

# MINUTES – MEETING OF THE USA CRICKET BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Conference call – August 19, 2022

### **Attendance**

## **USA Cricket Board Directors**

Atul Rai, Interim Chair, Club Director (AR)

Avinash Gaje, Individual Director (AG), Venu Pisike, Individual Director (VP), Nadia Gruny, Player Director (NG), Srini Salver, Player Director (SS), Sushil Nadkarni, League Director (SN), Kuljit Nijjar, Individual Director (KN)

### **USA Cricket Staff**

Dhruvkumar Barot, Minute Taker (DB), Richard Done, Cricket Operations Director (RD)

### 1. Welcome Note

AR welcomed the attendees to the meeting. DB was introduced to the board and his appointment to prepare the meeting minutes.

### 2. NGC Appointments

Board acknowledged all the recommended applicants put forward from amongst the board members. AR is unable to get a response from Jim Isch regarding his interest to continue with the NGC Committee. Brian Walters and Vince Adams were recommended by SN and VP respectively. CC requested additional time to review their resumes before voting, AG suggested asking the candidates to present a note to the board on the described role and responsibilities by the board and what the candidates can offer. AR expects updates from the ICC and US Olympic Committee regarding their appointments before the next meeting.

**The Board resolved:** Respective board members to share candidate's resumes/notes to the board for additional review and consider voting in the next meeting.

### 3. Guidelines for Independent Director nominations

Discussion is suspended until after the NGC Committee is appointed.

### 4. Finance Updates

KN is working with Richard Done (RD) to prioritize reconciliation and settle all the receivables from the previous series. Another priority task is to submit the audit report for 2022 to the ICC to get the quarterly funds credited, Suraj Vishwanath (SV) was responsible for recording the meeting minutes for earlier months of 2022, but meeting recordings/minutes were not shared with the board since March clarified by VP. Once KN receives the meeting minutes/recordings he will get them to the auditor and will then present them to the board for approval to be sent to ICC as required for compliance. RD was asked to clarify on reconciliation status from the USA V Ireland Series (December 2021), he agreed that this is long overdue but there are several major tasks still to be completed before invoicing Cricket Ireland and ICC for the event. KN asked RD to clarify why the



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series was over-budgeted? RD clarified because of covid concerns the series was cut short resulting in additional charges to rent additional rooms for the event, there were some offsets from the sponsorship, and once the reconciliation is finalized receivables are expected from Cricket Ireland. Board informed RD to work with KN and prioritize all the outstanding's.

KN requested the board to provide a signed copy of the resolution to replace/remove the names of previous administrators on the bank accounts. NG informed the board that for the women's u19 series v CWI she has secured \$46,000 in sponsorship.

**The Board resolved:** Provided a signed copy of the board's resolution to KN for transfer for bank account update and transfer of ownership. RD and KN to work closely on accounts reconciliation.

### 5. Interim CEO appointment

CC presented a draft contract and offer letter for a potential Interim CEO but couldn't move forward with the process because of no funds available. AR suggested asking ICC for assistance in Co-fund the CEO salary, NG confirmed discussions around help from the ICC for staffing were discussed at the recently concluded ICC AGM. The board agreed that currently the available staff is over burned with the workload and all additional help from the ICC resource would benefit to re-distribute the work and improving organizational efficiency. NG suggested having a board working group put together to work with ICC and plan on operational plan and staffing/resources needs around it, AR and AG agreed and offered to help on this working group.

**The Board resolved:** NG, AR, and AG to work together on a plan to get help for ICC on staffing and resources.

### 6. ACE -LFA

CC updated the board that the working committee strongly agreed to have legal assistance on several matters and hence request the board to pass a resolution on it. ICC has offered to help with technical and legal guidance on this only if the entire board agrees and seeks help, and also to assure there is no conflicting interest of the commercial partnership on the ICC membership compliance guidelines. AR requested CC to draft a proposal letter on behalf of the board to ICC seeking help from both ICC commercial and legal teams for assistance.

**The Board resolved:** CC to prepare a draft proposal letter seeking help from ICC.

### 7. WC T20 updates

AR informed the board that the hosting rights were taken away resulting in further potential financial loss, however, AR is confident that there is still a chance and this needs to be the utmost priority for the board. AR to work with NG, CC, and AG to reach out to ICC & CWI for re-negotiating the event rights. ICC conducted its assessments on the available facilities in the USA to host the event, AR will seek a copy of the official report from the assessment and share it with the board for



further discussion.

**The Board resolved:** Respective members of the working group to make a re-attempt to secure the WC hosting rights.

### 8. Priorities

The board is considering hosting an in-person board meeting to discuss critical issues, that could be better discussed and concluded in a face-to-face meeting, the board is considerate of the current financial situation of the organization and agreed to plan accordingly or at their own expense.

In favor: AR, AG, NG, SN, VP, SS, KN

Abstain: Nil Against: CC

Recused for this item: Nil

### 9. Other Business

NG requested the chair to include an amendment to the resolution passed in the previous meeting regarding the transition of finances, which was passed anonymously NG, CC, and SN requested were absent. NG is concerned about RD falling behind and not being able to keep up with the tasks and the board should consider assigning a few members from the board who directly oversee the work and help him where needed, as there may be several tasks with are time sensitive and already overdue held with him, SN seconded the matter. KN offered to work with him on all finance matters. VP recommended having an interim treasurer in place who is responsible and accountable for all financial matters, AR advised him to present a proposal in the next meeting.

NG put forward the questions from the parents and community about what programs are in place for the U19 WC in January, as parents are interested in raising funds or donating to USA Cricket in case there are no funds available for training and preparation. NG further clarified that the ACE agreement clarifies waiver on any sponsorship or funds raised for the women's program through the end of next year, also a critical deadline is approaching to renegotiate the sistar mortgage sponsorship deal and the board needs to prepare for this, CC agreed to briefly assist NG on this. The board agreed and assured that any funds raised, or donations received for a particular program will all be accounted only towards the subjective program and the funds will not be dispersed to any other business.

SS brought up his suspension matter and requested the chair to guide him through the process of reinstatement of his suspension for an incident that occurred in a private league during a game. SS further explained that SN called for an emergency meeting over the letter received from the individual regarding the incident, and a decision was made to interimly suspend SS from all working committees. SS raised concerns saying while the local league administrators have an ongoing investigation, why that was disregarded, and the matter sent to the USA Cricket board and made public? He further clarified that the local league concluded their investigation on the incident and reasonable penalties were given to SS for the incident. SS further explained that the incident took



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place because of the provocation. SS expressed dispirited feelings from his fellow board members when the decision was made on his suspension and how the incident was handled by the board. Due to the nonexistence of an official report on the incident and incomplete/ongoing investigation, SS was given the benefit of the doubt and AR made a resolution to nullify the suspension put on SS and reinstate him to respective committees. NG objected to this based on the underrepresentation of the organization. VP stated that although the facts and statements are unknown regarding the incident, he thinks the board overreacted and unnecessarily reacted to an email received from an individual, while there are several other matters that are unresolved or non-responded to. SS mentioned that there are several other matters reported to and raised personally such being the conflict of interest of individuals on the board, the \$300,000 bonus paid to Iain Higgins, and a complaint from an ex-employee regarding humiliation, discrimination, and termination but all these matters were not investigated.

AR appreciated the additional help from DB and informed the board that he proposed additional funding for additional work.

**The Board resolved:** Board to aid RD in managing his workload. Sponsorship negotiation with the sistar mortgage. Nullifying suspension and reinstating SS to working committees.

Voting on the matter of Reinstating SS to working committees.

In favor: AR, AG, SN, VP, SS, KN

Abstain: Nil Against: NG

Recused for this item: Nil