



Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Monthly Business Meeting held on
March 7, 2022 via zoom call

Attendance: Officers, Commissioners and Staff

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

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	Eden Riddell				

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Called to order at 7:09 PM

Introduction & Welcome Guests:

No guests this month.

Volunteer of the Month

None this month

Consent Agenda"

Agenda additions: none to report.

Approval of February minutes: LVR approves, BH seconds

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dave Funke, President:

No written report. Working through Board position job descriptions.

Reviewing Executive Director duties. Almost the 50th Anniversary of Title IX - planning something to commemorate the anniversary. Requesting each club submit a female valuable to their club and highlight one each month.

Keith Leitich, VP of Admin:

Nothing to report.

VP Operations - OPEN

Secretary - OPEN

John Clark , Treasurer:

Will report on the budget later.

Has information on SYSA City Tournament billing - will go out to clubs later.

Corey McNamee, VP of Competition:

Nothing to report. Heading into Spring soccer, plans forthcoming.

Ann Davison, VP of Recreational Development:

Nothing to report.

Larry Metz, SSRA President:

2 or 3 Referee clinics coming up. Nearly 100 applicants in the que. Good news.

Only 10 are adults, to manage older teams, or Select/Premier teams. Will let DG know when info is available. Trying to recruit more south end refs. Assisting with the U9, 10 and 11 games is an awesome resource. Larry oversees and it's a great learning environment for young teens to learn. ECN programming is going really well. A few hiccups, but working through it. Reviewing video from the previous game and evaluating their performance. Great training tool.

Steve Kuhn, Disciplinary Committee Chair:

Not present.

Shannon Palmer, DEI Committee Chair

In progress. meeting planned for next week. Topics to include: how can we collect demographic data safely and how to address the decline in sport for girls across the ages.

STAFF REPORTS

SYSA Registrars: Paige Blomo & Anne Bare:

Team registration closed. 438 teams registered, up from spring 2021 but down from previous years. Up almost 90 teams from 2020. Skills & Games Academy - early session is full, later session still has room. Individual player registration is healthy. Good indication of interest in the spring season. Software transition is going well, just a learning curve.

Hosted a webinar for club administrators with Demosphere. Some clubs are looking to make the move. All getting accustomed to the new software. Coaches meeting is March 23, communicate that to your coaches. Mobile app is live, so share that with coaches. Schedules will be live in the app once they are published.

SYSA Scheduler - Jessica Beckton:

Learning the new system in Demosphere and it takes some time to set up the season brand new. Met with Eden to train her in scheduling. Waiting on the State Cup schedules, but they were not released by WYS on time, and this holds up my work. No field updates from parks.

Seattle United - Kevin Long

Seattle United is moving offices to Northgate from the Orcas office. SU is happy to share the new space with SYSA. Behind the Thornton Creek Theaters complex. May 1st move in date. Big enough to host in person board meetings.

SU front: HS boys tryouts held, good turnout, but very cold.

ECNL teams heading to AZ for tournaments, travel is back on for soccer.

Virtual Gala - not as successful as previous years, difficult to hold an online event.

Dave Funke asked about the Community Select model. Not really in practice anymore. Dave Farber from LC asked about the possibility of bringing back the model, due to losing teams to Celtic. Is there an option for more competitive Rec teams? Hard to find coaches for all programs from the Director levels on down. Losing out to clubs offering higher salaries and signing bonuses.

SYSA Executive Director - David Griffiths:

Community Select followup. Lack of interest after the initial few years. Have spoken with teams and offered the opportunity. No need to follow up, just look into. Looking into off season programming for all teams. Reach out to DG for those competitive teams that want more.

Going to NY to check on uniform possibilities. Other sponsorship options as well. Covid protocols check in. Preparing for the AGM, lack of nominations for "Of the Year" candidates from the clubs.

TOPS soccer program is moving forward. Recruiting more players and families to engage and step in.

SSN question. Had a call with Roger, new WYS director, working on the issue.

OL Reign and Sonders: 50th anniversary, join in the celebrations for May 13/14/15 to include meetings for young girls to meet with players/coaches/managers to encourage women moving forward. We want to be a part of it. Executive board meetings and presidents meetings are bi-weekly, please join in. Nothing to report on field increases, player fees, at this time.

New Business:

Open SYSA Executive Board Descriptions & Election Reminder - Dave Funke

Bylaw updates and requests for possible candidates for the board.

Looking for the Secretary, VP Comp and possibly president.

Do we have too many roles and can some possibly be combined?

VP Admin to take on HR Role? Something to think about.

Sportsmanship issues to VP Development.

Board members representing clubs - should it be a separate role, but allowed to make exceptions to make a quorum? Give it some thought. LVR appreciates the format and work put in.

Budget Development & SYSA Fees - John Clark

Will there be a fee increase for 2022? John's opinion is that we should not.

Good information through the end of February. Chuck shared data, is current.

Netted \$99 k plus the end of February. Used actual figures for fields costs, and boosted payroll, and appears we will net \$15 k. WYS has not increased fees, nor has Seattle parks increased fees, Shoreline might. No reason to increase fees this year. Would be good to keep the same. Absorb it this year then increase next year. With the exception of the increase for City Tournament fees to \$200 next fall.

DG wants to ensure the clubs are aware of any fee increases prior to fall registration opening. Any input from the clubs? Good thing not to have to raise fees? DF asked about Referee fees for CT/ clubs getting billed for the teams advancing. Figure out the cost outright depending on how successful your teams are/how far they advance. Raise the tournament fee to cover these costs for all clubs.

WYS SSN Update & Club Data Ownership - Greg Parker

May 2020 we were informed of the requirement to submit the SSN for coach background checks.

From the LVR club perspective it doesn't seem to make a difference. Who is determining the search? Used to determine prior residence? Will it pick up violations from long ago? Who determines the accessibility for coaches.

Paige says: not put in place by SYSA, driven by WYS. WYS understands this is an issue.

SYSA worked to facilitate the work around. WYS has not been forthcoming on how coaches go into review. We have asked for clarity on how to move forward with coaches not

comfortable with providing information. We have to comply, not an option. Dave G to follow up with the issue:

LVR asks that SYSA does not collect the information from our membership. WYS is not willing to allow an alternate solution through Demosphere, they have said no. Can WYS deny the opportunity to a volunteer to coach? More movement by SYSA Board to act/require reasons for the actions. Feels it is inappropriate to require volunteers to submit this. Asks for more followup from SYSA.

Suggestion to create a committee to review. DG says they have reviewed with the staff. Need to work with Keli, who is requiring the process with the State. Will meet with us at the State level. Try to work out a solution for your volunteers. Paige wants to find out which other associations pushed back to align with us. Ann Davison suggests looking at other organizations to see who actually requires this. Vendor suggests that many organizations require it, so we should too. Proof? Invasion of privacy for our volunteers - should we be a party to that? DG says WYS is not holding the information, it's a 3rd party. Possible repercussions will be big should we opt not to comply. Where does it come from and can we find another venue to run our organization. MCG asks: is this the big reason we stay in WYS? DG says getting a response from WYS is tough.

MBL: Many are frustrated by WYS moves, but ultimately, where is it coming from? WYS or youth soccer. Should we connect with other clubs/leagues to see if we can get a quorum to challenge the program? Find out if this is the norm, or exclusive to SYAS/WYS. Does not seem likely, and is it actually required? Dave G to create a committee to find out the information.

Old Business

Update on Demand Letter - David Griffiths

No update.

REMINDERS

Next SYSA Board meeting (AGM) Saturday April 23rd at 9am
Please confirm attendance with iCal notifications via email from David Griffiths

ADJOURNMENT

LC motions to adjourn, McG seconds