**U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION, WOMEN’S AND MEN’S NATIONAL TEAM UNIONS AGREE**

**TO HISTORIC COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS**

*U.S. Soccer, USWNT & USMNT Players Achieve Equal Pay with Identical Economic Terms;*

*U.S. Soccer Becomes First Federation to Equalize FIFA World Cup Prize Money*

**CHICAGO (MAY 18, 2022**) – The United States Soccer Federation (USSF), the United States Women's National Team Players Association (USWNTPA) and the United States National Soccer Team Players Association (USNSTPA) have agreed to terms of historic, first-of-their-kind collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) that achieve equal pay and set the global standard moving forward in international soccer.

The two CBAs, which run through 2028, achieve equal pay through identical economic terms. These economic terms include identical compensation for all competitions, including the FIFA World Cup, and the introduction of the same commercial revenue sharing mechanism for both teams. The agreements will ensure that U.S. Soccer’s Senior National Team players remain among the highest paid in the world.

Under these agreements, U.S. Soccer becomes the first Federation in the world to equalize FIFA World Cup prize money awarded to the U.S. Women’s National Team (USWNT) and the U.S. Men’s National Team (USMNT) for participation in their respective World Cups.

Equally as important, the new CBAs improve non-economic terms, including player health and safety, data privacy and the need to balance responsibilities to both club and country.

“This is a truly historic moment. These agreements have changed the game forever here in the United States and have the potential to change the game around the world,” said U.S. Soccer President **Cindy Parlow Cone**. “U.S. Soccer and the USWNT and USMNT players have reset their relationship with these new agreements and are leading us forward to an incredibly exciting new phase of mutual growth and collaboration as we continue our mission to become the preeminent sport in the United States.”

“I am grateful for the commitment and collaboration of both the men’s and women’s National Teams and I am incredibly proud of the hard work that has led to this moment. Everyone who cares about our sport should share in this pride as we look forward to working together to grow soccer for generations to come,” Cone added.

"The accomplishments in this CBA are a testament to the incredible efforts of WNT players on and off the field,” said USWNT player and USWNTPA President **Becky Sauerbrunn**. “The gains we have been able to achieve are both because of the strong foundation laid by the generations of WNT players that came before the current team and through our union’s recent collaboration with our counterparts at the USNSTPA and leadership at U.S. Soccer. We hope that this agreement and its historic achievements in not only providing for equal pay but also in improving the training and playing environment for National Team players will similarly serve as the foundation for continued growth of women’s soccer both in the United States and abroad.”

“They said equal pay for men and women was not possible, but that did not stop us and we went ahead and achieved it,” said **Walker Zimmerman**, member of USNSTPA leadership group. “We hope this will awaken others to the need for this type of change, and will inspire FIFA and others around the world to move in the same direction.”

Key aspects of the agreements include:

**Equal Pay for Equal Work**

The CBAs provide for equal rates of pay across the components of Senior National Team player pay:

* On-field Base and Performance Pay:
  + For friendly games, players on the USWNT and USMNT will be paid identical roster appearance fees and performance payments, based on the outcome of the match and the rank of the opponent, with identical tiering structures. Players not on the game roster will earn the equivalent of an appearance fee for their participation in a Senior National Team camp.
  + For official competitions, including the World Cup, USWNT and USMNT players will earn identical game appearance fees. For official competitions other than the World Cup, USWNT and USMNT players will earn identical game bonuses.
  + The CBAs provide that USWNT players will no longer receive guaranteed salaries, and those who play in the NWSL will no longer have their NWSL salaries paid by U.S. Soccer.

* Equalization of World Cup Prize Money:
  + In a first-of-its-kind agreement, U.S. Soccer has agreed with both the USWNTPA and the USNSTPA to pool and share a portion of prize money paid for the teams’ participation in the 2022 Men’s World Cup (MWC) and the 2023 Women’s World Cup (WWC). In this arrangement, the players on the 2022 MWC roster and on the 2023 WWC roster will be paid an equal percentage of the collective prize money paid by FIFA for the teams’ participation and performance in their respective World Cups. The same will occur with the 2026 MWC and the 2027 MWC.
  + For non-World Cup tournaments, the CBAs ensure that players on both teams will earn an equal amount of the total prize money paid when both teams participate in the same competition.
* Commercial Revenue Share:
  + In another first for U.S. Soccer and the Players Associations, U.S. Soccer will share a portion of its broadcast, partner and sponsorship revenue with a 50/50 split of that share divided equally between USWNT and USMNT. This new revenue-sharing framework will provide additional encouragement for all parties to work together to grow the game.
  + U.S. Soccer will pay the USWNT and USMNT players a share of the revenue from tickets sold at U.S. Soccer-controlled home matches and a bonus amount for those games that are sellouts.

**Senior National Team Benefits**

In addition to equal compensation, all Senior National Team players will receive the following benefits:

* Child Care: During Senior National Team training camps and matches, U.S. Soccer will provide childcare, as it has for the USWNT for more than 25 years.
* Retirement: U.S. Soccer will provide a 401(k) plan for all USWNT and USMNT players, while matching up to 5% of players’ compensation, subject to IRS limits. Matching amounts paid to MNT and WNT players will be deducted from each team’s respective share of commercial revenue payable in each year.

**Best-in-Class Playing and Training Environments**

Outside of compensation, the CBAs specify important protections to ensure that U.S. Soccer continues to provide a best-in-class playing and training environment for its Senior National Team players. Both Senior National Teams will receive equal support, while allowing for flexibility due to each team’s specific needs.

A few of these provisions include:

* Venues and Field Surfaces: U.S. Soccer will provide equal quality of venues and field playing surfaces to the USWNT and USMNT.
* Accommodations: U.S. Soccer will provide equal resources to the USWNT and USMNT with respect to hotel accommodations for all U.S. Senior National Team matches and camps. On a per-night, per-room basis, U.S. Soccer will maintain comparable budgets for the USWNT and USMNT for each fiscal year for hotel accommodations for matches and camps.
* National Team Staffing: The CBAs recommit U.S. Soccer to providing a world-class training environment by ensuring that Senior National Teams’ camps are fully staffed by the experienced personnel needed to provide players with training, recovery and rehabilitation. Additionally, the CBAs commit U.S. Soccer to staffing Senior National Team camps equally, while respecting the unique needs of the USWNT and USMNT.
* Travel: U.S. Soccer will provide an equal number of charter flights to both Senior National Teams during camps for team travel to Official Competitions, tournaments, and friendlies.
* Safe Work Environment: The CBAs implement important protections to prevent harassment and other improper conduct. The protections include player input into how they are treated and mirror best-in-class sporting medical and other treatment environments around the world. They also adopt prophylactic rules to protect the privacy and dignity of Senior National Team players, including the ability to report anonymously and via text.
* Scheduling Predictability: In recognition of the increased focus on women’s professional soccer – and the growth of the NWSL in particular – the USWNTPA CBA commits U.S. Soccer to planning USWNT camps as far in advance as possible, subject to the constraints of FIFA and CONCACAF’s scheduling processes, enabling USWNT players to contribute to their respective clubs.

**USWNT Additional Benefits**

In recognition of the additional work they perform, including their representation of the United States at the Olympic Games, the USWNTPA CBA also provides additional fringe benefits to a group of “Benefits” Players, who will be selected each year by the USWNT head coach. Those fringe benefits include:

* Insurance: Benefits Players will continue to be enrolled in health insurance, dental insurance, and vision insurance through U.S. Soccer.
* Parental Leave: Benefits Players who take leave due to pregnancy or to care for a newborn/newly adopted child will continue to be paid an agreed upon amount up to a maximum of six months.
* Short-term Disability: Benefits Players who suffer a soccer-related injury or a documented soccer-related mental-health impairment will be provided with partial income replacement of their USWNT compensation.

**Deals Through 2028**

The historic CBAs will cover the next two World Cup and Olympic cycles and keep USWNT and USMNT players among the highest paid National Team players in the world. The terms of the CBAs, the result of an extensive bargaining process among U.S. Soccer, the USWNTPA, and the USNSTPA, have been approved by U.S. Soccer’s Board of Directors and ratified by the membership of both Players Associations.

**Impact of Ratification on Equal Pay Lawsuit Resolution**

The ratification of the CBAs is a necessary and critical step to resolution. We now await the final approval of the settlement by the class members and the Court.

**CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION**

Representatives from the Federation and members of the USWNTPA and the USNSTPA will be available to the media to discuss these agreements today at XX via Zoom. RSVP to XX in order to participate in the call.

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**About U.S. Soccer**

Founded in 1913, the U.S. Soccer Federation has been the official governing body of the sport in the United States for more than 100 years. During that time, the growth of the sport has grown tremendously at all levels. As U.S. Soccer looks towards the future, its mission is to make soccer the preeminent sport in the United States. With a long-term and strategic approach, U.S. Soccer aims to accomplish its mission by supporting its members to increase participation at the youth and adult levels, develop world class players, coaches, and referees to consistently win at the highest levels on the international stage and serve the fans by engaging with them in deeper and more meaningful ways. For more information, visit ussoccer.com.

**About the U.S. Women’s National Team Players Association**

The U.S. Women's National Team Players Association (USWNTPA) serves as a leading advocate for women’s soccer players, pioneering a new era of women’s soccer as a preeminent sport. The primary mission of the USWNTPA is to protect the rights of USWNT players and to advance and safeguard the economic and social welfare of all USWNT players, both on and off the field. The USWNTPA is committed to raising the level of women’s soccer domestically and continuing to grow the game worldwide.

**About the U.S. National Soccer Team Players Association**

The United States National Soccer Team Players Association is the labor organization for the current members of the United States Men’s National Team, and a membership organization for alumni members of the USMNT. In 1996 it became the first national team in history to unionize and for over 25 years has served not just the interests of its members, but the wider community of American soccer, including all those who are interested in the sport, its National Teams, and the USMNT players.