



# Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held on

**February 6, 2023 via zoom call**

**Attendance:** Officers, Commissioners and Staff

<b>President</b>	David Funke	X	<b>Ballard</b>	Corey McNamee	X
<b>VP Administration</b>	Keith Leitich	X	<b>Beacon Hill</b>	Keith Leitich	X
<b>Secretary</b>	<i>POSITION OPEN</i>		<b>Capitol Hill</b>	Shelly Chinn	absent
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Clark	absent	<b>Hillwood</b>	Jim Shea	absent
<b>VP Operations</b>	Ann Davison	X	<b>Lake City</b>	David Farber	absent
<b>VP of Rec Development</b>	Kris Espinosa	absent	<b>LVR</b>	Greg Parker	X
<b>VP of Competition</b>	Corey McNamee	X	<b>Magnolia</b>	Stephanie Skinner	X
			<b>McGilvra</b>	Jeff Scott, Nick Tchemitcheff	X
<b>Disciplinary Chair</b>	Chris Tuttle	absent	<b>Mt Baker</b>	Shannon Palmer	X
<b>SSRA SYSA Liaison</b>	Larry Metz	absent	<b>Queen Anne</b>	Shane Cramer, Yarrow Banko	absent
<b>Diversity Chair</b>	Shannon Palmer	X	<b>Seattle United</b>	Kevin Long	X
<b>SYSA Cup Rep</b>			<b>Shorelake</b>	Kris Espinosa	absent
			<b>Woodland</b>	Mitch Furuglyas	

<b>Executive Director</b>	David Griffiths	X	<b>Scheduler</b>	Jessica Beckton	X
<b>SYSA Registrar</b>	Paige Blomso	X	<b>Communications</b>	Jenn Ireland	X
<b>Assistant Registrar</b>	Anne Bare	X	<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Michele Authier	absent
<b>Assistant Registrar</b>					

## **FEBRUARY MEETING**

- Called to order by David Funke (time 7:09 PM)
- Presence of a quorum noted
- Minutes taken by Jenn Ireland, SYSA Communications

## **WELCOME GUEST SPEAKERS**

- None

## **SYSA VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

- Greg Parker has a nominee to submit, will send in via email
- Looking for nominees of the year:
  - Admin of the Year
  - Volunteer of the Year
  - Boy Rec Coach of the Year
  - Girls Rec Coach of the Year
  - Boys Competitive Coach of the Year
  - Girls Competitive Coach of the Year
  - These will be presented in April at the AGM
  - Submit nominations to David Griffiths via email

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CONSENT OF AGENDA**

- Motion to approve January minutes by Keith Leitich (VP of Admin), second by Kevin Long (Seattle United)

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### *President Dave Funke*

- Good progress on bylaws
- Sat in virtually on WYS player fee meeting
- Bob Sigley donated money to SYSA in form on endowment to Beacon Hill
  - Approach the family and trust foundation to clarify next steps

### *VP Admin Keith Leitich*

- Attended in person the WYS meeting
  - Fees will remain the same for upcoming year:
    - Age 10 below \$7.25
    - \$16.25 for rec
    - \$18.50 for competitive
    - Voted on by a vote of 70 to 0, with one ostension
  - Wrote a strongly worded letter to WYS president asking them to look into Safe Sport after the Sally Yates investigation. Will have a report prepared next month for the board.
- Connecting with RAVE Foundation, ask them to let us know about future outreach events so that we can be present and provide information to players

### *VP of Operations Ann Davidson*

- Nothing to report

*Treasurer John Clark*

- Not present
- (David Funke) We are thinking we will increase field fees by \$5 and raise the player fee \$1 a head. We also might raise Seattle United fees a few dollars to be at \$21 for both select and premier. At the most, rec player fees may be 6 or 7 dollars more next year. This is based on projected expenses. This is tentative and negotiable.

*VP of Competition Corey McNamee*

- Not much to report. Coaches convention was great, learned a ton. It was great getting to talk to people from around the country and hear how everyone else does things. Unique situation here at SYSA is that we have 13 clubs that get along – we should celebrate that.

*VP of Rec Development Kris Espinosa*

- Not present

*Diversity & Inclusion Chair Shannon Palmer*

- I would ask that all of you consider being a part of the DEI Committee so that we can start to get things done. Please consider and let me know.
- Idea for sportsmanship signs at Seattle Parks (for parents, coaches and players).
  - (Ann Davidson) I will look into it with the City.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*SSRA President Larry Metz*

- Not present.
- (David Griffiths) Fall referee fee will increase 12-15%. No fees have been increased since pre-covid.

*Disciplinary Chair Chris Tuttle*

- Not present

## **STAFF REPORTS**

*Registrar Paige Blomso*

- Spring Soccer update:
  - 285 teams registered for spring soccer.
  - The 15<sup>th</sup> is the day we will tack on \$100 late fee (for an additional week only).
  - Spring Skills Academy registration opening on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Individual player registration opened on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Refer your coaches to the FAQ pages.
  - Coaches meeting will be in person this year, all 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year coaches are required to attend.
- Demosphere feedback meetings were a success. There may be a need for us to hold working sessions where club admins can come and get help setting up registration for the fall.
- We have hired Kristen, new registrar staff member

*Registrar Anne Bare*

- Please communicate to your club's young families that they CAN play Spring Soccer even if they did MOD and Academy style programming in the fall. If they have a parent to coach, we can help them put together a team, just have them reach out.

*Field/Game Scheduler Jessica Beckton*

- Working on scheduling for Seattle United teams in State Cup and SU teams that are still playing their regular season.
- We have hired Berry, new scheduling staff member

*Executive Director David Griffiths*

- See attached XD report
- Our Amazon donation was secured
- We are partnering with BC Soccer Training for a Winter Futsal League, games start next weekend. This is a pilot program.
- March 26<sup>th</sup> will be our Spring Soccer coaches meeting from 3-5 PM at Northgate Community Center
- AGM will be from 9-12 on April 1, at Northgate Community Center
- We have received an offer of \$10,000 from Kroger to sponsor our spring season
  - (Greg Parker) LVR does not want to receive these emails
  - (Shannon Palmer) If we communicate what we are doing with messaging, this is OK

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Select Player Rule Update (Corey McNamee) Currently working on the wording. We need to define what premier, select, and rec teams mean. Example: WPL is on same level as RCL (which is premier), anything below is select. Working with wording to see how we can do this without creating a ton of loopholes for the coach who is actively looking for those loopholes.
  - (Paige Blomso) Staff streamlined the wording and rules in Spring Soccer documents
- Bylaws update – (David Funke, Shannon Palmer, Greg Parker) By next meeting we should have a fairly polished document for the board to review.
  - (David Funke) Document is close. Attorney will cost anywhere from \$7500 – 10,000 to review the document. You should see a document for the March meeting, and hopeful that it will be ready to go by the AGM in April.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- RATS agreement – (David Griffiths). Larry has given us a document to review to allow the RATS group use of our MOD goals. We need this liability agreement between the two organizations so that they assume responsibilities when they are using them.
  - (Greg Parker) I recommend that this be changed to say that RATS 'agrees to release and indemnify SYSA of any claims'. The phrase 'and indemnify' needs to be in that document. (David Griffiths) I will pass this along to Larry.
- SYSA Board openings –
  - (Ann Davidson) – Idea, organize a coffee volunteer event to see if we can bring non-association people into our mix
  - (Greg Parker) We may need to revisit Secretary not as a volunteer position but as a paid position

- (Shannon Parker) Or keep the Board positions volunteer and move the work to staff
  - (David Funke) Every position but President CAN fill in a voting role as well for commissioners, this is a change
- Development of Board Code of Conduct (David Griffiths) We should have a Board code of Conduct to make sure we are all treating each other nicely and fairly. (Kevin Long) At Seattle United we talked about it, but didn't formally add it to bylaws. We have a player and parent code of conduct, I've endorsed a Board code of conduct. (David Griffiths) I can put together something in the next month. (Ann Davidson) We should include conflicts of interest forms
- West Seattle proposal to join league: West Seattle is looking to put their U11+ teams into SYSA fall league. Home games would be in West Seattle. Teams would be eligible to enter City Tournament.
  - (Paige Blomso) Several things to address before we make a decision. Are teams formed by birth year or school year? It may need to be more official than simply putting their teams into the league, such as them joining SYSA as a member club.
  - (David Griffiths) Clarification needed on the following: How many teams would be joining? Are they birth year or school year? How do they do age verification? How do we gain visibility into coach compliance? Fields notification policy, how far in advance before games will they notify opponents? Team formation policy – what is it?

## **REMINDERS**

- Next SYSA Board meeting Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion to adjourn, Stephanie Skinner (Magnolia), second by Shannon Palmer (MBL)
- Meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM

## AMENDMENTS TO FEBRUARY 2023 BOARD MINUTES

### BOARD ACTION

At the February 2023 SYSA Board meeting Report included discussion of a sponsorship contract with a commercial vendor, Kroger, that involves payment of \$10,000 and an agreement by SYSA to distribute seven nutrition and product related messages via email to its member registry.

### MINUTES ADDITIONS

- The LVR Commissioner objected to Board action involving tacit approval of the sale of both corporate assets and Club Member assets by the Executive Director in the absence of formal Board action establishing the scope of authority of the Executive Director to sell use of a corporate asset.
- The LVR Commissioner objected to SYSA improper and unauthorized use of member club registration data submitted for participation in SYSA programs. Comments included reference to a review of WYS, SYSA and Club registration agreements, whereby WYS and SYSA serve as custodians of club data to administer participation in affiliated programs.

- The LVR Commissioner stated that SYSA is prohibited from distributing commercial messages using LVR registration data under the custodial control of SYSA. Comments included reference to long established practice where the LVR Bd has consistently rejected requests for commercial use of its mailing list.

#### EXPLANATION

- As SYSA has matured with increased reliance on administrative staff, neither Board members nor staff have achieved a common understanding of the legislative mandate that a Board of Directors manage the affairs of a Non Profit Corporation. As a case study the Kroger proposal identifies the difficulties and judgment associated with recognizing the boundary between policy and operational decisions.
- The ownership, control and sale of corporation assets is a retained authority of the Board of Directors. The scope of authority for staff use and 'sale' of corporate assets outside established programs is a policy matter. Neither the policy implications nor contract proposal were submitted for Board discussion and approval.
- Notably, and after a proper Board submission, SYSA direct registration of Spring Soccer participants might warrant Bd approval of commercial messages exclusively directed to SYSA registrants.