



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

A Non-Profit Organization

Date: February 18, 2008
From: Alexander J.C. Para
President & CEO
To: All Futsal State Association
Re: Annual General Meeting

Dear member:

This letter is a follow up to our recent conversation confirming that the next Annual General Meeting will take place Saturday April 19th, 2008 at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held at the Oakland Marriott, located at 1001 Broadway Avenue in downtown Oakland. Instruction and directions are attached.

Enclosed you will find the agenda for the 25th Annual General Meeting in addition to minutes from last year's meeting. In order to guarantee a quorum, a proxy application is also included. Should your State Delegate(s) be unable to attend you may wish to designate another representative. Also, according to the By-Laws, to be in good standing all states must have the latest versions of their State By-Laws, financial statements and dues-up-to-date and on file with the Federation office.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Alex J.C. Para
President & CEO

cc: Board of Directors





UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

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PROPOSED AGENDA

25th Annual General Meeting
Saturday, April 19, 2008
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 2008**
12. **Amendments to the by-laws**
13. **Approval for next years National Championship (2010) and**
14. **Regional sites 2009**
15. **Election of Officers**
 - a. 3rd Vice-President
 - b. 5th Vice-President
 - c. Coaches Representative
 - d. Players Representative
16. **Old Business**

National Championship 2008– Baltimore
17. **New Business**

Zortal
Regional Competitions 2010
Trademark issues
18. **Adjournment**



MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MINUTES
April 2007



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

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U.S. Futsal Annual General Meeting

April 14, 2007

In attendance:

Alex Para, Frank Bonardi (phone), John Murphy, Jim Oman, Bill Lee, Jackie Stavropoulos, Anthony Para, Carlos Soto, Jeff Allen, Steve Shilling NJ, Franco Gomero MI, Tom Hensler PAW (phone), Tadeu Vigo CAS, Jennifer Medina (phone), Julio Serrano KY (phone), Valerie Jameson NM, Sam Lauris OHS, Don Payne VA (phone), Bill Sampaio, Dan Proctor, Luis Azucena CAN, CT(phone), PAE (phone), John Branca NYE (phone), NC (phone), Scott Placek TXS (phone), Tom McDougal WA, Edwin Mendoza WI (phone). (Simple majority 14, 2/3: 18)

Introduction and Welcome:

Frank Bonardi:

Glad that everyone is here and welcome to all.

Motion to approve Credential Report was made by Jeff Allen, and seconded by John Murphy.

Motion to approve minutes from 2006 AGM was made by Jeff Allen, and seconded by Bill Lee

Member Reports:

Jim Oman: Stop the Violence Campaign started last year, two events were held this last month. More info on website (distributed flyer). This campaign reaches out to disadvantaged youth communities in every Futsal state. Need to raise money to buy goals, balls, etc. Gives kids an opportunity to play who wouldn't otherwise be able to, as well as additional awareness of Futsal. Upcoming program in November and December will have one and two day tournaments.

President's Report:

Alex Para: (President's Report)

National Club Champion Team World United performed well in Portugal finishing in 5th position. Best ever showing by a U.S. Futsal Club in World Club competition. Online registration has been enhanced in order to cut down administration. Problematic relationship with US Soccer who wants to confiscate our properties. John Murphy will elaborate.

John Murphy: (Vice-President's Report)

Two things happening—US Soccer threw us out over trademark rights and names. Attended US Soccer AGM--a few of their board members want to work this out. They are worried that it could be done to them as well. With FIFA, letters have been written about longstanding agreements recognizing US Futsal, but received a letter saying that General Counsel left. Need to educate FIFA replacement who doesn't know anything about this. Will send another letter.

Original agreement made in March 1989. We are working with our contacts on US Soccer board, who suggested that we sue their Federation. Grounds for expelling US Futsal? If we do not provide them with property rights, we are "bad citizens".

Jeff Allen: (Treasurer) They (US Soccer) are telling us that we are not acting in the best interests of soccer, which is interesting since we are promoting Futsal. Could win suit, but cost of litigation would be greater than our annual budget. They admit that we own the trademark (via letter), whereas earlier, they

asserted we didn't own it. So, how could we relinquish rights to something we don't even own? Tell people that we are associated with US Futsal. Also, possible anti-trust violation with regards to not letting their referees work for us.

Tom Hensler: What has US Soccer done for us in the last 25 years? Being separated from US Soccer may be a benefit. Youth is having discussion also about disassociating from US Soccer, which is run as a "dictatorship". West PA: US soccer officials not happy with US Soccer at all. Someone finally standing up to them. Julio Serrano KY: This move will give US Futsal its recognition as its own sport, to create its own identity. VA: Second Julio Serrano KY comments. US Soccer has a lot of members, but US Futsal has the newest players coming up who want to play locally and inexpensively. They don't have the future as much as we do. Futsal isn't just different, it's better. We are growing for all the right reasons. KY: They are just trying to bully us. Even state assoc have been reluctant to acknowledge us. They won't promote and send us to their leagues. NJ: Commend exec board for a job well done in handling a difficult matter. It looks as though we have had a good result. A year ago I didn't expect the outcome we have now. Hensler: I agree. Commend the committee for its actions.

Frank Bonardi: Alex and I went to the US Youth workshop and to the NSCAA. Off the record, lots of support for US Futsal. We need to carry on. I don't think US Soccer is interested in day-to-day running of leagues, just bigger picture items. They have only authorized the "F" league.

Julio Serrano KY: People aren't persuaded to play Futsal because US Soccer sanctions it, they play because they want to.

PAW: Tom Hensler: We're on the right track. All the publicity just helps us.

Financial Report

Jeff Allen: presented budget. May have to pay for an attorney for legal fees, but USFF is in the black. Asked for motion to approve budget: moved by Anthony Para seconded by John Murphy.

Alex Para: would like to propose amendment to by-laws that AGM now be held on the last day in April. Motion approved by CAN (Dan Proctor) and seconded by CAS (Tadeu Vigo). Would also like to propose motion to shift the National Championship in 2009 from California to the East Coast. It will be held in Baltimore in 2008 and 2009. Moved PAW (Tom Hensler), seconded by Kentucky.

Regionals are very powerful, state to state. Recommend that the next regional be held in MA, and VA after that. TN wants to host SE, Cincinnati to host Midwest, and maybe Cal So the Southwest Regional. Motion to approve, MD (Jim Oman), seconded by IL (Bill Lee)

Question: How many teams? About 800 in a total of 5 Regionals. Jim Oman indicated that the: NE region was Tournament was a huge success this year. Most teams ever. Due to grass roots efforts, the events now market themselves.

KY (Julio Serrano): Is the Midwest Regional already assigned to Cincinnati? Would like a shot at it. AP: Cincinnati already confirmed for 2008, but we are taking bids for 2009.

Dan Proctor: signed up facility in Sacramento with eight courts for NW tournament and California Futsal North is continuing to grow.

Alex Para: California is oldest state, members of the Federation. It is as big as Region 1&2 combined.

Bill Sampaio: reinforce comments about Regional. Great show. MA looks forward to Regionals in '08.

Coaching Reports

Bill Sampaio

For past two years, working with company in Scotland, "Tact-foot", sharing soccer techniques. Finalizing agreements where coaches can communicate with players. Training manual to be available at next National Soccer Convention. Did presentation with Frank Bonardi and Alex Para. Simple training manual

delivered to over 200 coaches which will be ready in June. Basic idea to use modules at state, regional and national level. Hasn't had the chance to put it together yet. About to sign contract with Tact-foot. Last year, Futsal did a presentation at halftime to over 17,000 people. Same thing this year, September 29th 2007. Want to invite Alex Para to attend. "Super F" tried to start a league in the vicinity. They are welcome but have to follow procedures of affiliation. We are trying to be inclusive.

PAW (Tom Hensler): Is there an online coaching course? Answer: Definitely. Coaches receive DVD w/technical and tactical training with monthly updates. Like 2004-2005 w/Brazil. Look at FA website for online courses. Cheaper than US Soccer's counterpart for coach education.

MI (Franco Gamero): with many minorities playing and wanting to get more involved, is it possible to translate this coursework into Spanish, Vietnamese or Chinese? (Steve Shilling volunteered to do Spanish translation.) A: English, Spanish and French now available. Eventually it will be in more languages.

NJ (Steve Shilling): Big step forward to have training online but coaches would appreciate live classes as well.

Bill Sampaio: going to have Futsal demo at tournament, Play 4 online—everyone plays. Trying to cultivate "universal players", so that one player can play every position.

Referee Report

Jackie Stavropoulos:

Started one year ago. Attended 2006 National Championship and talked with a lot of referees. Room for improvement. Observed the level of play improving, but refs not keeping up. No opportunities for training. Providing new assessment forms – feedback will help. Attended NAIA conference, 20 teams playing Futsal. Three refs mentored the others. Many states have only 10 refs registered. Breakdown by states--some states have only one ref. Only CA has more than 100 refs. These numbers need to be improved, but need your help. Leagues need to use only registered refs. Teams have worked very hard and they are not getting top level of referees. In reality U10 are stuck with inexperienced refs, not fair to teams.

MI (Franco Gamero): Referee program is growing in Michigan.

MD (Jim Oman): Refs act as instructors as well. Liability is important, they also teach players and coaches.

KY (Julio Serrano): agree. Took couple of teams to regional, kids complained that it wasn't Futsal. Rules were changed, not going by Futsal rules. Had to officiate a couple of games. "Carnival-like" atmosphere with refs.

PAW (Tom Hensler): 1st Regional, differences in how refs called the game. Interpretations of rules were different--it took time.

NJ (Steve Shilling): need one centralized point where rules are there and accessible. Important that refs are working from same laws.

Jackie Stavropoulos: just revised administrative handbook, last two pages have modifications of laws of game (not personally responsible for laws).

PAW (Tom Hensler): Japanese instructions of the game are a good example, very helpful. Find a way to get DVD out to everyone. Played internationally very well.

NJ (Steve Shilling): suggest that current rules be on website.

Alex Para : It's not the laws that are problem, but rather how the people apply them. Next year will be better with more time to prepare.

KY (Julio Serrano): Certain set of rules need to be played at Regionals and all levels.

Jackie Stavropoulos: should be consistent at all levels.

PAW (Tom Hensler): AP is right. Rules are all the same, but states have different interpretation. Not a lot of interplay in doing this. Don't get to see other states unless you are at the Regionals.

Alex Para: Indicated to take stronger refs from another area.

Steve Shilling: rules should be same at recreational and league level. No modifications. Not local version of what they think Futsal should be. Laws distinguish Futsal from other indoor games.

Jackie Stavropoulos: hope to get everything on website in next couple of months.

Election of Officers

Alex Para praised John Murphy and Ellie Singer for all their work in support over the years and strongly recommended them for re-election. He also endorsed Jennifer Medina for all her work as a coach and ex-board member in support of the women's Futsal program.

Motion: Jeff Allen moved to accept slate of Ellie Singer (VP), Jennifer Medina(Player Representative) and John Murphy (VP), seconded Dan Proctor. They were elected unanimously.

Old Business

Alex Para:

Championships 2007 are in Anaheim. City wanted to change date to July 12 – 15. We have all rooms, teams already registering. More interested.

Jim Oman: more on champs—different ages this year? "Age pure groups".

Alex Para: will put all ages on website, if not enough teams in that age group, will be put into general age group. Will know by June 1st.

NJ (Steve Shilling): better served by offering all level age groups and filtering down.

Jackie Stavropoulos: more teams = more refs

Jim Oman: plenty of refs in MD, large pool to pull from.

New Business

Dan Proctor: sanctioning-all teams should be registered. Learn rules of game and everyone is covered. Important for any sponsored tournaments.

Jim Oman: if your region is doing any tournaments, please put it on the website so that we can keep track. We track teams through Stop the Violence. Once they play they're hooked and want to play in leagues. Attract non registered players who will be future registered players.

Steve Shilling: mid-Atlantic Presidents' meeting--issue of finding portable floor came up. Number of convention centers that have enough surface, opens up more opportunities. 100' x 50' court takes 5,000 sq ft.

Alex Para: Sport Court – 16-17K sq ft=6 or 7 floors. Min court is 66 ft, 70 by 140.

Tom Hensler: if there are courts available, lots of things we can do but can't have one set of courts at all locations. February is big month for tournaments.

Alex Para: looking at Snap Sport to send us a court every year to buy.

Tom Hensler: take bids to build national training center?

Jim Oman: happy to work with you. Any ideas, please contact me as far as getting a floor. We need sponsors to do so.

Alex Para: also need storage for floors.

Steve Shilling: storage in New Jersey.

States Representative Comments

PAW (Tom Hensler): compliment AP and Iowa Ohio for ref clinics. Unbelievable growth rate, couldn't supply people fast enough.

NYE (John Branca): Online registration worked well this year, more registrations than ever before, but need user manual.

Alex Para: going to be much friendlier, and will allow player payments by credit card.

PAW (Tom Hensler): just needs to be more use friendly. Multiple passwords were a problem.

Alex Para: will run test by June 1; will be able to review it five months before using it in your leagues.

John Branca: next year going completely online. Gave t-shirt with every registration. Worked well.

PAW (Tom Hensler): good point. Any other marketing ideas to offer up? How to expand contact base of teams/coaches interested in playing? Next year—raffle for one free team to participate, draw one team name at random.

Jim Oman: lot of techniques to encourage people to register online. Most important--liability and accountability. Need to have correct numbers or we can't get to sponsors with exact numbers.

PAW (Tom Hensler): maybe we just don't take paper registrations any longer. Drastic step.

John Murphy: be careful. Huge portion of population doesn't do this online. Exclusive route will inhibit growth.

NYE (John Branca): charge additional fee if they can't do it online.

Jeff Allen: imposing a fee usually impacts those who can't afford it. Maybe USFF needs to absorb cost of everything being input online. Let's not discourage but encourage people.

Alex Para: maybe league or state association can charge extra \$1.

NJ (Steve Shilling): usually online phone service available. Only look at what is critically important. We need bare-bones info on form, some fields can be eliminated.

Alex Para: follow advice of John and Jeff who run state associations. Some people need to use paper. 20% more registered online. Nearly 90% of all registration is online, but misleading.

CAN (Dan Proctor): contacted by aggressive Zortal. Are they official provider? They created website for us without permission.

Jeff Allen: many of these companies do that, they are trying to get you to be on their server. They cannot force you to since you own your own domain. Executive board has done nothing to empower them to do so.

Alex Para: they may want to tell you that you have to do more than a simple website.

PAW (Tom Hensler): If you want to appoint a web committee, I will be happy to serve.

Alex Para: ...plus Sam who knows a lot about it.

Jim Oman: growth we've seen this past year was tremendous. All due to you at grass roots for making it

happen and creating good Futsal programming. USFF going in right direction. Our hands are free, not tied to us soccer. Options that we didn't have before. Thank you for your continued support.

Alex Para: concurred, Thanks to everyone once again for your continuous hard work in developing the sport.

Motion to adjourn by Alex Para, seconded by Jackie Stavropoulos.
Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM



Reports



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

A Non-Profit Organization

Dear State Presidents & 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 apparent.

Futsal continues to gain popularity, and during this year's National Championship we are pleased to be hosting our third International Club Championship, which will feature teams from around the world. This is the third time, and the first time in more than 12 years that the Futsal National Championship is being held in the east coast. This year the Baltimore Convention Center will host the 23rd National event. We expect a 20 percent increase in team participation over last year, and we anticipate a similar increase next year. With this solid growth in participation, we are now able to book our venues and dates three years in advance. The 2009 National Championship is being held in Baltimore July 16-19; and back to Anaheim in 2010. With over 440 teams and more than 4000 players, the 2008 Regional Championships were the largest Futsal tournaments to date.

Our State Associations are increasing in number and strength, but this year our change to the new Zortal system proved to have many bugs. This, coupled with the company not leaving up to its commitments of support and in getting data and payment to leagues as promised, has forced us to send a letter of warning and if not corrected, we may have to terminate our agreement with them. We are making many administrative improvements to the old registration system in case we need to use it next year. Also our website has been updated this year. Newer state associations are rapidly gaining members, and leading the way last year was Ohio-south, which increased its membership by 200 percent.

Unfortunately, our strong growth and ongoing success have attracted groups that now want to gain financially by using our property. We will be going after a couple of leagues that are infringing on our mark. We are a growing family and 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 U.S. I thank you for your dedication to our sport and encourage you to continue with your efforts.

Cordially,

Alex J.C. Para
President & CEO



BUDGET

BY-LAWS

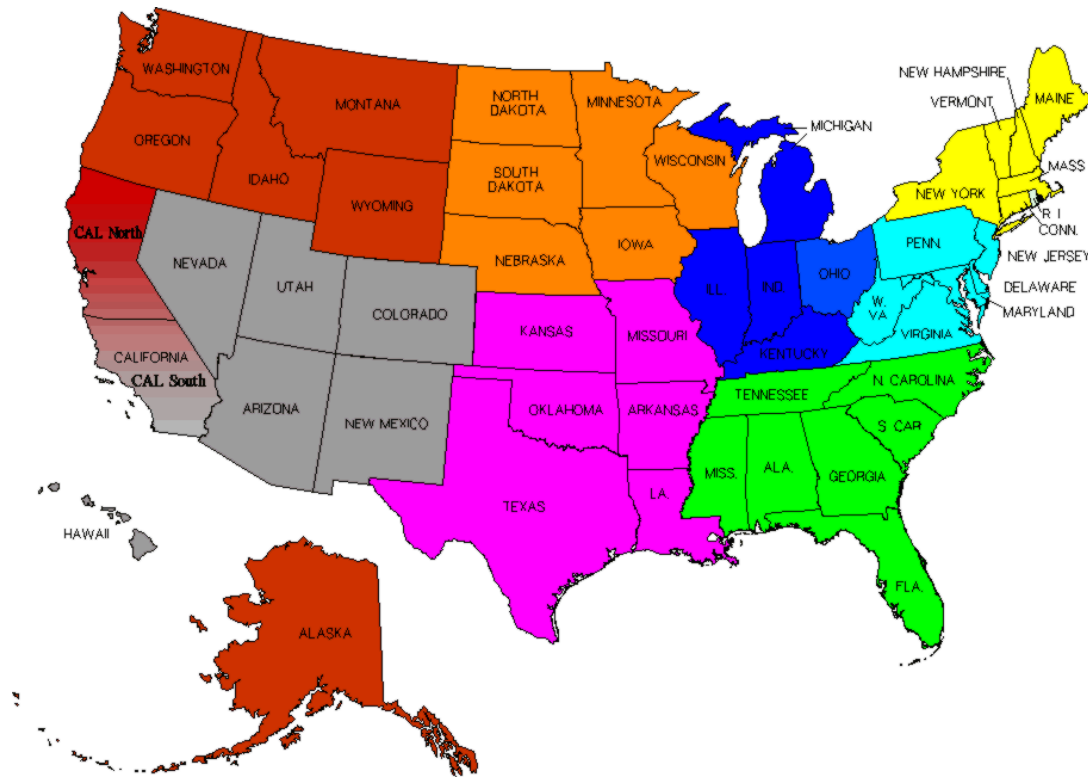
AMMENDMENTS

April 2008

REGIONS

REGIONS OF FUTSAL

January 2006



Northeast	Mid Atlantic	Southeast	Midwest
Connecticut	Delaware	Alabama	Illinois
Maine	Maryland	Florida	Indiana
Massachusetts	New Jersey	Georgia	Kentucky
New Hampshire	Pennsylvania – East	Mississippi	Michigan
New York – East	Pennsylvania – West	N. Carolina	Ohio- North
New York – West	Virginia	S. Carolina	Ohio-South
Rhode Island	West Virginia	Tennessee	
Vermont			
North Central	South Central	Southwest	Northwest
Iowa	Arkansas	Arizona	Alaska
Minnesota	Kansas	California - S	California - N
Nebraska	Louisiana	Colorado	Idaho
North Dakota	Missouri	Hawaii	Montana
South Dakota	Oklahoma	Nevada	Oregon
Wisconsin	Texas - North	New Mexico	Washington
	Texas - South	Utah	Wyoming

ELECTION



UNITED STATES FUTSAL FEDERATION

A Non-Profit Organization

SLATE OF OFFICERS

First Vice-President:	James Oman
Third Vice-President	John Murphy
Fifth Vice-President	William Lee
Treasurer	Jeff Allen
Player Representative	Carlos Soto

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
April, 2008
California

PROXY VOTE

I, _____, President/Chairman of the
_____ Futsal State Association give my vote to
_____ to use in anyway he/she sees fit in the
election of officers, By-Law amendments, rule changes or in any vote were this
State can exercise its voting privilege.

Signature

Date

ATTACHMENT “A”