



## **ELECTION PROCESS AT THE 2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN SOCCER ASSOCIATION**

In the last two years, the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) has been engaged in a process of organizational renewal, focusing specifically on its governance structures. The CSA membership has agreed that the CSA will have a governing board, which will be reduced in size to 14 members, including an elected President and Vice-President, six (6) elected Directors, and six (6) appointed Directors. The CSA's 2012 Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held May 5, will mark the implementation of this new governing structure.

The new CSA Bylaws, which define the new governance structure, provide that at the 2012 AGM, there will be an election of the President and an election of the six (6) elected Directors. In all cases, a candidate, to be elected, must secure a majority (50%+1) of the votes cast by the membership. If no candidate secures a majority, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped and another ballot conducted, until a majority is obtained. The Bylaws provide that nominations for the elected positions may come from any individual or organization in Canada.

### **Election of the President and Vice President**

The process for electing the President will not change from previous years: all delegates will cast their ballots for the candidates for President. The balloting will continue until one of the candidates secures a majority of the votes cast; this person will then be declared elected.

The new governance structure calls for the election of one (1) Vice President, although in 2012 such an election will not be held, because the person occupying the Vice President's position still has one year remaining in his term and thus will be "grandfathered" to the new Board. If the Vice President's position comes open as a result of the voting at the 2012 AGM, the Board will have to vote on a replacement in the months following the AGM. To be elected, a Vice Presidential candidate will have to secure a majority (50% +1) of the votes cast by the Board. In the case of the election of the Vice President, the Nominations Committee will be inviting nominations for this position.

### **Election of Directors**

The voting process for the six (6) elected Directors will be more complex. Each of the six (6) regions of Canada (BC/YT, AB/NWT, MB/SK, ON, QC, Atlantic) will elect one (1) Director.

Of the six (6) candidates who are elected to the position of Director in 2012, only three (3) may hold a position on a provincial/territorial board at the same time. Once three candidates who hold a provincial/territorial board position are elected during the balloting, any other candidates who are subsequently elected and who hold such a position must resign from that position within ninety (90) days of the 2012 AGM.

All candidates who are nominated for the position of elected Director will have their name on the first ballot. The first ballot will end when one candidate secures a majority of the votes cast. Once a candidate from any one of the six regions of the country is elected, all other candidates from that region will be removed from the list of candidates who are eligible for subsequent ballots.

### **Appointment of Directors**

The six (6) appointed (or independent) Directors of the new Board are to be phased in over two years. This is because two (2) of the Directors at Large and the Treasurer will be grandfathered to the new Board and will still occupy three (3) Board positions. Thus, in the days following the 2012 AGM, the Nominations Committee will be responsible for preparing a list of candidates for three (3) appointed or “independent” positions on the Board. (An “independent” is defined in the CSA Bylaws as a “person who at the time of his/her appointment is not an officer, director or employee of the CSA or of a Provincial/Territorial Association Member.”) Two (2) of these appointments will be for three (3) years, and one (1) will be for two (2) years.

The Nominations Committee will forward the list of candidates for the three (3) appointed positions to the Board of Directors within 60 days of the AGM; the list must meet the gender balance requirement and include individuals who together have the knowledge, skills, competencies, and community contacts that are required by the CSA’s governing Board. The Bylaws provide that the Board may reject a recommended candidate for an appointed position only for good cause and only as a result of a motion passed by a 75% vote.