



# Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held  
on **September 12, 2022 via zoom call**

**Attendance:** Officers, Commissioners and Staff

<b>President</b>	David Funke	X	<b>Ballard</b>	Corey MacNamee	
<b>VP Administration</b>	Keith Leitich	X	<b>Beacon Hill</b>	Keith Leitich	X
<b>Secretary</b>			<b>Capitol Hill</b>	Shelly Chinn	
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Clark		<b>Hillwood</b>	Jim Shea	
<b>VP Operations</b>	Ann Davison		<b>Lake City</b>	David Farber	X
<b>VP Development Rec</b>	Kris Espinosa	X	<b>LVR</b>	Alyson Stage	X
<b>VP Competition</b>	Corey McNamee		<b>Magnolia</b>	Stephanie Skinner	X
			<b>McGilvra</b>	Jeff Scott	
<b>Disciplinary Chair</b>	Steve Kuhn		<b>Mt Baker</b>	Shannon Palmer	X
<b>SSRA SYSA Liaison</b>	Larry Metz		<b>Queen Anne</b>	Yarrow Banko	
<b>Diversity Chair</b>	Shannon Palmer	X	<b>Seattle United</b>	Kevin Long	
<b>SYSA Cup Rep</b>			<b>Shorelake</b>	Jenica Bell	X
			<b>Woodland</b>	Mitch Furuglyas	

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

## **SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Called to order by Dave Funke (time 7:06); note that there is not a quorum

## **WELCOME GUEST SPEAKERS**

None

## **SYSA VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH**

(David Farber) nominated Mark Backstrom of Lake City: he does everything, uniforms, emails, troubleshooting Demosphere; (Alyson Stage) nominated Alyssa Eckroth of LVR who has taken over MOD programming this year

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

August minutes: no quorum, can't approve

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

President **Dave Funke**

- Still actively working on bylaws
- Received a couple of reports of sportsmanship complaints this first weekend: run-up of score that caught attention, broken wrist + celebration, etc.
- Smoke this past weekend: air quality guidelines now available on website; (Keith Leitich) biggest thing is that we have all these people using different apps for the air quality; (Shannon Palmer) suggestion to add a note to the website about where the cancelation will be posted and how people will be notified? (Jessica Beckton) games will NOT be rescheduled; (Stephanie Skinner) what happens to league games that were called at halftime?; (Jessica Beckton) policy should be the same as if a lightning strikes ends a game; (Shannon Palmer) we need clear procedure for abandoned games, can we state a completed policy on the website?; (Dave Funke) we will make a note to review match abandonment procedures

VP Admin **Keith Leitich**

- Nothing to report

VP of Operations **Ann Davidson**

- Not present

VP of Competition: **Corey McNamee**

- Not present

VP of Rec Development **Kris Espinosa**

- Nothing to report

Treasurer **John Clark**

- Not present

Diversity & Inclusion Chair **Shannon Palmer**

- Nothing to report; we need to have a gender policy discussion when more people are present

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

SSRA President **Larry Metz**

- Not present

Disciplinary Chair **Steve Kuhn**

- Not present

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Registrars **Anne Bare**

- Coach clearance: we will send emails to each club individually; (Jessica Beckton) you have to go to the SYSA schedule on the website in order to get opposing coach contact info, it's NOT available in Demosphere!

Field/Game Scheduler **Jessica Beckton**

- Demosphere is a legacy product: the scheduling is done in desktop legacy product, it then syncs up through the 'universal experience' which is what all of the coaches are using; we need to send some clarifying, detailed instructions about where coaches go to login to access rosters and game day information; (David Farber) can we put a link on the website?
- Busy August, underestimated the hurdles with Demosphere; we are getting a lot of score reports being sent in from coaches, working to get this fixed so that they can enter them themselves

Executive Director **David Griffiths**

- See attached '*XD Report Sept 12<sup>th</sup>*'

### **CLUB REPORTS**

**Shannon Palmer, MBL**

- Parks miss-lined the MOD fields in Lakewood, MOD squad in MBL working directly with someone at Parks (goals were locked, fields not lined right, etc.)

**Keith Leitich, Beacon Hill**

- Jefferson lid, issues with lines; debut of new Beacon Hill jerseys! Parents loved them.

**Alyson Stage, LVR**

- 1231 players, 30 more than expected; last year Girl Boss started a new U6 program, Alyssa Eckroth took that on this year (nominated for volunteer of the month)

### **David Farber, LCSC**

– Lake City got in all the U7 games before smoke cancelation, good energy at Jane Adams; U8 and U9 didn't get to play but overall good successful start to season

### **Jenica Bell, Shorelake**

– 700+ players, registration up this year; junior refs doubled in participation; new uniforms; Demosphere struggles, sportsmanship issues, can we look at adding player contracts for sportsmanship?

### **Stephanie Skinner, Magnolia**

– got all but 4 of MOD games played before calling for air quality; over 825 players registered this year, 72 total teams and we still have kids who want on a team; agree that we need some sportsmanship education for coaches and players as there are repeat offenders; consequences for coaches with bad behavior? Just because you are a volunteer doesn't mean you can do what you want; we talk the talk about having good sportsmanship – but people need to stand up and be the best versions of themselves; only 1 week in but already have an anonymous complaint; referee education so that they understand that they have power when coaches are out of line?; (Shannon Palmer) we need to make a very clear policy for coaches, and we need to loop Larry in here, can David talk to Larry about this? We need to move this forward NOW and not wait until next month's meeting, for coaches and players - building from the bottom with good sportsmanship isn't working, so can we do it from the top? Can we make a stated consequence and post it somewhere findable?

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- (Dave Funke) We need to make clear what the gender rules are and where to find them; (Shannon Palmer) If it's below U10 doesn't matter too much, but over U10 we need to establish how to deal with it; David says he is working with USSF, to my knowledge it is gendered U10 and above based on birth certificate; (Anne Bare) there's an application and processes for U10 and up, it just hasn't been communicated thoroughly and clearly; (Alyson Stage) I would appreciate clarification so that I know what to tell people when they ask the registrar
- (Keith Leitich) Can we engage in discussions about interleague play early for next year? Possibly query other associations to see if they have any good ideas on how to make this happen for the older teams; can we start talking about this NOW because before it was a timeframe issue; (Alyson Stage) if a partnership was developed, maybe only 1/3 of your games could be scheduled outside of the Seattle city limits?; (Shannon Palmer) this needs to be a committee; we need to commit people to work on this for next fall, and potentially even a trial run for a tournament or weekend spring play to test the waters? This is a thoughtful way to expand the offerings for the older kids in the association; (David Farber & Shannon Palmer) maybe we go over to eastside for spring play? (Dave Funke) Keith will you take the lead on this?
- Baseball cleats (Jenica Bell) Shorelake would like to change the verbiage in the rules to 'any toed or metal tipped cleats'; if we are not going to allow baseball cleats in

soccer, it needs to be clearly stated; the problem with baseball cleats is that they have the extra toe cleat; we need to go one way or the other and make a clear statement; (Dave Funke) submit wording for next meeting so that we can vote

- (Jenn Ireland) culture of volunteerism, creating a hub for where we can start compiling info including volunteer interest forms, volunteer options/descriptions, stories about current volunteers, how to sign up to volunteer, why volunteers are important, etc.; (Alyson Stage) in LVR, more people want to volunteer than want to coach, we need a way to keep track of these people and to offer them things to do; (Shannon Palmer) it would be a good thing to have a centralized hub; what carrots and incentivizing things can we do to help them want to volunteer? Also listing statistics, stretch of community based on volunteerism, etc.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- (Dave Funke) New bylaws: once they are written up we will need to pay an attorney to review them; added in DEI committee, went through and touched up the officer descriptions, added something about advertising for opening officer positions, addressed voting by ballots (I think we should treat the issue separately); changed some language to make things more modern
- (Dave Funke) Demand letter: the new news is that OL Reign is being sued by August Hunter and we weren't involved in the initial filing which was done by Ms. Hunter who has since turned 18 (Shannon Palmer) this confirms that we need documents that are easy to find and easy to read for everything - we need to run these policies through legal because this is a tangible, example of how we can be affected financially

## **REMINDERS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

(8:22 PM)

Shannon P, MBL - Motion to adjourn/Seconded by Dave Farber LCSC