



Board Meeting Minutes

Utah Soccer Federation
August 21, 2025 | 6:04 PM MST

Board Members: Brian Babcock, Matt Rader, Jamie Okey, Tim Wheelwright, Kendra Halterman, Steve Beckstrom, Shaun Larsen

Staff Members: Bryan Attridge, Carly Kent, Eric Landon, Scot Boyd, Amanda Sanders, Michelle Wixom, Creighton Atkin, Shelly Gillwald, Skyler Bell, Agustin Pinon

Additional Attendees: Melinda Sorensen, David Newman

Study Session

Contact/Recruiting Policy 6316 2b policy

Eric Landon discussed the current tryout and recruiting policy, referencing the difficulty that exists in all members knowing and understanding the policy, as well as the difficulty in enforcing the policy. The office has done some brainstorming on possible changes to the policy, mainly directed at loosening up the contact restrictions in the first half of the year. Eric has reached out for feedback from clubs of different sizes programming and has not received positive feedback in the idea of opening up contact. The office will continue to listen to membership and solicit feedback and ideas on how to improve the player, coach, team and club experience in regard to contact and recruiting. Club feedback so far has been to leave the policy as it currently stands. Matt Rader raised the question of whether the current approach provides players enough opportunity to explore options, especially with overlapping tryout dates. Brian Babcock suggested it may be helpful to bring back more options for discussion in the future.

Public comments

David Newman, from Avalanche gave feedback on the study session item and also discussed the Legacy Fields Project.

Reports & Announcements

State Cup Rules and NCS Update Report – Creighton Atkin

Creighton Atkin shares State Cup updates made by the State Cup Committee.

- USYS has eliminated regional events, meaning State Cup winners will now advance directly to national championships. Half of Nationals will be hosted in Utah next summer for boys age groups. All Utah teams are confirmed in the top competitive tier, giving them access to the highest level of competition.
- State Cup has been reopened to platform teams, and the league game minimum requirement has been removed. To balance fairness, non-league teams will pay an additional \$400 fee when registering.



- To address roster-tracking issues in Affinity, multi-rostered players will not be permitted in State Cup. Players can still multi-roster for league play but will temporarily be removed from rosters during the tournament.
- Survey feedback from over 100 club administrators emphasized the need for equal competition. All teams will now be guaranteed three pool-play games, requiring even number brackets. Odd number brackets will be resolved by adding teams or using play in games.
- Seeding will be revised to account for high-level platform teams outside of the league (ECNL, MLS Next, GA, etc.). State Cup champions and Premier 1 winners will receive priority seeding, and the State Cup Committee will align with UYSA guidelines when determining placement for other teams.
- A new appeals process was introduced for straight red cards. Each team may appeal one per event with a \$200 bond. Appeals will be reviewed by a three-person panel (Director, State Youth Referee Administrator, and a State Cup Committee member). This ensures fair player participation without changing game results.

Staff Update – Bryan Attridge

- Frank Hoyt, UYSA's Region 6 Coordinator will be transitioning from part time to full time. He will oversee Shivwits Legacy Fields Complex and manage the superintendent of the facility.
- Skyler Bell has resigned as the Region 3 Board Member and will be working part-time in the Technical Department as the Club Development and Education Coordinator.

Disciplines and Protests – Scot Boyd

- Scot provided an update on summer disciplinary matters. An appeal regarding alleged improper recruiting, involving discounted fees to attract players, has been remanded back to Discipline Chair Stephanie Saperstein. A protest concerning Utah Athletic Club players ruled ineligible is under review by Steve Beckstrom and a panel next week; although Steve has stepped down from the Protest and Appeals Committee, he is assisting with this case. A related disciplinary decision was also issued against a club that improperly registered UYSA players through U.S. Club without guest forms. Final details will be shared once the UAC protest is resolved, as the two matters are connected.

Technology Platform Update – Sports Connect/PlayMetrics – Bryan Attridge

- The majority investor in Stack Sports (which owns our registration and league software platform Sports Connect) has purchased another registration and league platform called Playmetrics, and installed the Playmetrics CEO as the CEO over both Stack and Playmetrics. Their plan is to phase out the platform we know as Sports Connect over the next two years, and combine its best features and products into the Playmetrics platform. We are in the last year of our deal with Sports Connect, so we are doing our due diligence and evaluating the different registration technology options available.

Skyhawks Camps Update – Bryan Attridge



- Discussed in executive session

Legacy Fields Update – Shelley Gillwald

- Shelly provided an update on the Legacy Fields. A detailed communication was sent to clubs outlining the history and purpose of the Legacy Field Fund, including regional funding details, past spending, and project history specific to each region. Clubs were asked to nominate new committee members, reengage previous members, and recruit individuals with skills aligned to their region's needs. An abbreviated version of this letter will also be shared with the wider membership to increase awareness and involvement. She then reviewed all current projects in each region.

Consent Agenda

- May Board Meeting Minutes
- Financials

Business Agenda

Region 3 Director Election – Brian Babcock

- With Skyler Bell stepping down as Region 3's board member, the position is open. Shaun Larsen introduces himself to the board and provides soccer and work history. He will fill the position until the next AGM in March, where an election for the last year of the term will be held, voted on by Region 3 club membership

Tim moves approval to appoint Shaun Larsen as Region 3 Director
Matt Rader seconds the motion
All in favor

Good of the Game

- Brian Babcock said it was nice to see everyone out at the Annual Utah Soccer Golf Tournament.
- Bryan Attridge added we would like to congratulate the Aggies team that won the golf tournament with the score of 47.
- Creighton Atkin added Matt Bradley's 08 boys team won their 3rd consecutive national championship. Congratulations to them.
- Kendra announced the Pan World woman's team won the Nationals.

Meeting concluded at 7:15 PM MST.