



Lower Island Women's Soccer Association

Victoria, BC Canada | www.liwsa.com

LIWSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – JUNE 13, 2021-- 5PM VIA ZOOM

EXECUTIVE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:

Casey Tepper, Jules Nagy, Cheryl Van Ireland, Stacie Madelung, Marta Ausio-Esteve, Gareth Crisp, Sanja Dodos, Jeannie Fraser, Sharon Scott, Heather Todd,

MEETING PROCEEDINGS

1. Meeting called to order at 5:03pm by president.
2. Motion to have 2020 minutes as read: Brad. Seconded: Becky. All in favour. Minutes are moved as read.
3. Introduction of executive members:
 - a. Casey Tepper – president
 - b. Jules Nagy – VP
 - c. Cheryl van Ireland – secretary
 - d. Stacie Madelung – registrar
 - e. Marta Ausio-esteve – communications chair
 - f. Heather Todd – risk management chair
 - g. John Kilbank – referees
 - h. Gareth Crisp – premier liaison
 - i. Sanja Dodos – div 1 liaison
 - j. Adriano Sumberac – div 2 liaison
 - k. Samantha Eburne – div 3 liaison
 - l. Jean Fraser – o30 liaison
 - m. Sharon Scott – o35 liaison
4. Overview of zoom meeting functions & etiquette – Marta: We ask if that you be respectful when speaking verbally or in chat portion of the meeting. 1 strike policy, any disrespectful comment and you will be removed from the meeting. We

ask that all questions are held until the end of each report. just use the chat feature to indicate the question. if you have any questions for Marta just raise your hand.

5. President's Report – Casey

- A.) Thanks everyone for this past season. It was tough, short and a huge learning experience for all of us. It was good to see us all working together to get in what we could. Contact Tracing and everything was done very well. Teams notifying us and letting us know of Covid tests was completely bang on as it gave us a chance to cancel the game till the result of the test was in. We are almost there and with the Sept. 7th date for the provincial full restart it is so huge. Lets not let up now we are so close. On a personal note I would like to thank our executive board for all their work this past season. Without them what happened little or small was because of their efforts.
- B.) I have been busy trying to get ready for the upcoming season working with BCSA . To help us out please register in a timely fashion in order for us to be able to align the divisions. Also to begin to build a schedule for a full season. The reason this is asked is because 40% of teams opted last year and we need to know what teams are returning or not, and if any new teams are entering .
- C.) Important Dates to remember The LIWSA would like to begin its season Friday Sept. 10th – Dec. 12th The break would begin on the 13th and return to play would be Jan. 14th and the final day of the season would be as always Mar. 31st. Easter in 2022 is April 17th.
- D.) This Tuesday Jules and I are meeting with the MWSL and BCSA on the viability of provincials for this past season and of course for the up coming season. This will be the last call for teams still interested in provincial cups from last year. Please e-mail and let me know if still interested so we can bring this to the table.
- E.) I have been attending webinars with the city and the local Finlayson stakeholders on the Finlayson upgrade. To date there is a 2.4 million dollar upgrade proposal to take to the city for approval. Upgrade is planned for summer 2022 .
- F.) A group of 4 LIWSA representatives have been put together to sit in on a RAP revitalization board led by Vic West FC. The plan is to build the top grass surface in the country along with a stadium that could hold up to 4,000 spectators. This is in the early stages and we will have a meeting with the city in August on this proposal. Meanwhile there is a survey out about the proposal and if you go to the chat you will find the link there. We will also add it to our site.
- G.) Any questions? Jules – we need to approve the agenda and if there are any additions to the agenda. Motion: Becky. Seconded, Dano. All in favour.

6. Treasurer's Report

- A.) This has been a very strange year just from this point in the financial picture as we had a large turnover. Firstly our accountant retired and shortly after our

bookkeeper did the same. We found a new book keeper and after a few short months he too stepped away as his family was growing. After some extensive searching I did manage to find an accountant/bookkeeper that is so happy to help us in any way he can and he could also use the extra work. While I talk we will show you the balance statement and notice to reader as of March 31st 2021. I would like to point out to everyone there will be no raise in fees this season. There is a reason for that as we as an executive dropped the ball on this one as the motion was on the floor in early January 2020 but it was tabled to the 2020 AGM and simply said we forgot to bring it up. So we will table this again till the C&M meeting in January 2020 to be voted on at the AGM in 2022 .

B.) Clint our new bookkeeper is willing to help us build some proper budgets so we can maintain our costs.

7. Discipline Report

BCSA is very happy at the way we run our discipline and hopes we continue on.

Only 2 Reds from last season and both currently still have one game remaining.

8. Competition Report

Competition/awards last year in the six game season was basically non existent. This year we will be returning back hopefully to some form of normality. So all awards and games will be back in action.

Provincials

I touched on earlier in my report and will know more after Tuesday's meeting with BCSA. The plan is to maintain all the number of provincial allocations as in the past. A Cup 3, Bcup 4 and classics Acup and Bcup are up in the air as these change on a yearly basis due to participation.

LIWSA Cup Competitions

will pretty well remain the same as in the past unless a competition committee is formed and changes can be or wanted to be made.

AllStars

This is something to be worked on as interest has dropped off immensely and the biggest complaint is the cold or rainy weather and year after year the same format. If a committee is formed I would like to move allstars to later in the year when the weather is better. I am currently in talks with the MWSL on eventually having an allstar format somewhat similar to the VISL. Where our premiers play the MWSL premiers and Our div.1 plays their div. 1 stars. These games would flip over every year as one year we send our premiers to the mainland and they send their div.1s here. The next year the opposite occurs. We think this will help promote our game a lot. Div. 2,3 and the over 30s also would have theirs but hopefully during better weather.

A new Award

We have come up with a new LIWSA award which will what we think will generate a lot of interest among LIWSA members. We would like to introduce a Golden Boot award for each division. Every week we will list the top scorers from each division. End of the season each divisional Golden Boot winner will receive their golden Boot Trophy. This will take work from everyone as we can not rely on the referees always being right on their submissions of goal scorers. So coaches and managers check the goal scorers for each game and let me know asap if a correction is to be made.

Photographs

Kelly Wallace and I will be trying to get around to as many teams as possible to take pics to post for all to enjoy. We will be wearing clearly marked LIWSA coats please cooperate with us as much as possible.

9. Vice-President's report – Jules

- a. Would like to thank Casey for his diligence, and the exec members. And also the patience of all our members regarding the pandemic and all that went with it.
- b. Not much to report, tried to support everyone as best I could this past season.
- c. Promotion and Relegation committee: Again was a learning curve. We did a lot of work on cohorts. every time we thought we were ready to go, something happened and we had to do it again. Hopefully we can make the divisions as profitable as possible this season, so that everyone has an enjoyable year. Will try to work from the upper tier down, hopefully teams will be getting register as soon as possible so we can get everyone organized and figure out who is coming back after pandemic.
- d. Any questions? No questions for VP.

10. Secretary's Report – Cheryl

- a. Nothing to report.

11. Communications Report - Marta

- a. LIWSA contact list – any communications that we're going to send out will most likely come from me. The new system allows me to send it off from one of the board members. Important that people pay attention to the topic and who it is

sent on behalf of, for who to reply to. Make sure you have the right people registered as coach and manager for your team. Only add the people that you want to be emailed.

- b. Footballer of the week – and golden boot award – will be our LIWSA thing to manage. In the past it was a collaboration with Victoria United, but since the pandemic we have not heard much. We will be taking the reigns to continue on with this and I will be chasing you down, and reaching out. Would like to have representatives from all clubs and divisions. Work with me on building the blurb and description. Golden boot award goes to the highest scoring individual.
- c. Newsletter – will use to promote LIWSA. anyone in the world can subscribe to it. Can visit the website under newsletter to see the most current one. Will continue promoting the concussion blog we are subscribed too. We will advertise any sponsors. any programs to do with women's or girl's sport. Anything you'd like to include in the newsletter, please reach out to me.
- d. Sponsorships, Jean is keen on working on sponsorship. Hoping to get a collective so we can work on the newsletter and use social media to do with sponsorship.

12. Registrar's report – Stacie

- a. Thank you so much to the teams that have already registered. Deadline is June 30. Once registrations in, will send out to all the contacts, the keycode to register your players. Will be about August 9. Marta has been very kind in building a player registration manual. Will be sending out emails with all the details, so won't make this too long-winded. Once all team registration is in, you'll hear from me again.
- b. Team registration- Dates: June 1-30
- c. Player registration – Dates: August 31st or 48 hrs prior to first game?
- d. Fees deadlines: Dates: September 15 (50%) & October 1st (50%)

13. Risk Management report – Heather

- a. Just a reminder for coaches and managers to get their CRC record checks done. Valid for 3 years. go to liwsa.com, at the bottom site map will find the directions. If anyone has any issues, let me know. I don't control the email reminders, but they are an incentive to get your record check in.

14. Referee's report – John – not in attendance

15. Liaison's report – GARETH – nothing to report, SANJA- nothing to report, ADRIANO-nothing to report, SAMANTHA-nothing to report, JEAN-nothing to report, SHARON-nothing to report

Divisional Line up pre Co-vid

a. Premier (8 teams)

Campbell River FC
 Lakehill FC
 Nanaimo United (2)
 Prospect Lake-Lakers (2)

Gorge FC
 Nanaimo United (1)
 Prospect Lake – Lakers (1)
 Saanich Fusion Susan's

b. Division One (10 teams)

Bays United FC
 SFFC Cascades
 Castaways
 Gorge United
 JDF United

Lakehill FC
 Lakehill Reds
 PACE FC Wolfpack
 Prospect Lake – Lakers
 SFF United

c. Division Two (10 teams)

Cowichan FC
 Fernwood City
 Gorge FC
 Gorge United
 Lakehill United

Nanaimo United
 Peninsula FC
 Prospect Lake – Lakers
 Salt Spring United
 Vic West FC

d. Division Three (14 teams)

Bays United FC (1)
 Gorge Masters
 JDF FC
 Ladysmith Strikers
 Lakehill FC
 NIFA Pacific United FC
 Vic West FC

Bays United (2)
 Gorge FC
 JDF United
 Prospect Lake – Lakers
 Saanich Fusion
 Sooke SC
 Victoria Athletics

e. O30A (6 teams)

Castaways United
 Cowichan Cougars
 Gorge FC

JDF FC
 Prospect Lake – Lakers
 Vic West FC

f. O30B (5 teams)

Castaways FC

Lakehill

Peninsula Heat

Prospect Lake – Lakers

SFF Fire

g. O35 (6 Teams)

Bays United Breakers

Gorge Fc

Peninsula Sula Sisters

Saanich Fusion

Sooke Jagers

Vic West Scottish

16. Elections:

Positions up for election:

1. President – Casey stepping down as president and would like to come back in as an operations manager. Will be spoken on in new business. No nominations for president. Position vacant, VP will fill in.

Discipline chair – Leah Crisp nominated. No other nominations. Leah appointed Discipline Chair, congratulations!

Secretary – No nominations. Cheryl stands

Treasurer – no nominations – stays vacant

Division 2 Liaison – No nominations. Casey will ask Adriano if he will stand! Adriano said yes!

O35 liaison – No nominations. Sharon stands.

Competitions chair – no nominations – stays vacant

17. Motions – No motions on the floor

18. New Business

- a. Calling for new business. use the chat to let us know. no new business.
- b. Talking about the operations manager. Casey: I will leave the meeting, and Jules will take it from here so you can discuss. Take care everyone and let's hope for a fun season ahead.
- c. Jules - We at LIWSA have done a lot of research and looked at this in depth. We have to go this route as there isn't a surplus of volunteers willing to

take on these positions. It has come to the point where we have to hire and pay someone to do this work. We hoped it wouldn't get to this point, but it has. We have created a role of operations manager, and hoping Casey will take this on. This position won't cost much at this time compared to what other organizations are paying, and will not require us to raise our fees. This is a start, and we will look next season to see about financials and whether to continue this role. I will be stepping in as president in the interim. As for operations manager, would like some feedback from the membership. We as the governing body can hire or fire anyone, but we felt that we would ask our membership at this AGM for their input. We hope this is a positive direction and discussion from the membership. Any questions?

1. I think most associations in BC are moving in that direction. Just professionalizing the leagues they work for. This is a very important position and Casey is very qualified to do all the work. At some point increasing to a raise, like what they've done with the mid-island league, they went the same way. We will need the professionalism and a paid position to move our organization forward. Is a good idea and we really support that.
2. Would this also serve as treasurer and competitions committee? Yes. Will also be working with the discipline chair to do all the admin work.
3. What goes into the evaluation before the 2022 AGM? Would look back to make sure the position was effective. Just to let you know, at this time we don't have the capacity to do the full job description and hiring process, as there is so few of us on the exec. With Casey already doing all these jobs, it is more fair to offer this.
4. As it stands right now, not a new position, just a person to help us out with the day to day work. This person has no vote on the exec.
5. Can you please post the info to the website? Yes will do.
6. Are we anticipating a deficit? No, it still falls within our budget, without raising any fees. The new website costs were a lot more last year than they will be in the next year. Also down 40% registration this past season and that reflects in our books as well. Will also work very hard to get sponsors to offset some costs.

7. We will be asking the amount of time being spent in the role to be tracked. So we have a better idea at the end of the season for evaluation.
8. The fiscal year prior to this did we have an extra \$10,000 to spend on this? Not sure, but we do have an account that we can rely on for emergency. However we have looked at the numbers and it won't seem that we would lose any money.
9. If this had come to light a couple months ago, I could have advised in finding ways to manage this. There is the Casey option, there is Vince who could help, there are other options in LISA. LIWSA should do a governance review, this is a short term solution that will probably lend itself into the long-term but there are better ways to do it. I think there is a weakness in the financials, so that could be possibly done in other ways. Not trying to bad mouth anything, just a lot that happened with clubs and LISA recently that could have helped out.
 1. Very difficult when nobody steps up. Putting a lot of responsibility on the few of us. Have some difficulty with attaching us with us to other leagues.
 2. Thanks for your input, there was a lot of discussion on exactly what you said. This is what will help us now so we can get this season going. This is a learning curve for us. We saw what happened with other leagues and they had growing pains as well.
10. I believe what Marta just said is we are a different organization but strong partners with VISL and LISA. Seen a lot of changes, LISA very connected now to Pacific FC. I believe that it all comes back to nobody stepping up. and trying to keep our identity as Lower Island Women.
 - d. Would have been nice to have more members here today to take part in this discussion.
 - e. We will proceed with appointing Casey as operations manager. Jules will step into the president's role until one is found.

19. Motion to adjourn – Dano. Seconded – Becky. Meeting adjourned, 6:09 pm.

Keep healthy, keep well and let's get back on the field Sept. 10th !