

# MINUTES – MEETING OF THE USA CRICKET BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Conference call – November 03, 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)

### 1. Welcome Note

AR welcomed the BOD to the meeting.

## 2. Adoption of the Ethics, Grievances and Disciplinary committee

AR informed the board about having this committee is one of the membership compliance criteria by the ICC. AR shared the recommended names for the committee members with BOD via email before the meeting. As the constitution requires the committee to have 8 members, hence NG and SS to work on recommending 1 player on the committee.

**The Board resolved:** The committee is approved pending resolution for the female player's director, the rest members are to be adopted.

In favor: All members

Abstain: Nil Against: Nil

Recused for this item: Nil

### 3. Conflict – Discussion and resolutions

AR shared the COI disclosure document with the BOD for review before the meeting. KN clarified his involvement with the Dallas Cricket League (DCL), as a president. No objections or concerns were raised about KN's involvement with DCL. AR further clarified that KN will be refused to vote on any matter where DCL may be subjected to voting. SN questioned KN regarding the Dallas youth cricket league (DYCL) affiliation with MiLC, KN denied any affiliation and further clarified that DYCL only had participated in 1 MiLC youth tournament. VP disclosed his involvement with the Atlanta cricket league (ACL), with no financial benefit or gain from the affiliation. SN disclosed no affiliation as an owner of the cricket academy, any affiliation with the MiLC has also expired in May and has not been renewed. AR questioned the current ownership of the academy. SN confirmed that the sole ownership is by his spouse. AR questioned if SN and his spouse file joint income tax? SN confirmed that they file joint income tax and the academy is for profit. This was identified as an issue by AR. VP asked to clarify if the contract/agreement has expired by the academy team continuing to part take



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in the MiLC tournament? SN confirmed yes as this is the case and the scope of participation has now expanded over several other academies this year. AR confirmed that for SN as there is a financial gain from a for-profit entity, that could be an issue and the BOD was advised to look into this matter closely. VP confirmed issues in the past after CEO's resignation where the board has to review and resolve any perceived conflict, based on the constitution CEO is responsible to review and resolve and hence suggested AR share the COI document with VB since the Ethics committee is newly established.

# 4. U17/U19 Trials to form Zonal training groups & Women's preparation tour to UAE

AR requested NG to update the board on the preparation for the training tour to UAE, NG underlined that negotiation is underway to finalize the venue if not the ICC academy ground. NG further added that RD to prepare a waiver to be signed by the parents before the team departs for the event. NG confirmed to the board that if the tour does happen then the team for the WC2023 will be selected based on the performance from the tour. Selectors to finalize the list of touring 16/18 players from the shortlisted 20. SS, AG, and AR all echoed similar sentiments where ideally, they would like to see a full probable squad of 20 touring to UAE and basked on the performance there the final squad to be selected. VP viewed it differently where only the shortlisted 14 players' squad should be traveling for the preparation to make sure the highest quality and equal play time is dedicated towards their preparation.

VP presented to the BOD plans for U17/19 trials. Urgent need to host this was identified for the upcoming u19 qualifier event in Q2/Q3 of 2023. Zonal based competition model was proposed from which up to 25 players from each zone to be shortlisted, from which a final zonal team will be formed that will partake in the U19 national event in March 2023. The Cricket committee is responsible for conducting the nationals from which players will be picked to represent U19 in regional qualifiers. Potential training camp/practice matches were also proposed between April-June following confirming representative players. Potential sponsorship interests were also identified from the community for each of the zonal events including access to facilities at no-cos, some cash sponsorship, and hands-on volunteer support. SN was supportive of the plan and suggested including members of the Cricket committee involved and selectors to be utilized for these events, also the zonal working group members to also be given the opportunity to get involved in the event. VP in response as the Development committee, to support the zonal events and deliver the events, will leave the selection part to the cricket committee to shortlist the players. AR appraised the plan and actioned VP to take a lead on this and look to establish a working committee/group for the event. VP suggested a committee of 2 members from the cricket committee and 2 members from the development committee and including the U19 national coach.

## 5. High level approach to domestic pathways (Junior Development Pathway - 2023)

VP identified mass volume participation at the youth level, considering the financial constraints suggested for intra-regional, regional, and zonal-based competition events and providing guidelines and planning support empowering them to run these events, USA cricket to oversee these events and only be responsible for national events. In conclusion, it was recommended to have a hub



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level(zonal) tournament execution delegated to community-based leagues, for zones where no such youth leagues/tournaments are identified, USAC to recognize/form a committee that will be responsible for developing and conducting such leagues. A roughly estimated timeline was presented including the burden of delivery of these events. AR suggested that if USAC could fund all the zonal events/competitions they may want to consider it, to avoid COI for the selectors and selection process, VP disagreed as this impact the domestic/local league's calendars and may not be ideal at a mass level. SN expressed similar concerns with the point raised by AR. AR suggested being careful with the selection process, and VP suggested making changes where for initial years USAC will oversee the selectors and make adaptive changes to the process in coming years. AG suggested having zonal-based identified independent individuals as nominees who report back to the CEO/BOD on the development and activities in each of these zones to avoid any misrepresentation of the process. AR proposed to have further discussion and development on the structure in the next meeting.

## 6. Facility partners

SS followed up with facilities on the PR from last year inviting facility partners to express participation interest, 3 facilities have expressed interest. Benefits include access to facilities at no cost to national players and discounted rates. BOD to provide recommendations and identify interested facilities to join the program. SS to work with VB to finalize the agreement and commercial value in the sponsorship of such kind.

# 7. Players meal allowance

SS brought up the concerns raised by the player traveling to the Namibia tour, where they are dissatisfied with the reduced meal allowance compared to the preceding tours, due to the higher cost of expense across, and have requested to keep it the same as the previous tours. NG asked if this request is for the upcoming Namibia tour or moving forward? SS confirmed that as this is the last series of the season it should be the case but moving forward for the next year's budget this should be accounted for in it.

**The Board resolved:** To continue with the agreed meal allowance as from the preceding tour.

In favor: All members

Abstain: Nil Against: Nil

Recused for this item: Nil

#### 8. Other Business

VP identified that the signed copy of NGC's TOR does not have any term included and advised to include a term as maybe end of 2023. AR and VP agreed to have a term ending end of 2023. AR is to notify the Chair of NGC to include the term and send the revised copy of the TOR.