



Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held
on July 11, 2022 via zoom call

Attendance: Officers, Commissioners and Staff

President	David Funke	X	Ballard	Andrew Westmark	
VP Administration	Keith Leitich	X	Beacon Hill	Keith Leitich	X
Secretary	OPEN		Capitol Hill	Shelly Chinn	
Treasurer	John Clark	X	Hillwood	Jim Shea	X
VP Operations	Ann Davison	X	Lake City	Mira Diaz	X
VP Development Rec	Kris Espinosa		LVR	Greg Parker + Jonathan Carver	X
VP Competition	Corey McNamee		Magnolia	Stephanie Skinner	X
			McGilvra	Jeff Scott	X
Disciplinary Chair	Steve Kuhn		Mt Baker	Chris Tuttle	X
SSRA SYSA Liaison	Larry Metz	X	Queen Anne	Yarrow Banko	
Diversity Chair	Shannon Palmer		Seattle United	Kevin Long	
SYSA Cup Rep	Anne Bare		Shorelake	Jenica Bell	
			Woodland	Mitch Furuglyas	

Executive Director	David Griffiths	X	Scheduler	Jessica Beckton	X
SYSA Registrar	Paige Blomso	X	Social Media	Jenn Ireland	X
Assistant Registrar	Anne Bare	X	Bookkeeper	Michele Authier	
Assistant Registrar			Field Coordinator		

JULY MEETING

Called to order by Dave Funk (time 7:06pm)

WELCOME GUEST SPEAKERS

none

SYSA VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Kudos to all coaches during spring soccer. No volunteer of the month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CONSENT OF AGENDA

June minutes: under Old Business - volunteer background check process. Is that a settled issue or should we revisit from time to time? (David G) - ongoing issue, confirmed.

Wait to approve minutes until we have a quorum.

OFFICER REPORTS

President **Dave Funke**

Working on bylaws. RCW passed dealing with nonprofits at beginning of year, we need to scan the overview and see how this will affect SYSA.

VP Admin **Keith Letich**

Nothing to report.

VP of Operations **Ann Davidson**

Nothing to report.

VP of Competition: **Corey McNamee**

Not present.

VP of Rec Development **Kris Espinosa**

Not present.

Treasurer **John Clark**

Numbers report on the year (\$1,199,313.89 on the year; net positive on the year of \$3,739.13). Most of the income is pass-through, although there is some SYSA income (set number based on each player). The fees that we charge are the ones we live off of, the rest pass-through. Will formalize this for the board. (Dave F) - Clarification: Pass-through goes to WYS, billed per player and by RMA; field fee is not pass-through, it is a business expense. Spring soccer is most profitable. In April, possible 30-40K projected net income; but due to back issues and staff raises, we are starting almost clean for this next fiscal year.

Diversity & Inclusion Chair **Shannon Palmer**

Not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SSRA President **Larry Metz**

New clinics through September for new referees.

Disciplinary Chair **Steve Kuhn**

Not present.

STAFF REPORTS

Registrars **Paige Blomso**

- Alignment meeting next Monday night. All clubs need to have a representative there. Meeting will be at new office, and on Zoom.
- This is the week to talk to your players about registering and get players signed up; prepare list of viable teams.
- At alignment, will address RMA process and how it will be different with Affinity/Stacks/Demosphere. Clubs, please be engaged.
- Jenn stepping in for Eden as Lake City registrar.

Field/Game Scheduler **Jessica Beckton**

- Rec clubs get field time starting 3rd week in August, unless otherwise specified by club.
- Returning some fields to parks to save money; credit for unused field time.
- Field updates: all 3 Ingraham fields down this summer for returning by school district, should be done by school starts; Jame Adams 1 is getting lights; closed for 2 weeks till beginning of August; Washington Park, Miller, Georgetown all getting new turf; Montlake Playfield - waiting to hear. Field turned over to school?
- Meeting later this week with new head of park scheduling.
- Waiting on fall fields from parks, will divide up field time for clubs right away.
- September will be tight for Capitol Hill and McGilvra soccer clubs.

Social Media/Blog **Jenn Ireland**

- People of SYSA blog series, looking for coaches, admins, players that represent the community and what makes SYSA so great; reach out to Jenn with recommendations for people to feature. (David G) - connect with Larry and incorporate refs into blog series.

Executive Director **David Griffiths**

- Alignment meeting next Monday. In person, plus hybrid Zoom option.
- Intra League play options with West Seattle, Eastside; focus on older age groups. Administrative hurdles - feedback, concerns about travel, traffic to Issaquah, Redmond, etc. U17 and older excited about prospect of adding new vibe to older age groups and getting to play new teams; not dead yet but may not happen until next year; West Seattle teams (2 teams) may still join league. Ongoing conversation.
- World Cup announcement party on Pier 62. Will be more initiatives and opportunities for SYSA partnership with Sounders. World Cup involvement is a possibility.

- Meeting with events schedule manager for Parks Department this week to go over field information for fall.
- Planning for Fall Rec Outreach program - last call for clubs interested in participating. Modified this year because of lack of coaches available.
- Presidents call - no one joined last meeting; meeting held every 2 weeks on Tuesday at 6 PM on Zoom.
- Executive board meeting: focus was on the potential of allowing teams from other associations join our league and making sure that our current membership has voices heard.
- Washington Youth Soccer special meeting: PacNW merged with Federal Way, big change in the state picture.
- Continued search for new board secretary.
- Game day experiences with the Sounders and community outreach. TOP soccer, translation of documents and distributing. Presidents, reach out if interested in participating. (Mira D) - all club game day with Sounders, all neighborhoods together. (Jeff S) Possible double-header event with Reign and Sounders. Community engagement with players out at fields.
- Coaches clinics in August at Lower Woodland and Jefferson playfields.

NEW BUSINESS

Notice for updates in WA State Non-Profit Act (Dave F): Seattle United, certain aspects of bylaws need to be tweaked to be in compliance; Seattle United bylaw updates do not need SYSA approval. For our 2 accounts, new RCWs go into how to treat those and we will need to look into that.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws update (Dave F). New ideas for discussion:

- Suggestion 1: specify how we would advertise for open officer positions. Minimum of 2 months prior to vacancy, prior to election. Advertise on website. Candidates must make statement 2 weeks before election date. SYSA has gotten less rigorous in procedures, this provides direction.
- Suggestion 2: Not voting in person, anonymous /secret ballot. (Stephanie S) - no problem with anonymous voting, but attendance is important. (Mira D) - secret ballot offers opportunity for feedback. (Chris T) - no inherent problem with anonymous ballot due to small group size.
- (Dave F) None of the tasks need to be in bylaws. Board can add offices and officers and assign them duties; add duties and tasks by voting and not including them in the bylaws. Proposal: one vice president in bylaws, then by action of the board we create other vice presidents duties based on people's strengths. Can rename at will without ever having to change bylaws; simplifies and gives us flexibility.

- (David G) Encourage clubs to look at bylaws; relates not just to SYSA but to your own clubs as well. (Dave F) at some future point we will need to have a professional attorney look at the bylaws. (Greg P) it's not apparent how responsive WYS is to the organizations that join it; this is an opportunity for WYS to be more democratic

Intra League options: Two West Seattle teams to join - need to be at alignment meeting next week. Large focus on older girls age groups; 13-15 teams total for U17 and up girls and boys teams; (Mira D) - Lake City would like to have older girls teams participate; possible limit on number of travel games?

Demand Letter Update: nothing to report; not being actively sued. Accused of racist abuse between Seattle United and Crossfire; nothing has moved in months and nothing has been reported. Stays on agenda until we have clarity on it.

Demosphere (Paige B) pleased with customer service in Demosphere; data sync test will occur soon, step by step instructions will be sent out to clubs; plan is to sync this week before alignment.

REMINDERS

Next meeting is August 1st. Keith potential fill-in for Dave.

ADJOURNMENT

(9:08pm)

Magnolia Motion to adjourn/Seconded by LVR