccer Association, La Plata Soccer Academy, Laurel Soccer Club, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club, Leesburg Football Club, Loudoun Soccer Club, Maryland Rush, Maryland Rush Montgomery, McLean Youth, Montgomery Soccer, Northern Piedmont SC, Northern Virginia Soccer Club, OBGC (Olney), Old Dominion Football Club, Potomac Soccer Association, Prince William Soccer, Real World Futbal Club, Severna Park Athletic Club, South County Athletic Association, St. Mary's Soccer, Stafford Soccer Club, Sterling Youth Soccer Association, Takoma Park Soccer Club, Team America Football Club, Vienna Youth Soccer, Villarreal Virginia Academy, Virginia Revolution, Virginia Soccer Association, Virginia Valor, VISTA, West Virginia Futbal Club

Roll call indicated that the following clubs were not in attendance and were not represented by a proxy: DORADUS, Front Royal Soccer Association, Gunston Soccer Club, Premier Athletic Club, Springfield South County Youth Club, Thunder Soccer Club

Executive Committee in Attendance: Maureen Dalbec, Howard Kohn, Carol Montoya, Alan Paez, Dave Shannon, Doug Wall

Staff in attendance:Alison Smith

Approval of Minutes

Calvert Soccer Association made a motion to approve the March 20, 2023 Board Meeting minutes. EPIC seconded. There were no objections, and the motion was approved by acclamation.

New Business: New Club Presentation-Clarke County Soccer League

Howard Kohn introduced the club. They have 10 teams and a complex with 17 fields. They are well established; in business for about 42 years. The club is being sponsored by EPIC and ODFC.

Clarke County Soccer League representatives Ray Steen and Josh Dispenza joined the meeting. They discussed their club philosophy, player pipeline, and referee program. In response to a question, Josh said they will enter 7-10 teams into the league. All of their fields are grass.

Ray and Josh left the meeting.

Takoma Park made a motion to approve Clarke County Soccer League as a new member. VISTA seconded. The floor was opened for discussion. There were no questions. Eric Popiel said the Executive Committee unanimously recommends their acceptance into the league. The vote was called and there were some nays. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with a majority in favor.

Doug Walls – NCSL Commissioner: No report.

Maureen Dalbec – NCSL Commissioner: No report.

Carol Coulter – Virginia Registrar: Carol noted two items impacted by the change to GotSport. All players and team officials will need to upload new photos. All players who are 18 or turn 18 during the course of the year must complete SafeSport.

Maryland Registrar - Jessica Hafer: No report (not present).

Carol Montoya – Secretary: No report.

Alan Paez – R&D: Alan thanked everyone for responding to R&D requests. He said there are 21 teams that did not enter their rosters/jersey numbers. Each team will be levied a $50 fine.

Due to staffing issues, individual sit out reminders are not being sent out. It is the responsibility of he team/club to complete sit outs. Alan asked reps to remind their teams to complete and submit sit out forms.

Alison Smith – NCSL Administrator: Alison thanked everyone for notifying her of field closures and updating field permits so games can be rescheduled. She reminded everyone that teams do not make the decision whether to delay or call the game; this is up to the referee.

When teams have President’s Cup or State Cup games that conflict with NCSL games, the league game will be rescheduled. As much notice as possible is requested to assist with rescheduling. Games are not rescheduled for NPL (US Club) games.

May 20 & 21 are dates for league championships and some games may be rescheduled to accommodate these games.

Registration for fall soccer is open. Alison reminded everyone that the age group needs to be updated when registering returning teams.

Eric Popiel – Vice President & Treasurer: Eric noted that we are running out of options for rescheduling games and noted that teams can agree to play a shortened game in the case of inclement weather (rather than rescheduling it).

Eric said we are in the process of searching for a new executive director. Richard Smith is receiving and reviewing applications, which are still being accepted.

New Business: Team Registration Fees: Eric noted that the league has increased referee fees to ensure a competitive fee structure. This has resulted in fewer games not being covered. The league also has increased operating costs and we want to ensure its financial stability. The new fees are being announced now so clubs can take them into consideration when they price their 2023-2024 player fees. As the league grows, we need additional administrative help, both general and for R&D. If we bring on SFL, we will also need additional assistance.

The new fee structure was presented. Team and league fees have been increased 10% and rounded up to the nearest $5.

Takoma Park made a motion to approve the new fee structure as presented. OBGC seconded. There were no objections, and the motion was approved by acclamation.

A motion was made by OBGC and seconded by Calvert to adjourn. There were no objections, and the motion was approved by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.