



# Lower Island Women's Soccer Association

Victoria, BC Canada | [www.liwsa.com](http://www.liwsa.com)

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## LIWSA | Special General Meeting

Lower Island Women's Soccer Association | Victoria BC | Canada | [www.liwsa.com](http://www.liwsa.com)

Sunday, January 9, 2022 @ 5:00pm | Via Zoom

### MEETING PROCEEDINGS

Happy New Year!

#### 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 5:06pm by Jules.
- Meeting is being recorded.

#### 2. MOTION TO HAVE 2021 Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> C&M MINUTES AS READ

- Motioned by Sharon. Seconded by Brad. All in favour, yes.

#### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Welcome to the meeting, happy New Year to all. Another interesting year coming up.
- Any additions or deletions to the agenda? No. Motion by Dano. Seconded Nat. All in favour, yes.
- It's a tough time, still in the unknown with Covid, will we be allowed to continue our season. As it looks as of now, yes.
- Review of rules surrounding travel in our league. Right now looking at 25+ make-up games. Feel bad for places like Nanaimo, Campbell River and Saltspring because they seem to be left out when it comes to travel. If you sign up to play for our league, travel will be part of it. If you wish not to travel, don't sign up. Check the road conditions at the time of travel. Both teams have to come to an agreement to cancel a game. If there is a forfeit, fines will be levied as is in our rules. Please try to get your games done. We as LIWSA will do our best to get these games rescheduled, but communication goes a long way. There has to be some give and take here. Has to be a reasonable reason not to travel, we can't predict the weather days ahead.

#### 4. SECRETARYS REPORT

- Nothing to report.

#### 5. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

- Run down on what we've been experiencing over the last several months, and how to communicate with the board. There is a path of emailing people that needs to be followed. Otherwise it is high risk for missing things. Trying to make it as easy to navigate as possible, and welcome any feedback.
  - Marta screen shared the main website screen
  - Please make an effort to navigate on the website to make sure you are emailing the right person. FAQ, Contact information, How to reschedule

- a game, links are there. Who to contact page with roles of exec. When in doubt, email the secretary who will direct it to the appropriate person.
- How to reschedule a game, link is there, steps to follow are clear.
- Rules and Regulations – encourage everyone to take the time to read them.
- Check out FAQ
- Scroll to the bottom of page under Rules to find CRC link and instructions
- Under announcements – important information. Take the time to look at the site and navigate for information.
- If emailing the wrong person starts up again, there will start to be delays in responses or a reply saying you have emailed the wrong person. Your go-to points if you don't know are your secretary or your liaison.

## 6. REGISTRAR'S REPORT

- Reminder that transfer deadline for players is coming up. Has to be completed before January 15. I have to send it to BC Soccer on January 15, so has to be BEFORE Jan. 15. Can still register new players until the end of the season.
- Reminder we are going back to our old rule next season for number of players per team, max 24.

## 7. DISCIPLINE REPORT

- 48 yellow cards for 2021 season
- 3 forfeits, 2 with fines, one with no fine. The team with no fine had 6 players but played the game.
- 1 red card which ended up in 3 game suspension.
- Time to think about getting missed games rescheduled, otherwise we will have to look at fines and forfeitures. Please get on this!
- Still need committee members on promotion/relegation committee.
- You can show up with 7 players and play the game. We need to be fair to the up island teams.
  - Question from Brent. Speaking on behalf of other teams. If teams mutually agree for any reason not to play, and won't have bearing on relegation or promotion, is there any reason why they should be charged a forfeit?
    - We just want you to try your best to get the games played. We will look at the situations. If it is the same teams doing this over again, that will be considered. The travel issues will be taken into account (weather, etc).
  - Question from Blair. It has been a struggle with getting enough players do to with what is going on, it is not like we're not trying to do our best.
  - Jules -We always do our homework before we make decisions. I'm sorry but this is really happening a lot, that's why we have to mention it.
  - Gareth – with case of the Premier division, there are games that are over 90 days overdue to be rescheduled which is unacceptable. The rule is 21 days to reschedule.
  - Marta – even though the rule states that we have to reschedule is 21 days, we have been empathetic in allowing teams some leeway on this. We get there has been a lot out of our control this season. We just want teams to do their best in travel situations. Wait until the morning of to make a decision on weather and traveling. Do not cancel 3 days before. The rules are in place there, use them in that manner. If the morning of the game, there is too much snow, cancel then.

- Ali – Cowichan – with respect to the prediction of more illness coming up in our communities, do I understand Leah that we should show up with 6 players anyway
  - No, we are not going to force you to play if ¾ of your team is sick. We have to weigh everything that comes up to make a decision.
- Leah – I AR'd for a game in the men's league and a team had players that were out due to Covid, but the game was not allowed to be rescheduled and the players who were well had to come down and play the game.
- Jules – we will be using common sense. Some things are out of our control.
- Becky – Vic West O30a. Quite a few players on our team that have some Covid concerns. We don't know that we will be able to field a team, and health and safety concerns should be the most important things.
- Sharon – that was one of the reasons that we increased the roster sizes this year, and it may not even be enough.
- Jules – you can choose not to play and we can't force you onto the field. If you have healthy players, please do your best to play.
- Sharon – be conscientious, if you have any inkling that you're not feeling well, don't come out to play

#### 8. REFEREES REPORT

- Referee chair absent.

#### 9. RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

- Out of 140 coaches and managers registered, down to 29 that are pending. Out of those 29, there is about 9 in the works. I know some people are frustrated that they are taking so long. I am just doing my best and I do make phone calls to the CRC to check in. In the next week just need proof, if you've done a record check some other place in the last 3 years, you can use that. If I don't get them, you won't be able to continue in your role, we're in January now. Email me at [riskmanagement@liwsa.com](mailto:riskmanagement@liwsa.com).
  - Marta -if you have submitted it, please let Heather know so she can keep an eye out for it. Otherwise no way to know what the current status is.
  - Jules- if you are going on to Cup A or B, you have to have a gender rep on the bench. Rule is you must have a female as either coach or assistant coach on the bench.

#### 10. OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT

- Happy new year everybody! Thank you to Marta for filling in for me this last month while I was out of commission.
- Just got back into it this week.
- Financials: 98, 000 in account. 19, 000 in GIC account. All our bills are up to date. Will save some money on Finlayson turf, as of March it will be shut down for renos. Have been working this past week with our bookkeeper, putting everything into Quickbooks account and is very thorough. Have started paying referees through etransfer. Etransfers have to be approved by a second signer, which is our secretary Cheryl.
- Schedules: Div 3, by next week's weekend all Div 3 games will be at the end of round two. Will have time to get in make-ups on weekend of Jan. 23. After Jan. 23 will be working on schedules for your extended schedule. Bear with me and keep checking the site. Will be up to everybody to work together to schedule games and make sure we can get our three more weeks of games.

- All cups start Feb. 20 weekend – 3 weeks of cup play. Weekend of March 13 will be semis. March 20 weekend will be finals. If there is a weather delay, possible to have it finished by the 27<sup>th</sup>. All games have to be completed by end of March.
- Provincial draw is April 2 in Vancouver. All the teams allotted to us by BC Soccer I've had enough responses to say we can fill them. Will start mid-April and the final weekend would be Mother's Day weekend. BC Soccer will be providing some entertainment for the kids.
- Regular Cup draw – only a few teams haven't declared cups. Cup draws will be done later this week hopefully, as soon as we can get the committee together. Anyone else who wants to partake in the cup draw, please email me at [admin@liwsa.com](mailto:admin@liwsa.com).
- Just did the final Golden Boot update this afternoon.
- Take care and thanks for your patience while I was out of commission.

## 11. MOTIONS

- Motion to table the motions on the floor until further notice. We have had some more info come across our desk today that needs to be discussed before we can go forward.
  - Motion: Jen, Gorge. Seconded Stu Hackett. All in favour, yes, tabled until further notice.
  - We will have to get the committee back together to discuss this information that has been put forward.
- Jules – I chair the promotion and relegation committee. Some more members on the promotion and relegation committee would be nice. If you would like to join, please email Jules. If you have thoughts on promo/relegation and an open mind please join the committee.
- The subcommittee is different, and it is the subcommittee that will be meeting to discuss this new information that was put forward a few hour ago.
- For those that want to step up to the promo/relegation committee, please email Jules at president @liwsa.com.

### - Promotion & Relegation Rule Amendment:

Proposed Amendment #1: The LIWSA operates a promotion/relegation system to ensure that teams continue to play at a level at which they are competitive. The team(s) eligible for promotion will be promoted to the next highest division for the following season. Promotion is mandatory for any team being promoted to a higher division, please see Rule 7.3 for promotion criteria. Relegation is mandatory, unless otherwise determined by LIWSA to ensure structural integrity and equitable divisions. Failure to accept promotion will result in a fine of \$500 and the team(s) may be disqualified from future play or relegated to the lowest division. A team that is relegated to a lower division as a result of declining promotion, cannot consist of more than 6 players from a team that came in 1st or 2nd in that division in the previous season.

The following are exceptions:

- a) If the eligible team(s) are part of a club that due to geographic or population limitations (i.e. Salt Spring) are unable to sustain a team in the higher division, exception to promotion may be made at the discretion of the LIWSA Executive. Any team not wishing to be promoted under these conditions, must notify the LIWSA President in writing, no later than one (1) week after the completion of the League schedule for that Division.
- c) Vacancies in any division may be filled by voluntary promotion of third placed teams or by challenge for promotion, or as otherwise determined by LIWSA.

Proposed Amendment #2: The LIWSA operates a promotion/relegation system to ensure that teams continue to play at a level at which they are competitive. The team(s) eligible for promotion will be promoted to the next highest division for the following season. Promotion is mandatory for any team being promoted to a higher division, please see Rule 7.3 for promotion criteria. Relegation is mandatory, unless otherwise determined by LIWSA to ensure structural integrity and equitable divisions. Failure to accept promotion will result in a fine of \$500 and the team will be disqualified from future play and the team/club will be denied an opportunity to enter any new team or teams within any division of the LIWSA for a period of 1-2 years, with the following exceptions:

a) If the eligible team(s) are part of a club that due to geographic or population limitations (i.e. Salt Spring) are unable to sustain a team in the higher division, exception to promotion may be made at the discretion of the LIWSA Executive. Any team not wishing to be promoted under these conditions, must notify the LIWSA President in writing, no later than one (1) week after the completion of the League schedule for that Division.

b) Vacancies in any division may be filled by voluntary promotion of third placed teams or by challenge for promotion, or as otherwise determined by LIWSA. (TABLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

#### **12. NEW BUSINESS**

- Any new business out there? No.
- We will do our due diligence to keep you happy and healthy out there.

#### **13. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Angus. Seconded, Blair.