



Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held on

March 6, 2023 via zoom call

Attendance: Officers, Commissioners and Staff

President	David Funke	X	Ballard	Luke Giustra	X
VP Administration	Keith Leitich	X	Beacon Hill	Keith Leitich	X
Secretary	<i>POSITION OPEN</i>		Capitol Hill	Shelly Chinn	absent
Treasurer	John Clark	absent	Hillwood	Silas Lindenstein	X
VP Operations	Ann Davison	absent	Lake City	David Farber	X
VP of Rec Development	Kris Espinosa	X	LVR	John Blackham, Greg Parker	X
VP of Competition	Corey McNamee	absent	Magnolia	Stephanie Skinner	X
			McGilvra	Nick Tchemitcheff	X
Disciplinary Chair	Chris Tuttle	absent	Mt Baker	Shannon Palmer	X
SSRA SYSA Liaison	Larry Metz	absent	Queen Anne	Yarrow Banko	absent
Diversity Chair	Shannon Palmer	X	Seattle United	Kevin Long	X
SYSA Cup Rep	Berry Beard	absent	Shorelake	Kris Espinosa	X
			Woodland	Mitch Furuglyas	X

Executive Director	David Griffiths	X	Scheduler	Jessica Beckton	X
SYSA Registrar	Paige Blomso	X	Communications	Jenn Ireland	X
Assistant Registrar	Anne Bare	X	Bookkeeper	Michele Authier	absent
Assistant Registrar					

MARCH 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

- Chip Goss – West Seattle Soccer (current president of West Seattle Soccer Board through March 2023)
 - Requesting to join SYSA league play:
 - Older players have to travel to Gig Harbor, Bonney Lake and Tacoma
 - West Seattle has a substantial number of teams U10 and below
 - 550 kids in U6 and U7 programs
 - West Seattle currently has one girl's teams at U13, two boy's at U13, two boy's at U14, one boy's at U15, one boy's at U16, one girl's at U17
 - West Seattle submitted one U15 team for SYSA Spring Soccer league
 - Requesting we structure this as inter-tie again and have our older teams playing league play in SYSA. Good first step to take to the West Seattle Soccer board, then we could progress to a potential conversation about SYSA membership.

SYSA VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

- None offered
- (David Griffiths) Volunteers of the year listed on XD report

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & CONSENT OF AGENDA

- (Greg Parker) Objection to minutes – issue isn't with the specifics of the negotiations with Kroger, but with the process of how email communications are handled. This was not presented to the Board as a thing to approve.
 - The clubs own the data, not SYSA.
 - SYSA is a custodian of member data and doesn't have the authority to send out marketing emails.
 - Potential compromise – just send out to the SYSA Spring Soccer list because those players have had to register with SYSA directly.
 - (Paige Blomso) WYS does this the same way, we are in fact acting in the same manner with being the custodian of data – they also send out marketing and commercialize the use of it.
- Motion to approve AMENDED February minutes (with Greg Parker's addition) by David Farber (LCSC), second by Shannon Palmer (MBL)

OFFICER REPORTS

President Dave Funke

- Nothing to report

VP Admin Keith Leitich

- Conversation with RAVE foundation – they are going to concentrate their efforts in White Center, Tukwila, and Kent areas for foreseeable future (in terms of providing clinics and camps).

VP of Operations Ann Davidson

- Not present

Treasurer John Clark

- Not present

VP of Competition Corey McNamee

- Not present

VP of Rec Development Kris Espinosa

- Nothing to report

Diversity & Inclusion Chair Shannon Palmer

- Recruitment for the volunteer board positions – will address in old business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SSRA President Larry Metz

- Not present

Disciplinary Chair Chris Tuttle

- Not present

STAFF REPORTS

Registrar Paige Blomso

- Getting ready for Spring Soccer, starts on Sunday April 2nd
 - 434 confirmed teams, includes the one West Seattle team
 - Also includes 3 CYO teams
 - Spring Soccer Skills Academy starts Saturday April 1st
 - 190 new players for spring soccer (compared with 465 new players last year)
- Debrief meetings with the clubs regarding Demosphere
 - There has been a request to have more time with Anne and I to work on getting registration set up for the new year. In April we will start to schedule drop-in hours at the SYSA office.

Registrar Anne Bare

- The Learning Center courses (Safe Sport and Intro to Safety) run on a full year schedule, so coaches that completed these courses in the fall are good to go. Every coach will need to renew background checks before April 30th though.

Field/Game Scheduler Jessica Beckton

- Registration is now closed for Spring Soccer. Divided team into groups primarily based on coach requests but also based on some past experience.

- Still working on SU game schedules, latest round of schedules were released this past weekend.

Executive Director David Griffiths

- See attached XD report
- Spring coaches meeting, March 26th from 3-5 pm at Northgate Community Center
 - Mandatory for 1st and 2nd year coaches in spring soccer
 - If you cannot attend please send a representative that can collect the information for you
- AGM will be April 1st 9 AM – 11 AM at Northgate Community Center

CLUB REPORTS

- Seattle United (Kevin Long):
 - HS boys tryouts were in mid February; over 300 offers made and we are in the process of registering those kids now (05 - 08 birth years)
 - Lot of travel for ECNL teams (Florida, Houston, Davis, Boise, Denver, Phoenix)
 - Working to figure out how to help negate the extreme costs of travel
- Magnolia (Stephanie Skinner): nothing to report
- Woodland (Mitch Furuglyas): nothing to report
- Ballard (Luke Giustra):
 - 5-a-side street soccer started two weeks ago
 - Held an open house for kids to try it out
 - First Ballard Youth Soccer board meeting this upcoming week
- Hillwood (Silas Lindenstein): Nothing to report.
- Shorewood (Kris Espinosa): Nothing to report.
- LCSC (David Farber): Answering lots of spring soccer questions.
- LVR (John Blackham): Nothing to report. Next board meeting next Monday
- Beacon Hill (Keith Leitich): Nothing to report. Larry McCann still actively involved doing registrar work.
- McGilvra (Nick Tchemitcheff): Nothing to report
- Capitol Hill: Not present
- MBL (Shannon Palmer): Nothing to report
- SC Queen Anne: Not present

OLD BUSINESS

- (David Griffiths) Select player rule, we are making sure that language is consistent.
 - Adapted Spring Soccer rules document will be updated on the website.
- (Dave Funke) Bylaw updates sent out from Greg Parker
 - Develop a way of making sure we have procedures recorded, ones that aren't in the bylaws.
 - 4 committees require participation, we will probably get to the point where we expect commissioners to be on a committee.
 - (Greg Parker) We need to establish what is a good structure for us as a mature organization. We are an established organization with 13 clubs, how do we make sure that the bylaws flex and can accommodate new programs and expansions? Over the next month I will prepare a summary and simplified document to outline that structure

and describe how we operate as an organization in order to give flexibility so that the bylaws aren't restricting us in the future.

- (David Griffiths) RATS – Waiting on Larry Metz to rewrite the document with the changes we requested last month.
- (Shannon Palmer) SYSA Board Openings – Shannon and Keith and David met with three candidates over this past week.
 - (David Griffiths) All of these people came from newsletters that we sent out to the association.
 - (Greg Parker) Legal assistance community might be a place to look.
- (David Griffiths) Board Code of Conduct - Working on this, nothing to update as of yet and hopefully within the next month we can get this document squared away.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2023-24 proposed budget and fee increases:
 - (Keith Leitich) I move that we reduce the club support line item to \$5000. Beacon Hill no longer needs the funds.
 - (Greg Parker) It's good that SYSA has the pool of funds available to help teams.
 - (Shannon Palmer and Mitch Furuglyas) We should keep the full amount in the budget in case we need it
 - (David Griffiths) Insurance went up x4 because of our need to pay out on the demand letter.
 - (Kevin Long) SYSA payroll increase rate is less than the inflation rate increase. Consumer price index, the cost of things: giving a 2% increase is not enough when the rate of inflation is hovering around 7%.
 - (Kevin Long) Donations fluctuate from year to year, sponsorships don't change that much because they are locked down through contracts.
 - (David Funke) We have slack in the budget to make up for differences. We also have 600K to 800K in reserves, enough to comfortably float our expenses throughout the year.

REMINDERS

- Next SYSA Board meeting Saturday April 1 at 9 AM – 10:30 AM at Northgate Community Center

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn, Greg Parker (LVR), second by Mitch Furuglyas (Woodland), meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.