



Come Play on Our Team!

www.WashingtonYouthSoccer.org
PHONE (253) 4-SOCCER · FAX (253) 925-1830 · TOLL FREE 1-877-424-4318

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

Annual Player Fee Meeting

January 24, 2015

Embassy Suites Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
15920 W Valley Hwy • Seattle, WA 98188

Board of Directors

Tom Ament
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Vice President

Mark Schuur
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Sven Akerman
District 7
Commissioner

Washington Youth Soccer Office

Terry Fisher
CEO

Meeting called to order at 9:09am – Board of Directors President, Tom Ament

Roll Call – Board of Directors Secretary, Mitch Hodges

Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2014 Annual General Meeting – Motion to approve minutes – approved as presented, no abstentions

Washington Youth Soccer Player Fee Proposal and Vote – Presented by Board of Directors President, Tom Ament

Tom Ament, WA Youth Soccer President, gives an overview of the process that was taken to arrive at the proposed player fee numbers and makes a motion to approve the player fee to the following:

Table with 2 columns: Player Category and 2015/2016 Fee. Rows include Recreational Players Under-10 and younger (\$5.00), Recreational Players Under-11 and older (\$10.00), and Select and Competitive Club Players (all ages) (\$12.00).

Jim Bates, Northshore Youth Soccer Association President, seconds the motion to approve the proposed player fee. Mike Todd, District 1 Commissioner, suggests that we tell people what we offer and help Associations to promote WA Youth Soccer in order to recapture membership.

Washington Youth Soccer RMA Fee and Process – Presented by WA Youth Soccer Senior Director, Hillary Beehler

There are currently 26,000 volunteers registered annually, but there are still people in the organization who are not background checked. There are currently 6,000 referees registered; cost is \$130,000 for registration. Background checks cost \$5 (Affinity fee, background check, WA staff fee). Hillary recommends a \$5/volunteer fee for background checks. We also want to increase training for RMA. Funding can be done at a local level (e.g. Whatcom budgets for 200 volunteers and pays for those 200). Brian Cregg, Thurston County Youth Soccer President, emphasizes that putting the focus locally will put more pressure on making sure that everyone is cleared.

Tom Ament announces that player fee vote was approved and passed

Player Registration Data – Presented by WA Youth Soccer Senior Director, Hillary Beehler, and Competitive Programs & Business Practices Advisor, Todd Lincoln

Hillary Beehler – WA Youth Soccer had been looking back at player numbers from 2006, in order to see which areas have lost players and put together a strategy to partner with organizations to reach out to local clubs. We want to help with programming or offer support to help make safe and fun programs. We want to know how we can assist local





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organizations so that we can help strengthen and better serve them in order to help raise numbers.

Todd Lincoln – The goal is to get to some common data elements. We are working together with Association Registrars to start this process. It will help when providing coverage for players and it will give WA Youth Soccer consistent data.

U.S. Soccer Update – Presented by WA Youth Soccer Technical Director, Timo Liekoski

There is discussion to change the current age classification from calendar year to birth year, but at this point nothing has been confirmed and there has not been a proposal submitted. There is also discussion of changing to small-sided games at certain age groups, but at this point nothing has been mandated by U.S. Soccer. In Coaching Education, there is a new online "F" license coming, and it will be a requirement for the "E" License.

EPD/ODP Update – Presented by WA Youth Soccer Director of Programs, Kim Calkins

The Technical Department worked to improve the Elite Player Development (EPD) program by talking to clubs to see what recommendations they had, and many of those were implemented: Improved tryout process (travelled all around the state), increased communications, consistent and known training dates so as to not interfere with regular club trainings. At this year's ODP Champions, we had 7 semifinalist teams, 3 finalist teams, and we were able to scholarship 12 players.

Referee Update – Presented by WA Youth Soccer Referee Program Director, Will Niccolls

Washington is the #2 state in America for number of grade 7 referees, and encourages associations to be diligent with their local referee chapters – make sure that all referees are RMA cleared and U.S. Soccer certified. A centralized system is being created where referees can be assigned to all games, and make sure that all referees are RMA cleared.

Lance Calloway, Whatcom County Youth Soccer MAR, poses the question of how we can we eliminate barriers to new referees (i.e. fees, courses, official uniforms). Will Niccolls, explains that they are working on a Dri-FIT shirt that would be screen printed and cost about \$10. Jim Bates, Northshore Youth Soccer Association President, would like to see a referee support network in order to help with referee retention. Tom Ament, WA Youth Soccer President, emphasizes that this is a local issue, and that we can provide resources (e.g. code of conduct), but there needs to be local field marshals, and an emphasis on conduct that gets filtered down to the parents and families.

Good of the Game

Tom Ament, WA Youth Soccer President – WA Youth Soccer was awarded the 2017 Far West Regionals (NSC) at 60 Acres and four members received national recognition at the US Youth Soccer Awards Gala: John McKenzie (Boys Recreational Coach), Ryan Dortch (Girls Competitive Coach), William Fry (Administrator) and Ryan Riley (Young Female Referee).

Will Niccolls, WA Youth Soccer Referee Program Director – Ray Moffatte is now a Provisional National Assessor – congratulations Ray!

Meeting adjourned at 11:23pm

