



# Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held on

**May 1, 2023 via Zoom call**

**Attendance:** Officers, Commissioners and Staff

<b>President</b>	David Funke	X	<b>Ballard</b>	Luke Giustra	X
<b>VP of Administration</b>	Keith Leitich	<i>absent</i>	<b>Beacon Hill</b>	Hugh Gallagher	<i>absent</i>
<b>Secretary</b>	Noel Maxey	X	<b>Capitol Hill</b>	Shelly Chinn	X
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Position open</i>		<b>Hillwood</b>	Silas Lindenstein	X
<b>VP of Operations</b>	Ann Davison	X	<b>Lake City</b>	David Levine	<i>absent</i>
<b>VP of Rec Development</b>	Kris Espinosa	X	<b>LVR</b>	John Blackham	X
<b>VP of Competition</b>	Corey McNamee	X	<b>Magnolia</b>	Stephanie Skinner	X
<b>VP of DEI</b>	Shannon Palmer	X	<b>McGilvra</b>	Nick Tchemitcheff	X
<b>VP of Marketing &amp; Comms</b>	Calen Holbrooks	X	<b>Mt Baker</b>	Shannon Palmer	X
<b>SSRA SYSA Liaison</b>	Larry Metz	<i>absent</i>	<b>Queen Anne</b>	Shane Cramer	X
<b>Disciplinary Chair</b>	Chris Tuttle	<i>absent</i>	<b>Seattle United</b>	Kevin Long	X
<b>SYSA Cup Rep</b>	Berry Beard	<i>absent</i>	<b>Shorelake</b>	Kris Espinosa	X
			<b>Woodland</b>	Mitch Furuglyas	X

<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	<i>absent</i>
<b>Assistant Registrar</b>	Kristin Bates	X			

## **MAY MEETING**

- Called to order by David Funke (time 7:03 PM)
- Presence of a quorum noted
- Minutes taken by Jenn Ireland, SYSA Communications

## **WELCOME GUEST SPEAKERS**

- n/a

## **SYSA Volunteer of the Month**

- (David Griffiths) TOPSoccer volunteers:
  - Katie Kassis
  - Gail Lee
  - Alison Winfield
  - Jeff Rochon

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

- April AGM Minutes were not approved

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### *President Dave Funke*

- Have been working on bylaws, met with attorney. Ready to take next step forward, assuming we get agreement.
- Reaching out to Sigley family regarding the trust for SYSA
  - (David Griffiths) I've been in touch with Todd

### *VP Admin Keith Leitich*

- Not present

### *VP of Operations Ann Davidson*

- Working on connecting with people at Parks for joint initiative on reducing bad behavior around all parties involved in youth sports. Specifically, putting up official Parks signage encouraging positive behavior and/or discouraging negative behavior.

### *Secretary Noel Maxey*

- Been reading over the bylaws and getting familiar with everything.

### *Treasurer (vacant)*

- Nothing to report

### *VP of Competition Corey McNamee*

- Have been working on the select player rule which we will talk about later.

### *VP of Rec Development Kris Espinosa*

- Nothing to report

### *VP of DEI Shannon Palmer*

- Nothing to report

*VP of Marketing and Communications Calen Holbrooks*

- Jenn, David and I met to talk about putting together a marketing plan for this year. More details next meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*SSRA President Larry Metz*

- Not present

*Disciplinary Chair Chris Tuttle*

- Not present

## **STAFF REPORTS**

*Registrar Paige Blomso*

- Working on background check renewal and registration for coaches. Information for you to take back to your membership – we are pulling expired or unapproved coaches from their rosters starting on Wednesday and they won't be put back on until they've been cleared.
  - Background check applies to all board members too. Extends to anyone that has access to player data.
- Asked clubs to hold off on opening registration on May 1<sup>st</sup> due to some changes with WYS.
  - Safesport for 18 year old players – was enforced for players participating in State Cup this year.
    - We advocated for it to NOT be mandatory on recreational side of the game.
    - (Shelly Chin) Is this training available in other languages?
    - (Shannon Palmer) Are these appropriate trainings for the peer to peer environment?
- May 6<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup>, tentatively scheduling Demosphere office hours at the SYSA office.
- Demosphere will be out here in mid May demoing stuff with us, holding Q&A sessions and additional training. There will be both a daytime session and an evening session available.

*Registrar Anne Bare*

- Nothing to add to Paige's report.

*Field/Game Scheduler Jessica Beckton*

- Last weekend of SU home games is this next weekend as high school girls wrap up their State Cup.
- Spring soccer games are well underway.
  - We have received several complaints recently about the quality of grass fields. We do our best but it is ultimately up to Parks to keep the fields in working order.
- I am working with Berry on how to do the August field allocation that will get divided among all of the clubs. We will probably start giving clubs field time mid August. There is space available earlier in the month, if you want to start practicing earlier let me know.

*Executive Director David Griffiths*

- See attached XD report
- If someone feels there is a better fields report allocation model out there, please bring it forward either here or via email.

- We do our best to make sure the fields are as safe as we can be. Ken has filled holes, etc. It's ultimately Parks responsibility to keep fields safe, but they have been pretty responsive when we have needed something.
- U17-U19 intraclub high school league. We've had significant progress. I'd like to start sending out communications on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month. I will be sending out emails to all coaches of those age groups (U16 and up) to make sure this is something they still want to do. The operating documents for this were included in the packet, please take a look and make sure you are comfortable with everything. If you have questions contact me directly THIS WEEK.
  - (Shannon Palmer) This is the only option correct? Its not SYSA OR this league, it's JUST this league?
  - (David Griffiths) Correct.
  - (John Blacham, LVR) Our registration opens May 7<sup>th</sup>. Seems like this could be a surprise and some coaches may not be aware.
  - (David Grffiths) Previous survey went to coaches, unless there was a coaching change this SHOULDN'T be a surprise. We will get this new survey out ASAP though.
  - (Silas Lindenstein) Parents might be the ones that are really surprised.
  - (David Griffiths) We might send this out to all families and potential participants. Trying to make sure we eliminate surprise. All presidents, please reach out to your communities and let them know.
  - (Shannon Palmer) Can we get a document explaining WHY we are doing things this way?
  - (David Griffiths) I told WYS we need a one pager about why and how this league came to fruition. Also, there will be a team fee, no more than \$55 but maybe less.

## **CLUB REPORTS**

- Capitol Hill (Shelly Chinn):
  - Membership is down, decline of about 20% last year, expecting another 20-30% this year. Perry resigned. Worried about schools closing. We might be getting a treasurer.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- (David Griffiths) RATS agreement. It got reworded per Greg Parker's request.
  - Motion to accept by MBL (Shannon Palmer), second by Magnolia (Stephanie Skinner).
  - All in favor, passed unopposed.
- (Corey McNamee) Based on AGM conversation we went back and added in some language. There are different parts in rules that address this and we wanted to make sure it all matched. This rule now applies to year round, spring and fall, so that there's no differences.
  - (David Griffiths): UPDATES/CHANGES to what was submitted
    - 1.6 will be removed, refer to rule of administration, rule 3.4.9
    - 1.6.1 will be scratched
    - 1.6.2 will be renumbered and placed in Section H, in 3.4.9
    - 3.4 language - Add the word 'club' in front of 'program' into verbiage and definition of select player
  - (Stephanie Skinner) I'd like to keep it at the club level in regards to deciding how to deal with implementing the rule, I would appreciate the flexibility to figure that out ourselves.
  - (Corey McNamee) If we go ahead with the intra club U17-U19 league, we will need to consider how to implement this because the other leagues most likely do not monitor this.

- Motion to pass MBL (Shannon Palmer), Woodland second (Mitch Furuglyas)
  - All in favor, passed unopposed.
- (Dave Funke) Bylaws update – Took Greg Parker’s recommendations into account.
  - Here are some of the changes:
    - Article 2 – written to clarify our relationship with WYS.
    - Attorney suggested we try to simply committee’s stuff and pull that into separate policy document which describes committee and vice presidents roles. This will give more flexibility but does change overall formatting of bylaws.
    - Attorney says we don’t need to include a list of clubs
    - Any club can resign or exit at any time, except Seattle United. This clause needs to go because it is in contradiction to the WA Nonprofit Act.
  - Standing committees: four standing committees, this means that everyone will need to be on a committee or two
    - Judicial – oversees disciplinary committee and deals with membership complaints.
    - Governance – new, oversees corporate policies.
    - Rules committee -oversees rules of competition.
    - DEI committee – focuses on diversity, equity and inclusion polices.
  - Attorney pointed out that you cannot have stand in directors, per the Act.
  - Having the President break ties is not allowed, only Directors may vote. So now a tie vote will simply fail to pass.
  - Removed VP Operations
  - Am adding provision requiring vice presidents be Directors, as they all are now.
  - Added language allowing board to add up to three At-Large Directors.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- (Dave Funke) Meetings stay in person or remain remote?
  - (David Griffiths) We don’t have a meeting space and trying to eliminate costs.
  - (Shannon Palmer, MBL) Maybe in person 2x a year, once is AGM and the other is more community building and maybe sometime in the summer before fall starts. Bring our own board members and make it less business and more community building.
- (David Griffiths) I propose we do a July 10<sup>th</sup> social, potentially somewhere centrally located in the city, perhaps Woodland. More details to come.

### **REMINDERS**

- Next SYSA Board meeting Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion to adjourn by MBL (Shannon Parker) and second by Magnolia (Stephanie Skinner)
- Meeting adjourned at 8:56 pm