

Seattle Youth Soccer Association

Minutes for SYSA Board of Commissioners Monthly Business Meeting held on May 6, 2019 at the SYSA offices, Seattle

Officers, commissioners and staff attending the meeting:

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

* Jenica Bell represented Shorelake

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

Others present: Chris Espinoza (Shorelake); Larry McCann (Beacon Hill)

Monthly Business Meeting Call to Order

Called to order at 7:04 pm

Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda

Motion to approve minutes of April business meeting/AGM by Beacon Hill, second by Magnolia, approved unanimously. Two additional items were requested for addition to the agenda: playdown policy changes and Beacon Hill low income support request. No objections and declared approved by consensus.

Officer Reports

- **Steve Kuhn, President**
Main action item was working on the Woodland club's web site
- **Alex Johnston, VP Administration**
 - Lights up at Ballard and Roosevelt
 - City Council vote earlier in the day to reinstate Jesus Aguirre as Parks Superintendent;

outcome of vote was unknown

- Seattle Academy contribution of \$3 million to city for improvements to and priority use of field at South Park Community Center; item was on today's meeting docket and council likely passed it; could set a new precedent
- **David Funke, VP Operations**
No report
- **Phil Herold, Secretary/MAR**
WYS AGM upcoming; no agenda published yet and likely to be uneventful
- **Treasurer**
Financials, deferred to budget discussion
- **Corey McNamee, VP Competition**
Not present
- **Ann Sattler, VP Rec Development**
Not present at time of report (arrived later)
- **Chase Parker, SSRA Liaison**
Report presented by Griffiths; doubled referee mentoring program during spring
- **Jeff Huse, Disciplinary**
- **Kelly Mullins, Seattle United Board Rep**
Not present
- **Paige Blomso, Anne Bare, Julie Irwin, SYSA Registrars**
 - Registrations open for most clubs
 - All clubs now in Affinity
 - Will reach out to clubs that don't use SYSA registration services for training sessions
- **Jessica Beckton, Scheduler**
 - SU cup season nearly wrapped up
 - Working on fall practice fields allocation; Seattle Parks has changed system, with bookings delivered in .PDFs rather than Excel files which creates some challenges; Kuhn offered himself or Herold to assist
 - Conditions at Bobby Morris were discussed
 - Group with no historical use had used political connections to circumvent longstanding Parks policy and gain field access; Johnston and Leitich will bring it up before Parks at next meeting
- **Andrew Westmark, Volunteer Coordinator**
 - First spring break camp, 39 kids at Magnuson, ages 6-13, went well; will follow up with another camp
 - Talked about getting into south end; Rave Foundation is able to put on camps for free and partnership might be best approach
 - Met with Girl Boss Sports, a coach/player development business in Seattle that's working on supplying female coaches; will be working with them on getting female coaches into the rec development programs

- **David Griffiths, Executive Director**

- Been working on the web site, wants it up and running by first of month; have the content but working through navigation and user experience issues
- Working on partnerships with Girl Boss Sports, Torrax ball pumps, Sounders clinic and camp programs, Dick's Sporting Goods, Arena Sports
- Mentioned coaching clinics
- Spoke to WYS request to include Respect logo on jerseys
- Spoke to 50th anniversary celebration day, shared some ideas and fielded some suggestions from the floor
- Asked clubs/commissioners to like or follow SYSA social media

Old Business

Select Players on Rec Teams (Define Policy)

- Johnston gave overview: do we want to crack down on select players from non-SYSA organizations on our rec teams; enforcement a challenge; if imposed, some clubs will likely lose players; timing is a little late and teams are forming; we can take steps to be clear and more direct
- LVR noted they had instituted a policy similar to SYSA spring season policy and received membership pushback over it
- Multiple points of view expressed concerning:
 - Impact on rec teams with select players
 - Unfairness of teams with players who didn't show during fall rec, who showed only during CT resulting in widely differential match outcomes compared to regular season
 - Whether and why select policy should be different from policy regarding school teams
 - Why Seattle United players can't participate while those outside SYSA can
 - Optics of players wearing socks of known-select clubs participating in SYSA games
 - Disadvantages to teams without select players who are discouraged by teams with select players, resulting in disadvantaged teams simply folding and lowering participation overall
- Kuhn noted other items on the agenda, suggested postponing discussion for a future meeting and that clubs should bring specific policy proposals for discussion; no objections and postponement approved by consensus in favor of taking up other agenda items

New Business

Budget Approval

Budget had been presented at AGM and fee increase approved, but not overall budget. Following brief discussion, motion from Hillwood to approve, second from Beacon Hill, unanimously approved

Standardized Rules for Mod and Citywide age groups

- Griffiths noted desire for standardization and will take the lead
- U10 and above should be standardized with one document since it's association-wide play
- Will look at U9 and below across clubs and come up with a single document

Standardized Coaches Code of Conduct

Coach department problems noted during spring season; while Code of Conduct is in place, discussion around which form of documenting agreement is more effective, whether online, physically signed, or physically signed in the presence of a board member. Future discussion postponed owing to time constraints.

Fall Rec Outreach Program

Agenda item, postponed to June meeting owing to time constraints.

Low income request

Handout distributed by Beacon Hill; some questions asked about which year's budget the allocation falls under and whether there will be any future asks against the budgeted line item. Motion to approve by Capitol Hill, second by Woodland, carried unanimously.

Play-down policy

Play-down committee received several non-medical play-down requests which were not processed by the play-down committee because such requests are outside of the guidelines given the committee by the Board of Commissioners. Therefore, issue sent to commissioners for resolution.

- Specific situation is players with August birthdays who want to play with classmates
- Immediate question is whether to treat these as one-time exceptions or to craft a holistic policy change
- Noted that some private schools use a different cutoff date than Seattle Public Schools, which needs to be considered

Sentiment among commissioners was to handle the specific requests as one-time exceptions, but to place issue on future meeting agenda to craft a clearly articulated policy. Clubs making the requests will submit names of specific players involved to the SYSA registrars. Motion to approve the two exceptions by Hillwood, second by Beacon Hill, passed unanimously.

Reminders

Griffiths referred to the agenda in the meeting packet which included these reminders:

- Coaches Clinics July 31, Aug 7, 13, 21. Locations TBD
- PCA Clinics August 6, 14, 22 at The Great Hall, Green Lake, 6-8pm
- Next SYSA Board Meeting June 3, Look out for iCal notifications

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mt Baker/Lakewood, second by Capitol Hill, no objections and meeting declared adjourned at by consensus at 9:06 pm.