



Lower Island Women's Soccer Association
Victoria, British Columbia www.liwsa.com

LIWSA Annual General Meeting

May 26, 2019 – JDF Seniors Room 101

Board Attendees:

Casey Tepper

Jules Nagy

John Kilbank

Jean Fraser

Tanya Turner

Tena Gilmore

Marta Ausio-Esteve

Cheryl van Ierland

Adriano Sumberac

Meeting called to order at 5:10pm by Casey.

- Introduction of executive
- Motion to have 2018 minutes as read: Dave Thompson. Seconded Colin Loganhume.

President's Report:

- This season I have been going around to games with Kelly Wallace doing photo shoots to pick up morale and promote the women's game. Marta and I are thinking of a contest for Facebook photo albums.
- I have been Liaison between all provincial cup teams and BC soccer. All teams did well and proud of their representation of our league.



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- Cowichan cougars made it to A cup final, Gorge United Div 1 made it to finals of B Cup.
- Little bit of a wrench with female gender reps on the teams, need a female rep on each team that cannot be a player (or player that is not dressed) during provincials.
- Question: do you only need a female rep if players are under 18? Yes, just for provincials.
- Heather (Risk Management) did really well getting criminal record checks done in timely fashion for provincials.

Vice President's Report:

- Welcome to the meeting and thank you for being here. Thank you to executive for all your help and everything they've done this year.
- How many people are here for soccer? Last 5 years have noticed that at this time of year, the numbers on teams are dwindling and commitment waning. Please be here for soccer, and if you have a commitment make a commitment.
- Volunteer in this position because of passion for the game.
- Promotions and Relegations:
 - Eye opener to be chair of this committee this year
 - No relegations this year, another season to build and support teams
 - The rules say, if you come in first or second, promotion. If you don't want to move up, stop winning.
 - Otherwise, if you do not want to go up, put it in writing and send to secretary, give evidence and the committee will look at it and get back to you.
 - Promotions:
 - Div 1: Prospect Lake and Gorge to premier.
 - Div 2: PFC Pace and Castaways to Div. 1
 - Div. 3: Nanaimo United and Gorge – Committee had to discuss and talk about because Div 2 already two Gorge teams, promotion has been offered to third place Sooke.
 - O30b: Holding off on promotion as motion on the floor for restructuring of O30 divisions.
 - Some teams challenging into division 1 and premier. Looking at dates and will be given out in next week or two. Must have 70% of



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returning team playing to be able to challenge. Not sure if the league will get the field or if the two teams will be responsible for finding the field.

- If it is a new team, must be 70% of the roster that will be registered for the upcoming season. (Can challenge if there's a spot)
- A committee will be at the game, and will determine if the team is capable of being in that division. Don't necessarily have to win.
- Question: one team last year dropped out of play-offs, will they be coming back in premier next year? We don't know yet and will check with Registrar.
- We are doing our best to build up the premier division.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer role is wide open if anyone wants to step up into the position.
- Update on finances: found a bookkeeper who has reconciled our finances. Straightened out our books and will be giving us a quarterly report on how we are with our finances. Net income \$24 186, currently in bank \$31 849. See attached. Some cheques are out there that haven't been cashed.
- Comment: Would like to see a proper financial statement – BC Societies Act states you have to present a financial statement.
- All finances will be going out to an accountant and will be audited after the AGM. Will be posted before the start of the new season.

Secretary's Report:

- Voting cards – just wanted to make sure every team got their voting card. There is one per team, and during voting there will be some time to discuss the motions and come to a decision. Please return the voting cards to the table at the end of the meeting. Thank you!

Discipline Report:

- Year in review – discipline
 - Cards: 10 premier, 32 Div 1, 21 Div 2, 11 Div 3, 4 O30a, 8 O30b
 - Fines: \$1163.50
- Documents updated this season – rules and regs (Sept 2018), coaching handbook replacement, concussion protocol, bylaws and constitution, zero tolerance policy



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- Over 35 division – proposal summary: at the beginning of April Jean kindly sent out a questionnaire for all of the O30a and b teams asking for their opinion and preferences with respect for 2 different options around creation of O35 division. Result was 11 teams voted option 2, which meant equally dividing O30 divisions into 3 divisions – 6 O30a, 6 O30b, 6 O35. 6 teams wanted separate cup for O35, 6 teams wanted to be in A, 6 teams wanted B, 6 teams wanted to go in o35. 2 teams that did not reply would be stay in O30b where they were previously.
- O30a: Cowichan, Prospect Lake Lakers, Gorge Masters, Vic West, Castaways, Gorge FC. O30b: LAkehill, Peninsula, SFFC Fire, Prospect Lake, SFFC, JDF. O35: Peninsula, Gorge, Castaways, Vic West, Sooke, Bays
 - Questions/Comments: May not have as many teams as thought, we will just have to see how everything falls after registration. New teams may join.
 - Were teams that chose O35 bottom teams from their division? No, probably put it to their team for preference and age. Concern about whether teams will be able to compete. Some players may decide to join an O30a team rather than go to O35. If it turns out heavily lop-sided, will be built into a rule that will move a team, would look at where they were a competitive fit. Could find a way in round robin where top 3 teams play and bottom 3 play.
- Contest in September for a slogan/phrase we can use on LIWSA website and various venues we attend that captures the idea that LIWSA is an association specifically for women in sport. A lot of associations are an umbrella of men and women. We are uniquely for women, and want something that we can use to capture that. Will be offering \$250 gift card to the winner of the contest. Need at least 6 submissions, get your thinking caps on!
 - Question: Can you put in multiple submissions per team? Yes! Put in lots of submissions!!!
- New sail flags/table covers/replacement parts for existing; new banner paid for by sponsor. We use at provincials, all-star games, cup finals, looks great in photos. That came to just under \$700 worth of new branding purchases.

Communications Report:

- Idea to run another contest, smaller, for photos to see if we can have more likes and sharing of photos. Has been quite successful on Facebook, everyone keeps sharing. Idea is will hide something in a photo album (LIWSA logo) prizes will be smaller but will entice people to look at photos as we showcase different games. Starting Aug/Sept. Will be open for a certain timeline and will be an automatic draw. Very typical kind of FB contest.



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- Scheduling – once get teams in, will create draft schedule. Website will be down for about a week in July as transitions to a new platform. Will be able to print off team rosters off the website. Teams will be accountable for putting players on their rosters. Game change – automatic emails. Referee designations for games. Team reg will be last submissions received the old school way. After that Marta will communicate and have tutorials of how to get to all these new things.
- Will send out a chain of communications, so that we won't email the wrong person. If in doubt email secretary and they will send it to the right person.
- July will be a slow month for communication - Marta out of the country for the month.
- If we take too long with email, you can check in with another email just to make sure we got it and passed it on. Sometimes, we are bound to miss one. Would be nice to receive email back just to say got your note, or set up with a read receipt.

Competitions Report:

- Everything went well in All-Star games, just a couple hiccups that were fixed on site. Cup games were good battles.
- Questions: Can we put a cap on goals in cup games? Maximum goal differential of 6 goals? Takes that part of running the score up away. Board will decide whether to put motion forward.
- Thank you to Cal (BC Soccer) for hosting this year. Did a great job in Nanaimo.

Registrar's Report:

- 55 teams, 133 (A), 645 (B), 361 (O30), total 1139. 3 more teams than last year. 11 more A players. 23 less B players. 73 more O30 players. (Fantastic!) Send out emails to declare teams, deadline June 30. New teams will have \$100 fee. Returning fee \$50.
- ID cards, will be sending a spreadsheet, once players are registered put it in if want electronic card or hard copy, will send spreadsheet back to you. Easier to keep track of. Will make sure good supply of cards, company went bankrupt last year and took forever to get them. Prefer to do digital cards. If you can please put digital cards in same order as team list.
- Comment: May want to store on phone so you don't need internet to pull them up.
- Question: Is an email copy of their digital card acceptable? Yes.
- Comment: Can make an album in your photos!



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- Question: Are the youth expected to be id'd in the season? No requirement for youth to have ID cards.

Risk Management Report:

- Heather away. Heather did a wonderful job this year, very organized with CRCs.

Referee's Report:

- FIFA Rule Changes
 - All of the changes are to speed up game and get rid of time wasting.
 - Player substituted must leave the field at the nearest boundary point (unless some reason not to)
 - Team official guilty of misconduct can be shown a yellow or red card.
 - Team that wins toss may choose to take the kick-off instead of choosing which end.
 - Handballs – if hand is outside of profile of body it's a handball
 - If referee is about to issue a yellow or red, team can take free kick quickly for scoring opportunity
 - Defending teams taking free kicks in penalty area, ball does not have to leave penalty area. Attacking players cannot stand inside penalty area until ball is kicked.
 - Defending players only allowed in a wall. Attacking players must stay outside of the wall.
 - On penalty kicks, goal keepers must have one foot on line.
 - Opposing players must be 2 meters from throwers on throw-ins
 - Law changes come into effect June 1, 2019
- Baseball Caps for Goalkeepers – hard brimmed baseball caps not allowed. Keepers can wear soft brimmed caps (like running caps).
- Jewelry Rule Enforcement – need to be consistent. No tape. No jewelry on field period. Referees will be instructed to send players off with jewelry on field.
- Coverage of braces – metal braces must be covered.
- Question: if submit a referee report, how do you provide that feedback to referee? Referee Director, Discipline Chair and president get feedback forms and look at it and either have conversation to referee or email sent by league asking for a change in behavior. Depends on severity of issue. Every one is read when they come in.
- On the website, will indicate that a ref is scheduled but not name and number.



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Liaisons Report:

- Nothing to report.

Elections

- Positions up for election:
 - President – current incumbent Casey, willing to stand again. Any other nominations for president from the floor? No nominations. Casey is acclaimed.
 - Secretary – current incumbent Cheryl. Willing to stand again. No other nominations, Cheryl acclaimed.
 - Communications – current incumbent Marta. Willing to stand again. Any other nominations from the floor? No. Marta acclaimed.
 - Div 2 Liaison – currently filled by Adriano. Willing to stand again, but if someone else wants to do it they can. It would be ideal for someone who plays and coaches in Div 2. No new nominations, Adriano acclaimed as Div 2 liaison.
 - Treasurer – Any nominations from the floor for Treasurer. Bookkeeper is on staff which means Treasurer job will be much easier. Look after bank accounts, write cheques as needed, report to president. No nominations from the floor. This position remains vacant once again. Appeal to go back to clubs and seek a nomination to fill this position. Has been vacant for far too long. Too hard to run an association without this position. Is the membership ok with us paying someone for this position? Many nods. We will discuss and look at this option.

Motions

- Bylaws revote – A special resolution was held in November 2018 to vote in new bylaws and constitution that were amended to comply with the New Society's Act. Didn't feel we got sufficient response for quorum.
 - Any dialogue before the vote?
 - Question: Why the need for a revote? Was too vague in last vote, did not feel we had enough responses to meet quorum.
 - Comment: Not enough notice given, must have 45 days. Checked bylaws, 7 days notification needed for a notice of amendment, 45 days notice



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needed to propose an amendment before the AGM. (Part 8, section 1 and 2 of bylaws). More than 7 days notice was given.

- Should we table this vote until the next coaches and managers meeting?
Feedback is most members would like to vote.
- Jules: Motion to have a revote on all member's acceptance of the bylaws and constitution in case all members were not able to vote in November.
Seconded Lucia. 35 votes for. 1 opposed. Motion carried.
- O35 league –To amend the structure of the over 30A and B divisions to create a new over 35 division effective start of the 2019/20 season. The two divisions will be split equally into three divisions comprised of 6 teams each. New players will be required to meet the age minimum in the over 35 division, and players already registered as of close of 2018/19 season will be grandfathered.

When all players reach the minimum age of 35 in the over 35 division, the division will become an over 40 division effective start of the new season following the season in which the last player reaches ages 35, and the grandfather rule will apply.

A new cup will be created for the over 35 division, and any teams from over 30B who declare this as their preference.

The LIWSA Rules and Regulations will be modified to reflect this change (3.3 player registration; 6.1, 6.2, 6.5 divisions; 8.2 intra-club permits; 9.5, new 9.19 cup competition rules and regulations.

Seconded Brad from Gorge.

- Discussion – concern that there is only 6 teams which is not much fun.
Grandfathered within league or team? League.
- Is there a way to change scheduling and not screw up provincial cup stuff?
Can be very creative with scheduling, would be helpful to have a few members from the membership to be willing to hash out creative schedule on that part.
- Asking teams who are going to o35 if going because of age or skill?
Mostly age. Over 40 players concerned about injuries, don't want to play 30-year-olds.
- We have had this request before our board for quite a number of years.
Has taken a long time to arrive at a model that would work. Has been a request that we look at this for many years.
- We want soccer for life! But we have to be careful that we do it right, so that it keeps on working.
- Is everyone voting? Yes, it will affect everyone in the long term.
- Not about just here and now, it is about looking forward.
- The purpose of the questionnaire was to try and figure out the best way forward. It is a work in progress and we may be required to tweak as we go along.



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- If we take this step now and move forward it will make a big difference in women's soccer.
- The survey that was done, was it provided to clubs that don't have over 30 teams currently? No just over 30s. Could reach out to clubs that don't have o30s team currently but may want o35 in the future.
- If you don't have enough o35 players don't want to lose a team? They will be grandfathered if under 35.
- How would interclub permitting work? They would be required to be o35. Can permit from o30b and possibly div 3.
- Will we have to have o35 teams registered by June 30? Yes put it on paper. If we put a team in for o30s can we change later to div 3? Challenge would have to be before registration.
- Any other questions email discipline@liwsa.com
- All of those in favour of O35 as set out in this motion. 29 in favour. 5 opposed. Motion carried.

Awards

- Premier: Division Champion – Saanich Fusion FC, Sue Tate Award– Stephanie Parker
- Div 1: Divison Champion – Prospect Lake
- Div 2: Division Champion – Peninsula Pace, Most Sportsmanlike - Saltspring
- Div 3: Division Champion - Nanaimo, Most Sportsmanlike – Bays 2
- O30A: Division Champion –Castaways, Most Sportsmanlike – Prospect Lake
- O30B: Divison Champion - Castaways, Most Sportsmanlike – Saanich Fusion FC
- Sue Beicher Award– Given to someone who wears multiple hats and serves the association with a lot of loyalty and distinction, very deserving! – Marta Ausio-Esteve

New Business

No new business.

Motion to adjourn Dave. Seconded Andrea Palmer.

Meeting adjourned by Casey at 7:14 pm.



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