**VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Committee Meeting**

January 31, 2015 10:00 am

The VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Committee met at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, VA at the VYSA Annual Convention. Those in attendance were:

Len Oliver VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Chair

Julie Caramanica VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Administrator

Adele Dolansky VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

Walter Durkan VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

Denise Edwards VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member and

Virginia Youth Soccer Association President

Ann Germain VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

Kip Germain VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

John Harkes VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

Larry Monaco VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

Jim Sadowski VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Committee Member and

MDCVSA President

Bob Sokolinsky VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member

Craig Stouffer VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Committee Member and

DC United Representative

Anne Thompson VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Member and Committee Member

**Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 1, 2014 VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Committee Meeting and November 21, 2014 Conference Call minutes. The motion was approved.

**Review**

Statistics of inductions since the Hall began in 2001 were distributed (Attachment A). The records show the VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame now has 96 inductees, 71 male and 25 female. There are now 40 inductees in the player category, 46 in the Meritorious Service category and 10 in the Veterans category. Of the 40 player inductees, 24 are male and 16 are female. Of the 46 meritorious service inductees, 37 are male and 9 are female. In the Veterans category all 10 inductees are male.

It was noted that statistics should not be a factor in the selection of new inductees nor should the number selected each year be considered. Selections should be made strictly on merit and in accordance with the Committee votes.

**Committee Composition**

It was reported that Kate Fessler had resigned from the committee. There was discussion on adding new members. Len Oliver suggested Doug Homer, noting he was from DC Stoddert, to replace Kate. Jim Sadowski noted that Doug works with the Adult league in DC Stoddert.

A motion was made and seconded that any selections of additional Committee members not be made at this time. The motion passed.

The Committee agreed that the current number of committee members was sufficient, but suggested that a notice be sent requesting recommendations of names for consideration of new members for the Committee from all areas of VA and DC so when the Committee does approve adding new members, it will be from a qualified list of recommended persons.

**Nomination and Voting Process**

It was reported that many nominations received are merely names and a great deal of research has been done to find current addresses of those nominated as well as their background for biographies. Committee members agreed that those submitting nominations in the future must include current addresses and sufficient information supporting the nomination.

A motion was made and seconded that in order for a nomination to be declared valid, it must include a written bio or information regarding the individual being nominated and contact information for the nominee. Nominations received without supporting information and current contact information for the nominee or, name only submissions, will be returned with notification that the nomination did not comply with the directive of the Committee. The motion was approved.

The process for nominations remains the same.

* All nominations for Players and Meritorious Service must be received by November 1st each year.
* Nominations will be sent to the Committee for review.
* A date will be set for a conference call to discuss each candidate.
* The Committee will determine which, if any, nominees should be placed in the Veterans Category.
* Ballots will be sent to the Committee after those tallying votes have cast their votes.
* Once all votes are received, the results will be sent to each committee member to determine how many, based on the votes, will be selected for that year.
* The recommendations from the Committee will be tallied and the results announced.

All Committee members were encouraged to participate in the conference call. It was noted the information shared this past conference call was very informative and made a great difference.

Committee members discussed future nominations. There was concern that many of those who have contributed so much to soccer in VA and DC might be forgotten. Committee members were asked to send a list of all those that might be considered for nomination. It was noted that it is better to bring them in soon before many pass away and dont get to enjoy being a member of the Hall!

**RFK Event With DC United**

Committee member Craig Stouffer and also an employee of DC United recommended three possible dates for the Hall of Fame Recognition at RFK during a DC United match. He noted that Sunday, June 21st was likely the most probable date. He will work in finalizing the date and report back to the committee.

Committee members were encouraged to put that date aside to attend.

**Budget and Finances**

It was noted that the Hall of Fame needs to find some source of funding for the activities expenses it needs to cover. With changes in personnel and activities of all the organizations supporting the Hall, there may come a time when those organizations cannot support in the same way they have in the past.

It was suggested that Hall of Fame inductees be asked for donations. It was suggested that letters requesting support be sent to bring in some funding.

Some recommended that sponsorship be sought. Committee members were asked to send suggestions for organizations to be contacted. Letters requesting support will be sent. Anne Thompson suggested two levels of sponsorship be sought: Gold and Silver.

It was noted that funds must go through VYSA for tax purposes. It was recommended that a fund be set in VYSA to hold Hall of Fame donations. Julie asked for samples of requests for sponsorship be sent to be used to develop a letter of request for the Hall.

Jim Sadowski suggested adding an item to player registrations for donations to the Hall of Fame. He noted the MDCVSA will include that in their registrations. Denise Edwards noted it will be added to the VYSA Convention registration.

**Other Business**

It was suggested that a position of Staff Director for the Hall of Fame be established and once funds are collected it would become a paid position. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that Julie Caramanica be appointed to the position as HOF Staff Director. In addition the committee approved that she be reimbursed for the HOF expenses incurred with her duties as Director.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved that Julie Caramanica to be added as a voting member of the Hall of Fame Committee.

The relationship with DC United and their new stadium was discussed. Len suggested finding a place at the new stadium to have some area where the Hall of Fame might be recognized. Suggestions included a special room or a hallway for recognition. Efforts will be made to bring that to happen.

Julie asked Committee members if it would be ok to update the bios of Hall of Fame inductees if they have accomplishments since they were inducted. All members agreed to updates on the web site where available.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

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After the meeting, some Hall of Fame members asked about making Hall of Fame items be made available, specifically polo shirts. In a meeting last year the Hall of Fame members agreed items be made available for purchase and that they be shown on line and sold at a slight mark up to be used to help defray Hall of Fame expenses. Items requested were:

* Polo shirts
* V-Neck Sweaters
* Bags
* Soccer Caps
* Lighter Jackets

Julie agreed to look into getting that set up.

Prepared by

Julie Caramanica

VA DC Soccer Hall of Fame Staff Director