



Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Association General Meeting held on

January 2, 2024 via Zoom call

Attendance: Officers, Commissioners and Staff

President	David Funke	X	Ballard	Corey McNamee	X
VP of Administration	Keith Leitich	X	Beacon Hill	Keith Leitich	X
Secretary	<i>Position open</i>		Capitol Hill	Shelly Chinn	<i>absent</i>
Treasurer	<i>Position open</i>		Hillwood	Silas Lindenstein	X
VP of Operations	Ann Davison	<i>absent</i>	Lake City	Tony Goodson	X
VP of Rec Development	Kris Espinosa	X	LVR	John Blackman	X
VP of Competition	Corey McNamee	X	Magnolia	Stephanie Skinner	X
VP of DEI	Shannon Palmer	X	McGilvra	Nick Tchemitcheff	X
VP of Marketing & Comms	Calen Holbrooks	<i>absent</i>	Mt Baker	Shannon Palmer	X
SSRA SYSA Liaison	Peter Maunsell & Larry Metz	X	Queen Anne	Shane Cramer	<i>absent</i>
Disciplinary Chair	Chris Tuttle	<i>absent</i>	Seattle United	Kyle Rodeheaver	X
SYSA Cup Rep	<i>Position open</i>		Shorelake	Kris Espinosa	X
			Woodland	Mitch Furuglyas	<i>absent</i>

Executive Director	David Griffiths	X	Scheduler	Stephanie Skinner	X
SYSA Registrar	Paige Blomso	X	Communications	Jenn Ireland	X
Assistant Registrar	Anne Bare	X	Bookkeeper	Michele Authier	<i>absent</i>
Assistant Registrar	Kristin Bates	X	Scheduler	Megan Lund	X

JANUARY MEETING

- Called to order by David Funke (time 7:05 PM)
- Attendance noted by Jenn Ireland, SYSA Communications
- Presence of a quorum noted
- Minutes taken by Jenn Ireland, SYSA Communications

GUESTS

- None

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

- (Dave Funke) Volunteer of the month nominations:
 - Paige Blomso – Ballard couple, Janine and Brian Hottovy (BU12 Bal Fire Breathing Gummy Bears).

NOVEMBER MINUTES

- (Dave Funke) November minutes:
 - Beacon Hill motion to approve November minutes, LVR seconds
 - Minutes approved, no objections

OFFICER REPORTS

- President (Dave Funke) –
 - At the executive board meeting last month we discussed getting the standing committees going, get them staffed.
 - Well done job with City Tournament Finals, thank you to staff that helped put that event on.
 - Treasurer update – we have \$750K in the bank, everything looks good.
- VP of Admin (Keith Leitich) –
 - Governance Committee – 2 new members, recently sent out an email to get started.
- VP of Operations (Ann Davidson) – not present
- VP of Competition (Corey McNamee) –
 - Rules Committee – 4 members, me, Steve Simpson, David Funke and Paige Blomso. Our big push over off season is to get these rules cleaned up.
 - Anne Bare will join committee as staff to represent the south end.
- VP of Rec Development (Kris Espinosa) –
 - Judicial committee – email to clubs will go out tomorrow to get this committee up and running. Minimum of 3 members, but would like to get to 5. Have been going over guidelines, etc. to get this up and running.
- VP of Diversity & Inclusion (Shannon Palmer) –
 - No update
- VP of Marketing & Communication (Calen Holbrooks) – not present
- SSRA (Peter Maunsell & Larry Metz)
 - Concussion protocol incident at City Tournament; once player has been removed from play, they must be cleared by a medical professional before returning.
- Disciplinary Chair (Chris Tuttle) – not present

STAFF REPORTS

- Registrar (Paige Blomso)
 - Team registration for spring soccer opens this Friday. Website has been updated. Hillwood and Shorelake – we would love for you to encourage SYSA Spring Soccer among your teams.
 - Silas – some of our teams go to Edmonds for spring soccer because they have refs and get 1 practice a week.
 - Will email City Tournament winners about trophies and tell them about the responsibilities. Some came back in rough shape this year. Some are quite old.
 - We've been working over holiday to support the competitive teams for State Cup.
- Registrar (Anne Barre)
 - Thank you to coaches and club leadership for your support during City Tournament. We had teams from every club in the finals this year. Everyone had fun.
- Registrar (Kristin Bates) –
 - Nothing to report
- Scheduler (Stephanie Skinner)
 - Survived our first City Tournament scheduling experience, hoping that everyone had a really positive experience. Now turning focus to switching the platform/system to allow both schedulers to work at once. We moved from Access to Airtable which is an online database. This is going to be great and will allow both of us to work in tandem. We are working on the back-end skeleton setup for recreational spring league while we wait for teams to be finalized.
- Scheduler (Megan Lund)
 - New database tool is fantastic, everyone will benefit. When we need to share information, it updates in real time, there is no copying and pasting anymore.
- Executive Director (David Griffiths)
 - Well done on the execution of All-City Jamboree and City Tournament. Thank you to Seattle United at Jamboree, thank you to the presenters at City Tournament, thank you to the staff at SYSA for your help at both events, our team has gotten a lot stronger. Big thank you to disciplinary committee for all their work in the City Tournament.
 - I will be at United Soccer Coaches Convention next week, let me know if you need anything.
 - Donation came from Amazon today, this will be an annual relationship.
 - Prime, new version of Gatorade, had reached out about a partnership.
 - Darigold and Capelli Sport relationships ongoing.

Club reports –

- Seattle United:
 - Older HS boys start soccer in February; regional teams are getting ready to start Founders Cup here in January.
- LVR:
 - In the past we have paid 50% of the City Tournament entry fee for our teams, this year we did 100% because we wanted to get as many teams into the tournament as possible because we know how great the experience is.

- o Looking to find a replacement for Jon Carver at president.
- Lake City:
 - o Dave Levine will bring some topics to committees this spring, nothing as of yet.
- Shorelake: Nothing to report
- Hillwood:
 - o We are gearing up for a Hillwood celebration at the end of February to get the community together.
 - o New logo in the works, it just needs to be cleared by the board; getting rid of the word Seattle.
- Ballard:
 - o Andy has been working on annual futsal league. That's our next focus to get that league going, to bridge the gap between City T and Spring Soccer.
- Magnolia: Nothing to report
- Woodland: Not present
- Beacon Hill:
 - o Signed a new sponsorship deal with Remitly.
- McGilvra:
 - o Great season, first year for me as president, steep learning curve but lots of fun.
 - o Will start looking to add people to board for spring/fall positions.
- Capitol hill: Not present
- Mount Baker Lakewood: Nothing to report

Old Business –

- Dave Funke: recruitment for board positions
 - o If you have any names of people to may be interested, reach out to David Griffiths and I.

New business –

- Support for requiring photo rosters for Fall association play?
 - o Paige – I would advocate for cards, but it's an additional registration requirement where clubs have to require it at their level. If this is the direction the association goes, the clubs will all have to be on board.
 - o Go to committee and come back with a written proposal.
- League Washington combining clubs
 - o Corey – What can we do to get the kids more playing time? Possible SYSA north and south teams combining to do State Recreational Cup? City Tournament runs the same time as State Cup, can we shorten City Tournament for older age groups so that we can get some teams to State Rec Cup?
 - o Go to committee and come back with a written proposal.
- Push education of Code of Conducts because many people seem unaware of them
 - o Kris – We need better communication.
 - o Shannon – We need more in person stuff to foster community and educate that way, we can't just push more content. Leadership needs to be on the same side and understand this.
 - o Stephanie – 'If you see something, say something' to protect the integrity of youth soccer. Some coaches don't feel like they need to follow the rules.

- o Corey – We need consistent messaging from SYSA and from the clubs.
 - Marketing messaging campaign
 - Silas – Suggestion, making short videos for different topics
- All clubs on the same registration platforms
 - o David Griffiths - There are administrative costs to getting LVR entered correctly into the SYSA system, but we don't have a service agreement with LVR so SYSA carries the load here and the cost.

Next meeting –

Next meeting on Monday February 5th

Meeting adjourned –

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

MBL motions to adjourn, Ballard seconds