



Come Play on Our Team!

www.WashingtonYouthSoccer.org  
PHONE (253) 4-SOCCER · TOLL FREE 1-877-424-4318

Washington Youth Soccer  
7100 Fort Dent Way, Suite #215  
Tukwila, WA 98188-7500

December 19, 2014

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**Washington Youth Soccer Office**

Terry Fisher  
*CEO*

To Washington Youth Soccer Council:

As Washington Youth Soccer approaches the end of its first fifty years and looks towards the next 50 years of youth soccer in our state, it is apparent that the soccer landscape has shifted dramatically since our founding. Within the last ten years, the model we built in 1966 has struggled to accelerate into the modern game we see today. Our association's responsibility to the communities we serve across Washington is to evolve our organization to continue providing the best possible youth development through the sport of soccer.

Leading up to the 2014 Annual General Meeting, our Board focused in on one of the greatest needs expressed by stakeholders: a change to Washington Youth Soccer's membership fee structure. For such an important topic, we engaged an expert facilitator in James Stewart, who led our Board, staff, and stakeholders through a series of work groups, focus groups and in-person interviews. Volunteers from around the state served on a task force overseeing and providing weekly guidance to our research.

The culmination of this work was the November 15<sup>th</sup> Special Council Presentation, where we asked the Council to provide guidance to our Board in revising our fee structure for the 2015-2016 year. Coming out of that meeting, it was evident that the Council desired a fee structure that freed up resources at the recreational level to encourage a grassroots growth of the game, a better understanding of how each level of play contributes to and benefits from the work of Washington Youth Soccer, and a desire to remain competitive in the face of challenges from other sport organizations.

Between the Board's participation in the task force, the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, and their regular business meeting on November 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Board considered all of the information at their disposal. The approved recommendation for the 2015-2016 seasonal year to be voted upon at the 2015 Annual Player Fee Meeting on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> is:

Recreational Players Under-10 and younger	\$5.00
Recreational Players Under-11 and older	\$10.00
Select and Regional Club Players (all ages)	\$12.00

To accommodate this fee restructure, Washington Youth Soccer has adjusted its budget for 2015-2016 in response to this proposed shift in membership revenue. We will treat risk management expenses as an independent fee that continues to support a low individual cost that supports the whole burden of providing national background checks and improved training for our more than 25,000 volunteers.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Tukwila in January where we will be able to discuss the proposal in detail and hold a ratification vote. This milestone represents measurable progress towards our strategic initiatives and we appreciate the inputs from all who engaged in this project along the way.





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Players achieve their highest development potential in Washington Youth Soccer member organizations because we provide soccer that is fun, safe, and supported. Youth soccer is no longer the fastest growing sport in America – there is now more competition than there has ever been in our history. In order to increase sustainable recreational soccer programming, Washington Youth Soccer is stepping forward to reinvest valuable financial resources locally. We look forward to working with the Council to position Washington Youth Soccer for another fifty years of successfully growing the game of soccer.

Respectfully,  
Washington Youth Soccer  
Board of Directors

