



NORTH CAROLINA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2024

Call to Order: 7:07 pm

Roll Call – Darius Ejlali took the roll call.

Present: Sam Cohen, Chad Garber, Bob Kepner, Paul James, Alex Vidaurri, Scott Eisenbraun

Not Present: Donna Langdon, Jeremy Mikell, Laura Collins, Fil Wilkinson

Quorum determined.

Officer & Staff Reports

- President – No Report
- Executive Director – Exploring USSF Policy 531-9 that was amended in February 2024 and approved in May. After communications with USSF and a committee member charged with amending the policy, the policy still has more work to be complete.

The NCSL is struggling. Team commitment has been up and down. The NCSL committee needs to work on a solid plan for recruitment and retention.

Ava Lynch works for USASA as their social media poster. I have asked Ava to look at all of NCASA's accounts, NCASA, Carolinas Cup, Celebrate the Tatas and the NCSL and give NCASA an idea of what would be involved with managing these accounts. Ava has put together a proposal.

Preparing for the Carolinas Cup and Tatas, mapping out schedules, reviewing rules, getting price points on trainers, trophies and shirts.

Cindy and I attended Beer City Cup, 132 teams. Setting up our NCASA equipment exposed wear and tear. A couple of canopies need stitching, and we lost a tent frame. Our storage containers also need replacement. Many of our flags and canopies have been washed.

US Soccer sent Celebrate the Tatas the fan base kit for the raffles including a signed WNT jersey, plus lots of other goodies.

Represented NCASA at the NC Soccer Hall of Fame meeting.

Working with Swansboro Adults, their relationship with the Swansboro youth has changed forcing SASL to look for a new location to play. They are still seeking to secure three sets of goals. NCASA has spoken with the Town of Swansboro Park and Rec director to gather more information.

Have reached out to our insurance provider to assist several of our players that ran into a glitch with their filing. Also, revisited the need for a Spanish version of the online claims.

- Executive Vice President – NP
- Treasurer – Submitted Treasurer’s Report. 2024 budget project \$15,000 in interest. After reviewing NCASA investments, the interest earned in 2024 will be closer to \$12,000. Income is tied to registration and as long as registration continues to increase, our financial forecast looks good. Spending is in line with budget.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the August 19, 2024, minutes.

Minutes were approved unanimously

Growth Initiative

- Registration Report – Important to note, while our league and annual pass registrations is up significantly. We are likely to end the end of the year slightly lower than last year. NCASA has lost the Beer City Cup “Tournament Only” which accounts for approximately 1500.
- First Year Leagues Update – Transylvania Adult Soccer Association is opening their Fall season.
- New League Update – GCCSA inquired earlier in August, sounded interested and then disappeared. A new youth club on the coast FRSC has reached out and we are engaged with them. NCASA will be following up with the GCCSA.

Competitions

- Carolinas Cup – Committee is meeting, registration is open.
- Celebrate the Tatas – Still solidifying divisions. The rec division is good, now we need the Overs and Open to come in on even numbers. Through the work of Talia Goldman, the Tatas secured a donation of \$10,000.
- Beer City Cup – Tournament ran well, 132 teams.

Organizing Committees

- D&A Committee – Held a hearing and have three more hearings on the calendar.
- Budget Finance Committee – Nothing to report.
- AGM Committee – Nothing to report.
- Election/Nominations Committee – Donna Langdon has volunteered to chair the committee
- NCASA Awards Committee – Nothing to report.

Board Member Reports

- NCASA will be attending the USASA AGM. The big news from the AGM will be the elections. John Motta, current President is stepping down. The current Executive Vice President is running for the President role. Jim Sadowski, the current President of MDCVSA will be running. Both have offered online interview/chats.

New Business (motions)

- NCSL Governance Policy – see below
Motion passed unanimously

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

Old & New Business (discussions)

Additional New Business (discussions)

Takeaways / To Do Item Wrap-up

For the Good of the Game / Announcements

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn approved– 7:48 pm

Approved Motions:

- NCSL Governance Policy

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North Carolina Soccer League Governance Policy

Whereas NCASA is organizing a statewide soccer league, the North Carolina Soccer League (NCSL), to provide another competitive opportunity for NCASA's elite amateur players and teams, and

Whereas NCSL is intended to operate mostly independently from the NCASA Board of Directors, but still under its oversight and authority,

Be it resolved that NCASA approves the following Governance Policy for the NCSL, which will be effective beginning with the spring 2025 NCSL season:

NORTH CAROLINA SOCCER LEAGUE GOVERNANCE POLICY

PART I – ORGANIZATION

Section 1.1 - General

The North Carolina Adult Soccer Association (NCASA) shall conduct a statewide competition for elite amateur teams registered to NCASA. The competition shall be known as the North Carolina Soccer League (NCSL). The NCSL may consist of separate Men's and Women's leagues.

- (a) Through North Carolina Adult Soccer Association, NCSL is affiliated with the United States Adult Soccer Association (USASA) under the authority of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and will comply with all requirements of their rules, policies, and Bylaws to the extent applicable to NCASA. NCSL shall not become a member of any organization that imposes any requirement that conflicts with the Articles of Incorporation of the USSF, its rules and policies or Bylaws.

Section 1.2 - NCSL Administration and Governance

The NCSL will be administered by the NCSL Commissioner and the NCSL Committee, with the assistance of the NCSL Adjudication and Discipline Panel. The NCASA Board of Directors has final authority over all matters relating to the NCSL.

Section 1.3 - NCSL Commissioner

The NCASA President will designate the NCSL Commissioner. The term of the NCSL Commissioner will be 1 year. The NCSL Commissioner will be responsible for the administration of the NCSL in accordance with these policies and the direction of the NCSL Committee. If the NCASA President has not designated another individual to the position of NCSL Commissioner, or if the position of NCSL Commissioner becomes vacant, the NCASA Executive Director will serve as the NCSL Commissioner until the NCASA President appoints another individual to the position. The NCASA President may remove an individual from the position of NCSL Commissioner for any reason and at any time.

Section 1.4 - NCSL Committee

The NCASA President will designate the NCSL Committee Chair from among the members of the NCSL Committee. The term of the NCSL Committee Chair will be one (1) year. The NCSL Committee Chair will be responsible for coordinating and leading meetings of the NCSL Committee. The NCASA President may remove an individual from the position of NCSL Committee Chair for any reason and at any time.

The NCSL Committee will consist of up to the following nine (9) voting members: (i) the NCASA Treasurer, (ii) two (2) additional NCASA Board members appointed by the NCASA President (one of whom may be the President), (iii) two (2) Team Representatives elected by the teams competing in NCSL, (iv) two (2) Men's Open 11v11 Member League Representatives elected by the NCASA Member Leagues operating a Spring & Fall Men's Open 11v11 league that has been playing continuously for a minimum of one (1) full year, and (v) and up two (2) independent members appointed by the NCASA President based on the expertise possessed by these individuals with respect to competitive amateur soccer, travel soccer leagues, or any other subject matter determined to be valuable to the NCSL. The NCSL Commissioner will be a non-voting member of the NCSL Committee.

The NCSL Committee will be responsible for assisting the NCSL Commissioner with the administration of existing NCSL policies and procedures; proposing additional (or modifications to existing) requirements, policies, and procedures; and establishing the direction and goals of the NCSL.

The NCSL Committee Chair will convene meetings of the NCSL Committee as needed, but not less than at least once per NCSL playing season. A majority of the NCSL Committee may also call for additional meetings with at least one week's written notice to the other committee members.

Section 1.5 - Terms of NCSL Committee Members

The NCSL Commissioner and the NCASA Treasurer will serve on the NCSL Committee so long as they remain in these positions.

The NCASA President will appoint the two (2) additional NCASA Board members to one (1) year terms. The NCASA President will make these appointments in June each year. An individual appointed to one of these positions who resigns or is removed from the NCASA Board also will be deemed to have resigned or been removed from the NCSL Committee. In the event one of these positions becomes vacant, the NCASA President will appoint a NCASA Board member to serve the remainder of the one (1) year term.

The Team Representatives will be elected by the teams competing in the upcoming NCSL season. Elections will be held before the spring and fall seasons. The election will be held the week after the teams for the season (spring or fall) have been confirmed. Each team will have one vote in the election for each Team Representative. Teams will vote for the first Team Representative. The highest vote getter will be selected as the first Team Representative. Teams will then vote for the second Team Representative from among the remaining candidates. No team may have more than one Team Representative. In the event one of these positions becomes vacant, the teams competing in the ongoing NCSL season will vote for a Team

Representative to serve the remainder of the current term.

The two (2) Men's Open 11v11 Member League Representatives will be elected by the NCASA Member Leagues operating a Spring & Fall Men's Open 11v11 league that has been playing continuously for a minimum of one (1) full year (Qualifying Member Leagues). Member League Representatives will be elected to one (1) year terms. The election will be held the week after the teams for the spring NCSL season have been confirmed. Each qualifying Member League will have one vote in the election for each Member League Representative. Qualifying Member Leagues will vote for the first Member League Representative. The highest vote getter will be selected as the first Member League Representative. Teams will then vote for the second Member League Representative from among the remaining candidates. No Member League may have more than one Member League Representative. In the event one of these positions becomes vacant, the qualifying Member Leagues will vote for a Member League Representative to serve the remainder of the current term.

The NCASA President will appoint the two (2) independent members to one (1) year terms. The independent members will be appointed based on the expertise possessed by these individuals with respect to competitive amateur soccer, travel soccer leagues, or any other subject matter determined to be valuable to NCSL. The NCASA President will make these appointments in June each year. In the event one of these positions becomes vacant, the NCASA President may appoint an independent member to serve the remainder of the one (1) year term. The NCASA President may remove an individual from the position of independent member for any reason and at any time.

Section 1.6 - Adjudication and Discipline Panel

The NCSL shall have an Adjudication and Discipline Panel.

- (a) The NCSL Commissioner will appoint the members of the Panel, to be composed of one NCSL Committee member and two NCASA Discipline and Appeals Committee members.
- (b) The NCSL Commissioner shall be the Chairperson of the Panel but shall not vote when serving as the Chairperson of the Panel.
- (c) The Panel will have responsibilities as provided by this policy.

Section 1.7 - Awards, trophies, and prizes

The NCSL Committee shall determine the awards, trophies, and cost reimbursements to be granted each year, pursuant to the budget approved by the NCSL Committee. This authority is subject to the limitation that no additional NCASA funds may be used for the support of the NCSL without being approved by the NCASA Board of Directors through its usual appropriations process.

Section 1.8 - NCSL bank account

NCASA will maintain the NCSL bank account, and the NCASA Treasurer acts as the treasurer for the NCSL. All receipts and expenses related to the NCSL shall be credited and debited against that account. Any surplus and deficits shall be carried forward from year to year.

Section 1.9 - Matters not provided for

The NCSL Committee may determine any matters not provided for in this policy. The NCSL Committee may also act to change matters included within this policy when emergency circumstances require and report the changes to the NCASA Board of Directors. The NCSL Committee shall take all actions it considers appropriate and good for the game. The action of the NCSL Committee under this section is final, unless overturned by a majority vote of the NCASA Board.

The NCSL Committee also may propose changes to this policy to the NCASA Board. Changes to this policy may be approved by a majority vote of the NCASA Board.

PART 2 – COMPETITION PROCEDURES

Section 2.1 - Competition

The NCSL Committee shall determine the procedures for the competition, including the schedule, conferences, and playoff system to provide a fair and orderly crowning of the NCSL Champion for each season.

- (a) The competition will be formatted such that member teams will compete against each other, with only these results used to determine a set of standings.

Section 2.2 - Player Eligibility

All players must be a registered NCASA player in good standing.

- (a) For each registered player:
 1. All players must be properly registered through their state association providing a clear passport like photo, mailing address, phone number, and email address.
 2. All players must be eighteen (18) years of age prior to their first match.
 3. Age exceptions must be approved by NCASA and Safe Sport Policy completed by all players and coaching staff.
 4. All amateur players and professional players out of contract are eligible.

Section 2.3 - Team Eligibility

Teams must be in good standing with NCASA and consist of NCASA-registered players.

- (a) Teams must be able to register at minimum eighteen (18) players two weeks prior to the season's first match.

Section 2.4 - Entering the NCSL

To compete in the NCSL, a team must register through the NCASA registration system each season, providing two team contacts and pay the entry fee each season. The team application and entry fee must be submitted to NCASA by the deadline established by the NCSL Committee. The NCSL Committee may also establish a requirement for teams entering the competition to submit a performance bond.

Each NCSL team will be responsible for a seasonal Entry Fee, Performance Bond Fee, field costs for home games, and half of the referee fee for each match. All league-assessed fees will be determined before registration opens for each season.

NCSL will have separate spring and fall seasons. NCASA will provide a \$2 million Certificate of Liability for home field and practice field.

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	2024 INDIVIDUAL NCASA PLAYER REGISTRATIONS BY FIRST LEAGUE													TOTAL # PLAYERS		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	As of Sep 10	Oct	Nov	Dec	2024 TOTAL	2023	2022	2021
ABASA	632	657	91	42	146	156	35	117	123				1999	2007	1671	1433
Catawba	105	0	2	47	4	1	3	34	8				204	219	193	146
Charlotte Independence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0		692	485
North Meck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	174		
Rock Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	176		
CPSL	564	15	6	5	1	1	2	18	39				651	707	690	661
First Flight League	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	261	279	484
Metrolina	332	515	38	26	0	0	20	260	19				1210	1016	889	727
Mooresville	166	150	11	1	30	79	1	111	3				552	491		
NCASA Annual Pass	205	71	10	15	44	53	42	17	1				458	497	308	48
North Carolina Soccer League	0	0	76	24	5	0	0	15	1				121			
Pitt Greenville	34	134	99	8	4	34	1	41	27				382	402	210	182
Premier Adult	4	82	16	1	0	0	1	9	5				118	144	195	130
Seashore Soccer League	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	9	39	73
Swansboro	1	66	185	18	14	0	0	0	0				284	390	391	312
Transylvania Adult Soccer	0	0	0	0	63	20	3	1	2				89			
TASL	2120	470	94	175	531	171	281	201	34				4077	3763	3327	2926
OCASL @TASL	76	374	62	36	138	66	28	92	21				893	777	628	0
Wake Women's League	79	53	14	2	6	1	12	17	8				192	94		
Wilmington	684	48	42	126	88	22	73	52	6				1141	869	775	712
Winston Salem	66	121	14	1	0	0	11	57	3				273	251	184	201
TOTAL LEAGUE PLAYERS	5068	2756	760	527	1074	604	513	1042	300				12644	12247	10471	8520
TOURNAMENT ONLY PASSES:																
Beer City Cup Asheville						6	18	20					44	866	841	879
Beer City Cup Indianapolis					1	1							2			
Beer City Cup Savannah	84	27											111	807		
Carolinas Cup Charleston			8	27	44								79	7	32	24
Carolinas Cup WS														382	426	401
Celebrate the Tatas								12	4				16	81	93	47
Hummer in the Summer							46	1					47			
Queen City Cup							72	7					79	128	118	175
Tourney Pass Other						2							2	0	34	
USASA Adult Soccer Fest														52	10	1
TOTAL TOURNAMENT PASSES	84	27	8	27	45	9	136	40	4				380	2323	1554	1527
Temporary Passes														0	0	27
TOTAL # PLAYERS	5152	2783	768	554	1119	613	649	1082	304				13024	14570	12025	10074