

**Summary of the Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the United Soccer Coaches Association**
Sunday, March 24, 2020
Board Call



Board Members in attendance: Lynn Berling-Manuel (non-voting, *ex officio* board member – CEO), David Carr, Jeff Farnsworth, Ashlee Fontes-Comber, Andy Haile, Haroot Hakopian, Greg Hubbard, Warren Mersereau, Rusty Oglesby, Missy Price, Sue Ryan (voting, *ex officio* board member – Advocacy Council Chair), and Kevin Sims.

Call to Order

President Kevin Sims commenced the conference call at 4:00pm Eastern Time, Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

1. Welcome Remarks – K. Sims

- Mr. Sims welcomed Board members and provided context for the meeting's discussion about how to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. COVID-19 Response Plan – L. Berling-Manuel

- Lynn. Berling-Manuel gave an overview of the Association's response to the coronavirus crisis.
- The Association's departments have all submitted plans for adjusting operations based on developments related to the virus. For example, the membership department is offering 30-day free memberships to provide much needed content to coaches who need to work with players remotely.

3. Board Discussion re: COVID-19 Response

- Following the briefing by Ms. Berling-Manuel, Board members shared ideas about how the Association might respond to the challenges and opportunities presented by the virus. These included:
 - Don't panic;
 - Manage expenses and safeguard cash;
 - Explore the possibility of SBA loans;
 - Consider discounting membership cost of the next year or creating a deferred payment plan;
 - Establish subcommittees or research groups to determine how to address coaches' areas of greatest need;

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- Think creatively in seeking ways to support coaches with their current needs;
 - Consider the potential impact on Convention 2021;
 - Provide the Advocacy groups with means to support their members;
 - Expedite the creation of online education programming;
 - Consider the possibility of bifurcating education programs into two parts, the first part online and the second part in-person.
 - Offer Association coaching resources (e.g., the online resource library) more broadly as a service to all coaches during this extraordinary time;
 - Maintain focus on the Association's mission;
 - Explore opportunities created by the current disruption, for example, many individuals with extensive fitness backgrounds are not able to work currently – can the Association draw on their expertise to help our members;
 - Create a job search curriculum to help coaches who are displaced because of the coronavirus;
 - Look at possibility of renegotiating Convention contracts based on uncertainty;
 - Communicate regularly with members, providing them with useful information given their needs.
- Ms. Berling-Manuel reported that she and the Association staff would consider these suggestions as they move forward in response to the coronavirus.

Following this discussion, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved.