

Georgia State Soccer Association  
Annual General Meeting – general session  
July 17, 2010

Minutes

**I. Call to Order:**

The President called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

**II. Roll Call / Credentials**

Roll call was conducted by the GSSA Director of Operations. Of 426 eligible votes, there were 332 present; 214 votes were required for a quorum.

**III. Introduction of Guests**

The President remembered several whom we have lost from our ranks in the past year: Clyde Partin, Father Joseph Caffrey, Mike Burnett, Harvey Lipman, as well as Rich Freeman, for whom there will be a Celebration of Life event following these meetings today.

Recognition was given to Publix, the new name sponsor of Atlanta cup.

The President introduced board members, staff members, and the Parliamentarian, Gloria Cofer.

Sean McGee, General Manager for the Atlanta Beat, urged Georgia Soccer to support the Atlanta Beat and attend their games. Current Beat players now include players from seven different national teams! Mr. McGee gave highlights of several upcoming Beat events, including soccer ball giveaways at the July 21 game and the 4v4 McAlister's Cup on July 31.

David Simmons of Aaron's International Soccer Challenge supplied information about the upcoming July 28 international match between Club America and Manchester City and gave some background about each team. He offered free tickets to the pre-game practice for Georgia Soccer members who wanted to bring a team. He urged members to support professional soccer in all its forms by attending games whether it be the AISC, the Atlanta Beat or MLS in the future.

**IV. Meeting Privileges**

**V. Approval of Minutes of the GSSA 2010 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes from the 2010 AGM were accepted as presented.

## VI. Review of New Affiliate Applications

### A. City of Sugar Hill Soccer

This group did not have a representative present, but the Georgia Soccer Executive Director shared some information about their planned program and their newly built facilities.

Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of City of Sugar Hill Soccer. The motion was **seconded**. The **motion passes** on a voice vote.

### B. Gilmer County Recreation

Bill Ford, president of the Gilmer soccer program, described his well-established program, a member of the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association. The program is ready to grow, and recognizes that “Georgia Soccer is the place to be if you want to progress in soccer.” The Gilmer County Recreation Department has its own fields, and their older players have been playing in Fanning and Dawsonville.

Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of Gilmer County Recreation. The motion was **seconded**. The **motion passes** on a unanimous voice vote.

### C. Nuestros Ninos Our Kids Soccer

This group did not send a representative to the SAGM. Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of Nuestros Ninos Our Kids Soccer, provided the full affiliation name (proposed name: Atlanta Youth Soccer Association) is changed. The motion was **seconded**. The Executive Director believes this program, which originally applied for affiliation in January, provides social outreach to the Hispanic community in the Mableton area.

The **motion fails** on a voice vote. The electronic vote yielded only 94 affirmative votes which would not be enough for approval.

### D. Pickens County Parks & Recreation Department

Melinda Logan, director of the Pickens County Parks and Recreation Department, shared information about their existing soccer program, which already serves 400-450 players.

Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of Gilmer County Recreation. The motion was **seconded**. The **motion passes** on a unanimous voice vote.

### E. Rockmart Youth Soccer Association

Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of Rockmart Youth Soccer Association. The motion was **seconded**.

Gary Noriega spoke for Rockmart Youth Soccer, a program serving approximately 200 youth players. It has been part of the GRPA for the last 5 years. The **motion passes** on a unanimous voice vote.

**F. West Chatham Soccer Association**

Susanne Conlon made a **motion to approve** the affiliation of West Chatham Soccer Association. The motion was **seconded**.

Triet Bui, founder and presiding officer, started the program in the winter of 2008. Beginning its fifth season this fall, the program has 108 players. The **motion passes** on a unanimous voice vote.

**VII. Other Business**

- A. The Treasurer announced that copies of the budget, as recently approved by the Board of Directors, were available for interested members.
- B. Scott Moran, Independent Director on our Board and a member of the Atlanta Bid Committee, gave an update on the status of the Atlanta bid. Atlanta is still one of 18 final cities included in the bid, but six of these will be cut in the event that the US wins the bid. Mr. Moran encouraged all affiliates to add a link to their websites for members to sign the online petition. The Executive Director offered Georgia Soccer staff assistance to help members build the link and send blasts to their members. He explained that the petition is the only metric FIFA and USSF have to evaluate potential host cities. We need to capitalize on the World Cup Bid as a chance to raise the profile of our sport here. The potential economic impact for Atlanta of a World Cup here is tremendous.
- C. Nancy Marsden announced that there is a need to borrow an electronic sub board for the Manchester City vs. Club America game.
- D. Sign the petition!  
We are at 34,000 signatures now; let's try to get to 50,000 within a month!!

**VIII. Adjournment**

The general session was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.