LOUISIANA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

AGM

July 21, 2024

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President.

1. Roll Call

The roll was called by the Chief Administrative Office.

1. Credential Reports

A quorum was not achieved. 42 votes were in attendance and 49 were needed. Voting will not take place during the 2024 AGM.

1. Reading of Minutes and Acceptance

Meeting minute were not available, therefore not read or accepted.

1. Reports
   * Communication Director –

Jeremy Poklemba updated ODP Program and LSA social media. Over 4.6 billion individuals utilize social media. LSA promotes our Social Media platform to connect families & communicates thru the power of sports and the love of soccer. Between 2023-2024, LSA has increased 1.7K followers. We have 362.9K on Facebook and 102.1K on Instagram.

* + Coaching Education -

President, Sean Esker gave the Coaching Education update from Ryan Lazore. “*Last year, LSA conducted 19 grassroots courses (205 coaches), 4-D courses (73 coaches) and 2-C courses (31 coaches). Our coaching staff is currently four and two additional coaches should be coming on shortly”*

* + Chief Administrative Officer -

Kay Briggs reported that the office will be making an additional hire to replace Valerie. We hope to have this announced within the week. Our player registrations have grown – In 2023/24, club registered 32,404 players. There were a couple of outstanding accounts and we expect that amount to be over 33,000 players. LCSL registration was just completed and we should have more teams participating this year than last.

* Presidents Report -

President Sean Esker gave an update on the past tournament season. For Presidents Cup in Texas, we had 22 attend, 14 State Winners and 9 wild cards. SSC 08G Storm Elite and CSC Eagles 2007G won their regional divisions with 08B LA Fire Red and BRSC 11G Black being finalist. All four teams represented Louisiana in the National Presidents Cup in Kansas. CSC Eagles lost in the championship game to Utah in penalty shootout. Southern Regionals was divided into 2 areas, girls and boys, being 45 minutes apart. Five Louisiana teams’ broke bracket and after the first knock out round, BVB 17U girls advanced and won Regionals. They advanced to Nationals but did not break bracket. Sean expressed his appreciation of being able support our teams in these competitions. *“We are Louisiana Soccer -* *It is about celebrating every player from every part of the state who’s out there, competing, playing soccer and trying to make sure that we recognize what they do and spotlight their accomplishments and achievements”.*  Sean also asks that clubs continue to collaborate with us to promote our players and what they are doing. Share through social media and be able to celebrate their success throughout the state. He recapped our collaboration with Paul Boron, who spotlights our players, and posts on social media showing the ties to Louisiana Soccer. Thank you for your support and what you do with your club and your kids!

With the passing of Valerie Clouatre, LSA created the Valerie Clouatre Award. Valerie, never pretended to be something she was not. She was the kind of person that a lot of us hope to be on our best days in terms of her approach, how she handled her work, how she handled herself and her love for her family and her soccer family. The Valerie Clouatre Award is presented to Paul Burgess of Calcasieu Soccer Club. Paul is a wonderful person and a wonderful role model in leading kids and working with clubs. Paul has moved on to a new opportunity in Texas. This is a loss for the state and our soccer community and Paul will be missed by all. Jason Oertling will accept this award on Paul’s behalf and on the behalf of Calcasieu Soccer Club.

1. Presentation and Approval of Budget

The budget was discussed but not voted on since a quorum was not achieved.

1. New Business

Consideration of proposed Amendments to LSA Policy – This will be presented and voted on at the Mid-Year Meeting in January, 2025

LA Force Appeal

There will be a special meeting to discuss the LA Force Appeal. The new virtual meeting time will be Tuesday, July 22, 2024 at 9PM. The office will send out the link on Monday morning.

1. Elections

Chad Vidrine(Incumbent) was unopposed; therefore, he will continue in this role.

Youth Soccer Coordinator – Position was not voted on due to a lack of quorum.

Member-At-Large – Position was not voted on due to a lack of quorum.

Member-At-Large – Marvin Smith sent in his declaration letter and being unopposed, he will be elected unopposed.

1. For the Good of the Game

Thank you to the coaches for their sideline behavior at the Regional/National events.

1. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded.