



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

A Non-Profit Organization

Date: March 10, 2007

From: Alexander J.C. Para
President - CEO

To: Board of Directors, State Associations Presidents, National Affiliates and Associate Members.

Re: Annual General Meeting

Enclosed you will find the agenda for the Annual General Meeting that is being held on Saturday, March 10, 2007 at the Oakland Marriott. The enclosed package also contains a proxy application should you wish to give your vote to another person if you are unable to attend.

Hope to see you all there!





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PROPOSED AGENDA

24th Annual General Meeting

Saturday, March 10, 2007

Oakland, California

1. **Opening remarks**
2. **Introduction of guests**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Credentials Committee report**
5. **Approval of previous NBOD decisions**
6. **Approval of previous Council minutes**
7. **Approval of New Memberships and name changes**
8. **Letters to be read**
9. **Reports of committee meetings**
10. **Financial report**
11. **Budget 2007**
12. **Amendments to the by-laws**
13. **Approval for next years National Championship (2009) and**
14. **Regional sites 2008**
15. **Election of Officers**
 - a. Chairman
 - b. 2nd Vice-President
 - c. 4th Vice-President
 - d. Referee Representative
 - e. Players Representative
16. **Old Business**

National Championship 2007– Anaheim
17. **New Business**

U.S. Futsal – US Soccer
Regional Competitions 2008
Trademark issues
18. **Adjournment**



MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MINUTES
March 2007



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**Annual General Meeting
April 29, 2006
Oakland Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
Oakland California**

Roll call - In attendance:

1. Alexander Para, President
2. Frank Bonardi - Chairman
3. Jim Oman – NBOD (by phone)
4. John Murphy - NBOD
5. Jackie Travopoulos-Abel – Referee Representative
6. Bill Sampaio – Coaches Representative
7. Ellie Singer - NBOD
8. Bill Lee - NBOD
9. Jeff Allen, Treasurer
10. Anthony Para – Player Representative
11. Carlos Soto – Player Representative

States Associations (either by phone or proxy)

12. California North - Luis Azucena
13. California South : Tadeu Vigo
14. Connecticut
15. Illinois
16. Kentucky
17. Maryland
18. Massachusetts
19. John Branca – New York East
20. Maryland
21. Massachusetts
22. Michigan
23. New Jersey
24. New Mexico
25. New York – East
26. North Dakota
27. Ohio – North
28. Oregon
29. Pennsylvania - East
30. Pennsylvania - West
31. Rhode Island
32. Utah
33. Washington
34. Cole Keller

Opening Remarks/ Frank Bonardi:

Welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance and participation. Pleased with growth in Futsal®. Everyone is taking notice of what is being accomplished. Announced the retirement of Dan Proctor, who has been involved since the very beginning.

Roll call was taken. Minutes from last meeting were approved, with a correction that Howard Charbonneau had been listed as New York West, but is actually New York East.

New member and guest from New Mexico were acknowledged. Jamison and Alvarez. Motion to accept new members moved by Bonardi and seconded by Vigo.

Reports of Committee Meetings/Alex Para:

President's report is in the package that all in person attendees received. Add the agreement with NISOA, which integrated Futsal® programs at the collegiate level. This program is currently running in Milwaukee.

New director of officials was announced, Jackie Abel-Stravropoulos. She is retired from other soccer-related activities, so there is no conflict of interest. Contact from Oregon.

Frank Bonardi met with the head of NSCAA, Dave Tipton, who wants part of the coaching course to be in Futsal®. There is the possibility of having their own Futsal® course. According to Bill Sampaio, the coaching manual is ready to go out.

Treasurer's Report/Jeff Allen:

Year end budget for 2005 in packet. Not happy with current CPA, looking to replace him. Proposed budget for 2006 also in packet, however correction should be noted for projected income and expenses as follows:

Sub-total should be	\$20,500
New Total	\$245,200
New Surplus	\$12,819

Motion to accept budget moved and seconded.

Para: no amendments to by-laws.

Election of Officers:

First Vice President - Jim Oman
Third Vice President - John Murphy
Fifth Vice President - Bill Lee
CFO – Jeff Allen
Player Representative - Tony Para
Player Representative - Carlos Soto

There was a motion to accept and seconded. Changes to the roster should be sent to the National Office.

National Championships/Para:

For the first time in 10 years, the championship is going to be held on the East Coast, Baltimore, for 2008. Motion to accept this location moved and seconded.

Massachusetts and New Jersey would like to host the 2007 Regionals. It was suggested that proposals be sent to the National Office. Questioned whether or not to divide the regions or keep them together. For further discussion at a later time.

During the 2005 National Championship, a ball was kicked which broke the sprinklers inside the Anaheim Convention Center. The cost to USFF for this repair was \$5,000.

New Business/Para:

An international tournament is going to be held in Anaheim during the National Championship this year. It will be a high-level club competition. Suggested participants are Australia, Mexico, Canada. One or two U.S. All-Star teams will play against them, coached by Vava Marquez. The State Presidents are being asked to speak to coaches and instructors to help gather support.

On October 18th – 25th, 2006, the Italian National team wants to compete in the U.S. Any state interested in hosting this event should indicate so to National Office.

Question: Is there a sponsor for a National Youth Championship? **Answer:** not at the current time, although we have one sponsor interested in shoes and apparel.

Trademark/John Murphy:

It is obvious that other companies want what we have. The Futsal® trademark is registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark office. However, U.S. Soccer and FIFA are trying to get around it, on the grounds that Futsal® is “too generic”, which is not true. U.S. Soccer and FIFA are saying that they never gave us the right to use the trademark, but they never had it in the first place. Our preference would be not to get into litigation, as it is expensive and time consuming.

The name “Futsal®” is being used in too many places without the “®”. Everyone needs to be cognizant of this problem, and more aware of proper usage. Make sure that the “®” always appears next to the word without fail.

Question: How are we enforcing the illegal use of our trademark? **Answer:** We are sending out letters regularly to those who are causing the infractions. Nike removed any reference to “Futsal®” from their website.

Trademark comments/Frank Bonardi:

The trademark issue indicates that USFF has something that U.S. Soccer wants. Although it will take time to work out an agreement, he is confident that it can be

resolved in our best interest.

Question/NYE: Is U.S Soccer the governing body for Futsal®? Answer: No. U.S. Soccer does want to commandeer our referee program, as they want to control who goes to the FIFA final in Futsal®. They are “certifying” referees, although their certifications are meaningless.

Question: U.S. Soccer has not put any money into the Men’s National Team. Who is supervising Futsal® as an Olympic entry? Answer: Futsal® is not yet an Olympic event. Currently, it is a sport in the Pan American games in 2007 only. The hope is that it will be a part of the summer Olympics in China in 2012.

Question: What are we doing with getting Futsal® played at the high school level? Answer: It is being played in the junior colleges in various locations, and working its way down. However, there are no high school programs in place yet.

Question: What progress is being made on a national level for a women’s or youth’s National Team? Answer: Plans are being made to start a U17 team, etc. A national development program would find and develop players at the youth level to become National Team players later on. Tom Hensler, Dogba Bass (Ohio North) and Bill Sampaio volunteered to start and be on a National Team Development committee.

Question: Who will participate in the Pan American games? Answer: It does not matter where the teams come from, all countries are eligible.

Question: Who will host the FIFA/Futsal® World Championship in 2012? Brazil is already hosting it for 2008.

Report from NYE:

John Branca has been with NYE in Suffolk County since 1996. Long Island Roughriders (Danillo Perez) has been trying to undermine his efforts. He does not register his players, etc. (Should they be allowed to participate in the National Championship?) There should not be any confusion as to who is in charge of Futsal® in this county. Upstate New York (300 teams) is no longer a part of Futsal®. More people are interested in dasher-board soccer because it brings in more income.

“Good of the Game” reports:

Ellie Singer: Happy to be involved. Has been with Minnesota Futsal®. Both adults and youth have come together in a collaborative effort. She is starting to work on a Minnesota Futsal® Association.

California Futsal-South:

Tadeu Vigo: Has installed three courts for \$120,000. Is starting his first professional league. Partnership with Nike. Had a large and successful tournament in Venice Beach.

New Jersey: Referees will be accepted at Regional Competition.

California North:

Luis Acuzena: Growing state tournament. Glad to be here for the first time.

Utah Futsal:

Peter Minneno: Tremendous growth of outside associations. Need to be able to offer manuals and programs. The goal is to get more youth involved.

New Mexico Futsal:

Valerie Jamison: In beginning stages of first league. New member, first time here.

Illinois Futsal:

Bill Lee is working with Jim Oman on a "Stop the Violence" tournament in Aurora Florida.

Western Pennsylvania-West:

Tom Hensler: Involved since 1986. Has been through "similar battles" to those being experienced now. Stressed importance of building State Cups, participation at regional levels, and the competitions will get better every year.

Massachusetts Futsal:

Bill Sampaio Important to communicate with each other and "plant the seed" with the younger children.

Connecticut Futsal:

Oscar need to strengthen Connecticut. Indoor Soccer is currently more powerful. Bill Sampaio/MA offered to help.

Maryland Futsal:

Tremendous growth of NorthEast Regionals. A lot of work, but can't give up. National Girl's team??? Thanked Alex Para for coming to Regionals.

Rhode Island Futsal:

Jim Kelly: Sees a positive future for Futsal®.

Ohio Futsal – North:

Dogba Bass had a U12 Girl's National championship in Massachusetts.

Michigan Futsal:

Franco Gamero planned tournament for all five leagues (4,000 kids). Four leagues signed up to participate and five referees were registered, but there were no registrations. Wants to start his own league this summer.

Closing remarks/Para:

Futsal® is growing and successful because of all of you. Special thank you to Dan Proctor for all his years of devoted service to California Futsal and to U.S. Futsal.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.



Reports



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

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Dear State President & State Administrators:

On the behalf of the entire United States Futsal Federation, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all state presidents, officers and administrators, and thank you and all other members of the Futsal family for your tireless efforts throughout the year. It has been an exciting year and the fruits of our labors are maturing.

During this years National Championship we will also host an International Club Championship. For the first time since we have started the National Championship we have been able to determine three years in advance the sites and time for the National Championship. The National Championship for 2007 will be held in Anaheim between July 12-15, and the 2008 National Championship will be held in Baltimore between July 17-20 and we are now accepting bids for 2009. The National Futsal Team will be participating in the Pan American Olympic Games in July 2007 in Brazil. The effort to have these games in the Pan American Olympic started in 1986.

Our State Associations are increasing in number and strength. The introduction of the online registration system, we have been able to streamline the registration process for coaches, players and referees, and has made the administration more efficient for teams, leagues, state association and for the Federation. This coming year will bring even further system improvements by adding scheduling and on-line registration programs.

This year's National Championship will be held for the fifth time in the Anaheim Convention Center, with a 20 percent increase in team participation over last year. We anticipate a similar increase next year as well, making this event the largest Futsal tournament in the country. We have had tremendous growth in many new states led by Ohio-south which has increased by 400% since last year.

Our growth has attracted groups that now want to gain financially from using our property. This has let to a confrontation with US Soccer. We have been willing to give our properties away to U.S. Soccer if they would continue to honor our governance, but US Soccer instead chose to remove us from their membership.

We are a growing family and we should be proud of our accomplishments in recent years, especially given little funding and many challenges. Your hard work, coupled with our shared objective of promoting Futsal, has enabled the USFF to grow membership and increase our presence in the US. I thank you for your dedication to our sport, and encourage you to continue with your efforts.

Cordially,

Alex J.C. Para
President & CEO



FUTSAL® (FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER)

The Way the World Plays Indoor Soccer

Governing Body of Futsal in the U.S.

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BUDGET

Voting Slate

REGIONS

ATTACHMENT