



Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Monthly Business Meeting held on
October 4th, 2021 via zoom call

Attendance: Officers, Commissioners and Staff

President	David Funke	X	Ballard	Andrew Westmark	X
VP Administration	Keith Leitich	X	Beacon Hill	Keith Leitich	X
Secretary	Phil Herold		Capitol Hill	Perry Lee	X
Treasurer	John Clark	X	Hillwood	Jim Shea	X
VP Operations	OPEN		Lake City	Dave Farber	
VP Development Rec	Ann Davison		LVR	Greg Parker	X
VP Competition	Corey McNamee		Magnolia	Stephanie Skinner	X
			McGilvra	Jeff Scott	
Disciplinary Chair	Steve Kuhn		Mt Baker	Shannon Palmer	X
SSRA SYSA Liaison	Larry Metz		Queen Anne	Ryan Hall	X
Diversity Chair	Shannon Palmer	X	Seattle United	Kevin Long	X
SYSA Cup Rep	Anne Bare	X	Shorelake	Kris Espinoza	X
MAR (Rep to State)	Phil Herold		Woodland	Mitch Furuglyas	X

Executive Director	David Griffiths	X	Scheduler	Jessica Beckton	X
SYSA Registrar	Paige Blomso	X	Social Media		
Assistant Registrar	Anne Bare	X	Bookkeeper	Michele Authier	
Assistant Registrar	Julie Irwin			Gregg LC	X

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Called to order at 7:05

Volunteer of the Month

Ryan James - CH BU11 Blue Bolts coach, for calm under pressure with an incident at practice at Garfield HS.

Melissa Moxley -stepped up to help with Photo day, organize coaches and volunteers, keeping Covid protocols and players safe, for SCQA.

Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda

September regular meeting minutes approved.
HW makes motion, Mag seconds.

Consent to Agenda - special meeting from September 13th minutes approved.
BH moves to approve, HW seconds.

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New Business

- Search for a new Secretary. Letter from Phil in attachments provided prior to the meeting.
- Need to find a new person to fill this role. Takes minutes, some corporate duties involved. Position outline provided prior to meeting.
- We can keep this position open for a month or two, to find a volunteer.
- Shannon would like to use this as an opportunity to make the SYSA board more inclusive, in alignment with the DEI committee work.
- Dave Funke asks to bring possible candidates to next month's meeting.

City Tournament Fee Discussion

- City Tournament fee is increasing by \$50.00
- Dave Griffiths - we run a lot of programs at a loss. Costs to run the tournament have gone up, so the need to raise the fee is to cover costs.
- Greg Parker - questions if appropriate for clubs to pay the fee. Concerned about equity - are clubs not well represented, because clubs can't cover the cost.
- Paige responded - for many years, clubs have opted to pay the teams fees to participate in the Tournament. Club decision specifically.
- How the tournament fee is not set. Usually included as a budget line, so Commissioners have the visibility.
- Yarrow - QA - club had already budgeted to cover their teams, so not prepared for a \$50 increase.
- Greg - LC - Agree with Yarrow. Didn't plan for \$200 per team this year. Not prepared financially. Ask for this to be delayed until next year, so they can play for it.

- Andy - BAL - agrees to raise the price, but next year, so they can plan for this in the budget for next year. This is too late to make this decision.
- Stephanie - clubs have made exceptions this year - waiving late fees, for example - which decreases club revenue. Not the best year to add another increased expense for clubs.
- Shannon - MBL - feels we should keep the increase to support the costs that SYSA will face.
- John Clark - shows in the budget for CT = \$150 and ACJ = \$125 - this was what was budgeted. John says this is what we are set for. Shannon asked what the anticipated loss for SYSA would be. John Clark will do a detailed analysis of how much we lose, and will let us know after the fact.
- Andy frustrated that doing this, with short notice, is similar to WYS.
- LC makes motion to delay increase until Fall 2022, to \$200.00
- Mag seconds the motion.
- BAL, BH, CH, HW, LC, LVR, MAG, QA, WD approve the motion.
- SU & SL abstain. Motion to delay fee increase until 2022 passes.
- Keith - in discussion with Rainier radio, may be willing to cover a few games for City Tournament. Interview players/coaches. Concerns about media coverage for players interviews. Greg Parker suggests dual language coverage, for inclusion. Corey asks if we can somehow stream it from our site somehow.

Old Business

None

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dave Funke:

- Sit in on staff meetings.
- went out to see a few games of teams of concern. Conversations with Refs.
- In light of Phil's departure, reviewing documents we need to keep tabs on in his absence. Until we find a replacement, Dave Funke will fill in.
- Greg Parker is asking Dave F to gain some new oversight on our relationship with WYS, what their roles should be.

Keith Leitich

- Continuing to look at the low participation rates of girls in Middle school and high school aged players. Seems to be across the regions, not just south end. Spoke with a referee at his own game, sighted the lack of referees across the board.

John Clark

- We feel like we are seeing more money going out, because of fields costs.
- Plan to get club billings out by early November.

Seattle Refs Feedback - all commissioners

- Stephanie - MAG - we need to provide more information out early, better advertising. Receives many kids interested, but not sure where to start. Be more proactive and get the information out to the club's population. She is willing to help try and spearhead something in the West region.
- Jessica suggests the July or August clinics, so ref's can get trained prior to the season. Offered to help get Stephanie the information to help her get started.
- Keith: Is there an outreach program dedicated to the Rec programs? BH has players that would be interested, but not sure how to get started.
- Jim - HW: concern about it being cost prohibitive for some. Possibility to reimburse young ref's for the up front fee once they work a certain number of games. Possible to offer community service hours to HS aged players? Potential incentive.
- Greg Parker: incentives typically offered by the clubs, not SSRA. At one time, it had been that Ref's from a club could be assigned by priority to that club's games. Helps the clubs invest in encouraging young Referee involvement.

Shannon Palmer - DEI Committee

- Nothing formal to report. Once things are fully settled, restart focus on absence of girls' participation issues.

STAFF REPORTS

SYSA Registrars: Paige Blomso & Anne Bare

- Fall numbers: 9,232 Rec players registered and participating.
- Fall 2019 number: 9,931 players registered and participating.
- Clubs - be sure to acknowledge coaches and volunteers'
- CT registration to open by Wednesday.
- ACJ registration to open later in October
- Last day to add players to Rec rosters is 10/15. Be sure club coaches know this date.
- More detailed communication to target U10 & U11, with no CT experience.
- Detailed communications will be coming with important dates, later this week.

- Continuing our Sessions with Demosphere, Paige to update in November meeting.

SYSA Scheduler - Jessica Beckton

- Has the October schedules posted and is working on finishing up November. Very time consuming to get uploaded. November will be posted by Monday at the latest.
- Lots of requests to reschedule games, due to player conflicts. Asks clubs to reinforce that game reschedules are not possible for this reason.
- Planned resurfacing of Georgetown and Miller is delayed until summer 2020. Working to get back field time for CT fields in the South end. Emailed field assignors to get the field space reallocated and available to the clubs for practice.

SYSA Executive Director - David Griffiths

- Lots of emails coming in.
- Week 4 of the outreach program, going well.
- Covid exposures - around 6-10 cases/week on average.
- 33 cases or potential exposure.
- 5 resulting in teams shut down or games cancelled.
- Appreciates the club involvement and engagement in tracking down contacts.
- Field budget cuts: delays and cuts to affect neighborhood clubs. Sent via email.
- Billings to clubs to go out October 31st.
- Reminder to keep good records, to track your outgoing expenses.
- August Hunter update. Not legal action yet, still a demand letter. Continue to work with our Attorney, to clearly outline our actions, explain the processes for our soccer Association.
- Greg Parker asked if one attorney is representing all four defendants. Dave said that WYS and SYSA will likely pair up, as they share the same insurance. WYS has not acted on this - have a meeting to discuss tomorrow. US Soccer Federation and OL Reign - unclear what attorney they are working with.
- Change of mindset from inclination to pay this off, to now more likely to fight this.

Corey - VP Competition

- Goal Keeping clinics are going really well.
- Kids are progressing and having a lot of fun.
- Still space in the north end programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

ADJOURNMENT

8.32pm Dave Funke make motion to adjourn

Seconded by Keith (BH)