

Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Monthly Business Meeting held on March 4, 2019
at the SYSA offices, Seattle

Officers, commissioners and staff attending the meeting:

President	Steve Kuhn		Ballard	Luke Giustra	x
VP Administration	Alex Johnston	x	Beacon Hill	Keith Leitich	x
Secretary	Phil Herold	x	Capitol Hill	Perry Lee	
Treasurer			Hillwood	Jess Gobel	x
VP Operations	David Funke	x	Lake City	Bassim Dowidar	
VP Development Rec	Corey McNamee	x	LVR	Greg Parker	*
VP Competition	Corey McNamee	x	Magnolia	Alex Johnston	**
			McGilvra	Jeff Scott	x
Disciplinary Chair	Jeff Huse		Mt Baker	David Funke	x
SSRA SYSA Liaison	Chase Parker		Queen Anne	Ryan Hall	
Seattle United Rep	Kelly Mullins	x	Seattle United	Kevin Long	x
SYSA Cup Rep	Anne Bare	x	Shorelake	Adam Stoecker	x
MAR (Rep to State)	Phil Herold	x	Woodland	Mitch Furuglyas	x

* John Clark represented LVR

** Alex Johnston was present but chaired the meeting and served in the president's role, therefore did not represent Magnolia

Executive Director	David Griffiths	x	Scheduler	Jessica Beckton	x
SYSA Registrar	Paige Blomso		Volunteer Coord	Andrew Westmark	x
Assistant Registrar	Anne Bare	x	Bookkeeper	Susan Martin	x
Assistant Registrar	Julie Irwin	x			

Guests:

Jenica Bell and Chris Espinoza, Shorelake

Anne Sattler, LVR, candidate for officer position

Nick Shrader, Group Experience Consultant, Seattle Sounders

Guest Presentations

Nick Shrader, Seattle Sounders

Shrader described his role with the Sounders. Had identified SYSA as an organization to work with, and noted he works with clubs at every match. Passed around a sheet for clubs to provide their contact information.

Anne Sattler, Candidate for Board Position

Griffiths introduced Sattler, who had reached out expressing interest in serving with SYSA. Sattler shared some of her background; had played with the Defeaters and Baylor University; has been coaching her kids in SYSA; attorney with 10 years of involvement with professional sports; running for Seattle City Council. Griffiths explained that he had looked at moving people around to different

positions, and found the best fit was to have Sattler assume the VP Rec Development post which is currently occupied by McNamee in a dual role.

Carlos Enriquez, SYSA & Seattle United, Soccer in Schools

- Shared some details of the Soccer in Schools schedule and schools where he has conducted sessions; now getting into the bulk of the Soccer in Schools season
- Shared that he is stretched thin; there's not enough of Carlos to go around and we're at the point where we might be ready to expand
- Has been looking into afterschool programs, has been working with West Seattle Elementary where he has conducted about six weeks of afterschool programming. This type of arrangement is advantageous in that others handle the logistics including signups, making sure kids are there and that there are people in the building
- Has met with two other groups:
- One is called Launch, and they do afterschool programming aimed at low-income areas; they handle the logistics and Enriquez has been talking about a community partnership where we work with all the schools where Launch is involved
- Second group is ARC, the associated recreational council with has a well-established system in place. Now getting ready for fall. They create programming with a combination of schools and community centers, and do sports and STEM work. They are very interested in partnering with SYSA. Enriquez provides the instruction and they provide the structure; we have to commit to providing an instructor for those weeks. Lots of scholarships available for kids who qualify for free and reduced lunch and PTA funds the balance
- Bottom line is that it takes a lot of resources and budget for us to replicate what these groups do on their own; these partnerships are great for us
- Noted that with Enriquez a joint employee of SYSA and Seattle United, there's probably enough resources to add another person; budget has been set aside and is underutilized
- Mentioned that there another group called KidsCo which serves north-end schools, Launch is largely south end
- Several club presidents have asked about outreach; we have an agreement to pass out flyers in the schools
- Summer activities in community centers are a great way to get kids playing in fall

Monthly Business Meeting Call to Order

With guest presentations complete and presence of a quorum noted, Johnston, serving in Kuhn's absence, called the meeting to order at 7:22 pm

Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda

It was noted that Sattler's appointment should be added to the meeting agenda and it was added to the agenda by consensus. Seattle United moved to adopt the modified consent agenda as well as to approve the minutes of the January 7 meeting. McGilvra seconded. Reminder that the February meeting had been cancelled due to a snowstorm. The motion was unanimously approved.

Volunteer Recognition

Coach and Volunteer of the Year nominations needed

Officer Reports

- **Steve Kuhn, President**
Not present

- **Alex Johnston, VP Administration**

Deferred, indicating that elements of his report would be given by others

- **David Funke, VP Operations**

Was approached by Capitol Hill to ask for a fee waiver for the Soccer Without Borders team for spring soccer participation; Enriquez spoke to this program which operates out of the World School; SYSA provides curriculum and support and an opportunity to play; they are unable by policy to play within the school district. Motion by Mt. Baker/Lakewood to approve the waiver, seconded by Beacon Hill and approved unanimously.

- **Phil Herold, Secretary/MAR**

- Regarding the WYS fee increase to be discussed under New Business, Herold summarized the rationale for the increase and proceedings at the WYS Annual Player Fee meeting
- Also noted the 2.5% field increase from Seattle Parks; information about both increases had been distributed by Griffiths in an email
- Noted need to install Sattler as VP Rec Development; bylaws specify position being filled outside the AGM could be by election or appointment. Asked for a motion to appoint Sattler. So moved by Beacon Hill, seconded by Mt. Baker/Lakewood, unanimously approved

- **Treasurer**

With Treasurer position currently unfilled, Martin gave a report. Among items discussed:

- Question from Beacon Hill about amount of funds for low-income support
- Clarification requested concerning the two restricted funds (Callahan and Sigley) and where those dollars can go; Herold indicated he would take this as an action item by consulting past meeting minutes
- Suggestion to change personnel line item to payroll for clarity

- **Corey McNamee, VP Recreation Development and pro tem VP Competition**

No report

- **Chase Parker, SSRA Liaison**

- **Jeff Huse, Disciplinary**

Not present

- **Kelly Mullins, Seattle United Board Rep**

- Reported on successful Seattle United gala and fundraising season; gala down a bit from previous year, raffle was up; referenced review of strategic plan at last board meeting
- Deferred to Seattle United commissioner for balance of report:
 - Boys State Championship Cup and President's Cup delayed by weather; total so far during current cup season is seven state cups and seven finalists overall
 - Board passed 2019-2020 budget
 - Referenced joint SU/SYSA fundraiser, with prize a box at a Sounders game

- **Paige Blomso, Anne Bare, Julie Irwin, SYSA Registrars**

- Spring registration closed formally, but continuing to register some teams
- Count of teams 478 vs. 537 teams last year; biggest contraction is U6-U9 age groups
- Noted that team counts were down in fall season compared to previous year but not among the younger age groups; need to communicate better with coaches and increase dialog as coaches may not know about spring soccer
- Coaches meeting scheduled for March 23

- 270 individual players signed up
- **Jessica Beckton, Scheduler**
 - Busy time of year, a few weeks to get the spring schedules done and also doing state cup schedules
 - Johnston reported that poles and lights are up at Ballard, Roosevelt and Eaglestaff; Roosevelt is preventing non-school groups from using fields when lights have to be on
- **Andrew Westmark, Volunteer Coordinator**
Been working with Ken Sloan to get spring soccer up, looking to get coaches for SYSA skills academy
- **David Griffiths, Executive Director**
 - Reported on an executive board meeting where group reviewed budget, organizational structures and challenges of communication
 - Shared a draft of a pre-existing mission statement to pass around the room for people to comment upon; revisiting mission is part of a website redesign and restructuring
 - Asked for photos and videos; part of a push to improve the website and social media presence
 - Club surveys will be coming; wanted to wait until spring when people are active
 - TOPS soccer has a program out of Magnuson arena sports, can we get involved? They will be featured on our website
 - Wants to tackle rules of competition, get them standardized
 - Positive Coaching Alliance, confirmed fall clinics with three scheduled for August; PCA will also present at the spring coaches meeting
 - Rec outreach may have to change, Sounders will be involved when we formalize partnership; SU will still be working with certain age groups; Griffiths met with the regional directors at SU and the Sounders
 - AGM April 6 at the Great Hall in Green Lake, 9 am to noon, luncheon afterwards, need nominees for of the year
 - Safesport mentioned ; need to get out in front of it and get spring coaches to do it

Old Business

Player Fee & Insurance Changes

- WYS increases to the player fee are:
 - Rec U10 and younger = \$7.25 (increasing \$2.25 from last year)
 - Rec U11 and older = \$16.25 (increasing \$6.25 from last year)
 - Seattle United Players = \$18.50 (Increasing \$6.50 from last year)
- There was discussion about the WYS budget; one item noted was the relationship with the Tacoma Stars and whether that relationship was a profit or loss
- Options were discussed, but it was declared that there isn't time to fully visit whether or how to redistribute the increase across age groups. A majority of the commissioners present indicated they would support passing the increases straight through to the clubs. Mt. Baker/Lakewood motioned to approve passing the increases straight through to the clubs, Shorelake seconded. Motion carried with seven ayes, no nays and two abstentions.

New Business

Field Fee Increase

Griffiths shared that Seattle Parks has alerted user groups that field fees will be increasing by 2.5%, or an increase of \$1.38 a player over the current \$55 rate. Recommendation is a \$2 increase in field fees to cover. McGilvra motioned to adopt a \$2 increase in field fees, Hillwood seconded. Motion carried with seven ayes, one nay, one abstention.

City Tournament and WA State Rec Cup Schedule

Woodland raised the issue of teams participating in both SYSA City Tournament and Washington Youth Soccer Recreational Cup. SYSA City Tournament games can conflict with Rec Cup matches when both are scheduled on the same day. Current policy is teams can do both, but will forfeit their City Tournament match if there is a conflict. It was recognized that the SYSA Scheduler did her best to accommodate. There was discussion around the value of offering the opportunity to participate in both competitions, the mathematics of scheduling a double-elimination tournament in a finite time window, the ripple effect of a reschedule in the middle of City Tournament, and the rationale behind the current policy. No action taken

50th Anniversary Video and Celebrations

On the consent agenda but postponed, given the time

Old Business

Policy Concerning Complaints and Grievances

Mt Baker/Lakewood noted that the draft of this policy had been on the agenda at previous meetings but never resolved. Will be redistributed, placed back on the agenda and remain until something is passed

Reminders and Good of the Game

- Spring Coaches Meeting Mar 23, Northgate Community Center, 3.30-5pm
- Next SYSA Board Meeting Apr 1, Look out for iCal notifications
- Ballard brought up RMA process for mod referees, and asked about standardization across the process; it was shared that the referee association no longer requires RMA clearance

Adjournment

Declared adjourned by consensus at 9:02 pm.