**Seattle Youth Soccer Association**

**Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Monthly Business Meeting held on September 14, 2020 via teleconference**

**Officers, commissioners and staff attending the meeting:**

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| **President** | David Funke | x | **Ballard** | Luke Giustra | x |
| **VP Administration** | Alex Johnston | x | **Beacon Hill** | Keith Leitich | x |
| **Secretary** | Phil Herold | x | **Capitol Hill** | Perry Lee | x |
| **Treasurer** | John Clark | x | **Hillwood** | Phil Herold | x |
| **VP Operations** |  |  | **Lake City** | Dave Farber | x |
| **VP Development Rec** | Ann Sattler | x | **LVR** | Greg Parker | x |
| **VP Competition** | Corey McNamee | x | **Magnolia** | Alex Johnston  | x |
|  |  |  | **McGilvra** | Jeff Scott | x |
| **Disciplinary Chair** | Steve Kuhn |  | **Mt Baker** | Shannon Palmer | x |
| **SSRA SYSA Liaison** | Larry Metz | x | **Queen Anne** | Ryan Hall | x |
| **Seattle United Rep** |  |  | **Seattle United** | Kevin Long | x |
| **SYSA Cup Rep** | Anne Bare |  | **Shorelake** | Kris Espinoza | x |
| **MAR (Rep to State)** | Phil Herold | x | **Woodland** | Mitch Furuglyas | x |
|   |
| **Executive Director** | David Griffiths | x | **Scheduler** | Jessica Beckton | x |
| **SYSA Registrar** | Paige Blomso | x | **Volunteer Coord** | Andrew Westmark |  |
| **Assistant Registrar** | Anne Bare | x | **Bookkeeper** | Susan Martin |  |
| **Assistant Registrar** | Julie Irwin | x |  |  |  |

Guests/others present: Jon Carver, LVR; Yarrow Banko, Queen Anne

**Monthly Business Meeting Call to Order**

Called to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Volunteer of the Month**

None submitted.

**Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda**

Noted that Jeff Huse was still listed as disciplinary chair in the roster of attendees, should be Steve Kuhn. LVR requested that an item related to WYS insurance be added to the agenda. No objections nor discussion regarding these changes/additions. Revised consent agenda and minutes of previous meeting with the change suggested declared approved by consensus.

**Officer, Staff and Committee Reports**

* **David Funke, President**
* Fields billing issue: referenced the report he sent out; for later discussion in the meeting
* Club training: clubs who offer this on their own to follow state guidelines and furnish a plan
* D&O insurance: SYSA bought a policy
* Budget calculations: approximately $50K loss if spring soccer happens, based on two-thirds of normal registration for spring soccer; additional $100K loss if spring soccer cancelled
* **Alex Johnston, VP Administration**
* Parks has had some virtual meetings on Bobby Morris
* Other improvements that Beckton may bring up during her report
* Lights on Whitman: some opposition from the neighbors
* **Phil Herold, Secretary/MAR**

Reported that based on what he’s heard, everybody in youth soccer in surrounding associations is in essentially the same situation as SYSA.

* **John Clark, Treasurer**
* Final figure for previous fiscal was net loss of $20,843
* Current balance in the accounts is about $520,000
* Griffiths has been closing out old accounts, CDs were liquidated and will remain liquid
* Will not migrate the operating account used for payroll until we know accounting system has been switched; Chuck Porter is in charge of that
* Aligned with Funke’s work on the projections
* **Corey McNamee, VP Competition**
* **Ann Sattler, VP Rec Development**

No report

* **Larry Metz, SSRA Liaison**
* Referees ready to go when things are ready to go
* Did a poll in Northshore and Eastside; about 120 replies, 80% ready to go, 20% (mostly adults) are more cautious; haven’t done similar survey in Seattle
* Working on a draft of a referee protocol, will share with SYSA for feedback and alignment
* **Steve Kuhn, Disciplinary**

Not present

* **Paige Blomso, Anne Bare, Julie Irwin, SYSA Registrars**
* Recreational numbers have held at about 5300
* Will be contacting club registrars and administrators to make sure they’re processing cancellations with respect to spring soccer and insurance issues
* May have to change registration protocol for spring; working with staff on viable options
* Newsletter is drafted, hope to send by end of the week; trying to keep membership engaged
* Some parents are cancelling out of SYSA rec and opting into Seattle United because it’s a more concrete offering; not a lot but there are some
* **Jessica Beckton, Scheduler**
* Tough year for fields; many are closed. North of ship canal, every parks turf field is closing for resurfacing. Loyal Heights is closed now, Lower Woodland and Magnuson to close at end of month. Queen Anne Bowl is also closed. We only have school fields and schools can run some sort of practice season this fall; most don’t become available until about 7 p.m.
* Parks just issued October/November time and Beckton has been going through those allocations with Griffiths. Parks policy is cancel/return fields two weeks without penalty
* Echoed Johnston regarding Whitman lights; individual is rallying neighbors against it
* In response to inquiry about Bitter Lake, parks is repairing the lights
* **Kevin Long**
* Practices are shortened, limit on kids at field; nothing new from last month
* Local TV did a news story that included interview with medical advisory committee chair Jon Drezner
* **David Griffiths, Executive Director**
* Echoed the request for SYSA members to weigh in on Whitman lights
* Attended lots of meetings: Friends of Athletic Fields, parks, Cal Anderson project which didn’t touch on anything soccer related and was more about the north end of the park, committee with other sports where it was interesting to see what other sports are doing
* Running back and forth to the banks
* D&O insurance task
* SYSA internal meetings: field task force, alignment meeting, weekly staff meetings
* Focus for last week and a half has been programming/curriculum for U13+

**Old Business**

**Executive Board Diversity and Inclusion Positions – Shannon Palmer**

Introductory remarks:

* Proposal was sent out in the meeting packet; looking for 4-6 members from within SYSA plus others from outside
* Goal is to develop ideas for how to increase diversity across the board; primary concern is coaching and how to get that to match what the city looks like
* Timeline is to implement by spring 2021

Motion to establish the committee by McGilvra, second by Seattle United. Discussion: Palmer noted it is a complex proposal for the group, conversation is uncomfortable for some, noted the white male skew among those present. Want everybody to embrace this initiative as it is important to us all. Very much want your involvement. Open and honest dialog about what our clubs look like. Timeline was brought up; might be too overly aggressive given everything else that’s going on. No further discussion, therefore Funke declared discussion closed and called for a vote. No objections or abstentions, passed unanimously.

**New Business**

**Insurance - Greg Parker**

* Issue comes from concerns by LVR board that WYS suddenly announced it had dropped the coverage in early August and clubs needed to act by September 1
* Wants some information brought to the October meeting: What is the authority that gives WYS ability to place insurance? Can this process repeat itself?
* Stated the need to check the by-laws and that there’s something behind our indemnification
* New policies provide much better coverage, so no objections there
* Wondering how it came about and manner in which it occurred, and whether we need to formalize the WYS insurance relationship

**Decision for Fall Season – David Funke**

Griffiths spoke to the fall season plan, distributed in the packet. This version executes on plan B, shared and discussed at the August meeting, and is now the go-forward plan since King County is still in Phase 2.

* U7-U9: clubs can run their own mod programming; some clubs are planning to
* U10-U12: handled by Seattle United using its PDA model
* U13 and above: team-based training program offered by SYSA where teams are scheduled a time with a trainer to conduct one session a week; team coaches strongly encouraged to be there

Questions and discussion:

* Seattle United/SYSA programs to take place during the week
* Seattle United program particulars:
* Options for team-based placement: Blomso shared that there has always been a willingness to place teams together in the PDA, but there are additional restrictions now with groups limited to five, total player count capped at 40 per session
* Locations/times/cost: Washington Park, Jane Adams and Jefferson, two one-hour sessions available Monday and Friday; six one-hour sessions for $100
* SYSA program particulars:
* Six weeks, one session a week, $300 per team ($50 an hour) plus cost of the field
* Trainers from Girls Boss Sports, plus some Reign and Seattle United coaches
* Teams should stay registered with their club, for continuity leading into spring soccer
* SYSA will not bill for the usual per-player field fee, clubs can keep that; SYSA will bill clubs for the trainers and fields actually used
* Need information about older teams by end of this week

For the record, it was declared that given the directives from the state government, by action of the Board of Commissioners, the traditional fall recreational season with game play is cancelled.

Funke polled some of the clubs and asked what their plans were.

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| --- | --- |
| Ballard | Mirroring what Seattle United is doing; one on-field practice a week plus a Zoom session from professional coaches; working on a game-day scenario, such as FIFA skills games |
| BH | No programming, in hibernation |
| CH | Still figuring out the logistics, primarily training only; have worked with UK Elite and will offer those programs for mod, may need to consider U10-U12 as well |
| Magnolia | President sent email to the club 8/17 announcing mod is postponed, will follow SYSA’s lead |
| Woodland | Will explore the Fewing camps, maybe do that in phase 3; otherwise on board for U10-12 and 13+ programs |
| QA | Will be running a program for U8-U15, small zone practices with five players or less, using Queen Anne playfields and Smith Cove |
| LVR | Meeting as a board tomorrow, will probably cancel mod; have teams interested at U10-12 and U13+ |
| McGilvra | Cancelled mod, interested in doing some community-based programming |

**Announcements and Reminders**

* Next SYSA Board Meeting Monday October 5
* Look out for and confirm attendance with iCal notifications via email from Griffiths
* Presidents’ calls every other week, Tuesdays at 6 pm

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Hillwood, seconded by McGilvra, all in favor and adjourned at 8:52 pm.