



Lower Island Women's Soccer Association

Victoria, BC Canada | www.liwsa.com

LIWSA Special General Meeting (Via Zoom)

Tuesday October 13, 2020

Board Attendees: Casey Tepper – President; Jules Nagy – Vice President; Jean Fraser – O30 Liaison; Marta Ausio-Esteve – Communications Chair; Cheryl van Ireland – Secretary; Stacie Madelung - Registrar

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by President.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Thanks to everyone – promotion and relegation committee had to build cohorts which was a challenge and they worked very hard. Thank you everyone for cooperating up to this point. Let's hope things go well and we can carry on with everything.
- Opening up the floor to questions:
 - Cohorts that have a bye will not have a bye after Christmas
 - Contact tracing document will be needed every game. Scanned and emailed back every game to president. City needs us to keep track of it.
 - Anna – are you going to be updating the cohort contact info so if change of venue comes up we can contact other teams? Casey can liaise on that with you. Send to him and he can send changes to the other team. Working with web person this weekend, hopefully can figure out how to get cohorts all on the site and contact info included. Do we send the scores into division liaison? Report the scores to your last liaison who you had last season.
 - The referee will submit the score in his report. Automatically updates.
 - Rosa: Is there any rule around players who work in different communities in BC? As long as they don't practice or play with any teams but their own it's ok.
 - Tyler: Assuming cohort restrictions only for players. Can a coach play and coach in different teams? Yes, but must practice safe distancing and wear a mask.
 - Brad: Missed document that we are mentioning that has to be done at each game?
Contact tracing document that will be up on the website. Have gone through this already with LISA and youth, they said all you need is roster that you hand to referee. And then if breakout, the club has easy access within minutes. Seems quite redundant what you are asking for. Simple roster to referee should suffice. Casey will ask BC Soccer and make sure we are doing everything correctly. With youth it

was an issue of privacy, handing out addresses and phone numbers to opposition. The form is not for the opposition. Marta will post a visual example. Brad will forward info on to Marta.

Action Item: Casey – will confirm details of contacting tracing with BC Soccer (process and privacy issues)

Action Item: Marta – once the above mentioned (Casey Action Item) confirmed by BC Soccer – information on contact tracing for LIWSA sanctioned games will be posted on website.

- Leah: Do game sheets need to be provided to referee? We are not getting these in youth games because they were exhibition. Game sheets should be submitted for our cohort games. Game sheets are different from contact tracing. Game sheets are exchanged between teams, contact tracing sheets are not. We will confirm with BC Soccer on what is expected with contact tracing **(see above action items)**
- Jules: Contact tracing document goes into a file for LIWSA, and if needed we can access it.
- Kevin: Contact tracing will be handled by Island Health. We just need to be able to provide who was on the field, and then Island Health will handle it. It is a privacy issue. Hopefully that is what you will hear from BC Soccer. Casey will mention that to BC Soccer tomorrow. **(see above action items)**
- How does Island Health find out? Island health is the first to know since they will have done the testing.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Thank you everyone for showing up this evening.
- Promotions and Relegations committee report. Met as committee to get cohorts going. Research done to do cohorts, rules and regs, etc. Once we tried to take what we had on paper, then we had to put it into the computer. This was even more difficult. Sorry for the delay, but this is something that I am not, or a lot of us, are not used to doing. As you can see all the emails went out this past weekend, so everyone knows where they belong. Remember, you are in your cohort now. You cannot play for another team. You would need to wait 14 days to get back in your cohort. As for after Christmas, teams that have opted out now have a chance to opt back in. We do not know what will be happening by then with the virus. Take my hat off to all of you for volunteering. Any questions about the cohorts and the way we set things up? No.
- Metro women's soccer league has been running parallel to us on more things this season. We are running one week ahead of them.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:

- Still trying to get used to the new email feature. But if any questions or concerns or ideas that you have about how docs are set up, please email. Don't hesitate to suggest, it's all new to us. If you want something posted in a certain matter. Added a how to and where to and trying to keep everything as simple as possible.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Currently preparing the invoices for the season. First invoice will take us to the break of the season. Based the invoices on games played. Registration is down 40%, have lost a lot of revenue, so difficult to give people breaks on fees right now.
- When I send out invoices there will be a breakdown of what invoices are for.
- Marta: Motion at last coaches and managers about increasing team fees. Are we going to bring it forward to this meeting? Casey: personally, I think because there are byes and whatnot teams are being charged different amounts for this season. We feel the raising of the fees would not be fair. We have enough to carry us through this season and we would rather keep it as normal and simple as we can this year. Table the decision to the next season.
- Marika: Why are the fees so different between the divisions when the cohorts are mixed? All the games with premier and div 1 have assistant referees, and if you have a div 2 team in your cohort you'll still have an assistant ref for that game.
- Kelsey: Did you see anything from BC Soccer credit-wise come back? Yes, they cut back \$3 per player, and will be reflected on invoice.
- Scrimmages over the holidays, make sure you stay in your cohort. Two weeks before and after games that will have to sit out if play a team outside your cohort.
- Are officials part of the cohort? No, they can move back and forth.
- If we do not have a second cohort in January, what will the refund policy be? The invoice for right now is strictly for the 6 games played in the fall and player registration/BC Soccer fees.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT:

- Thank you to all the teams for coming together on this one. It was a big scramble but we worked well as a group. If any questions email me. If you are a team official, you do need to go in and add an image for your electronic ID card.
- Need to upload twice if you are a player and manager. You can show over the phone or print out and laminate. Cannot use cards from last year.
- Any questions?
 - Anna: How do we show the team official the cards? 7 days before game, go online and click on roster and cards will be there. You can pull that up at the game.

- Will the cards be digital moving forward? Yes.

COMPETITIONS REPORT:

- Would like to see one more cohort after Christmas and then go into cup. We would not have much time so might have to have everyone to go into bracket play. Do you still want to push for provincials or take a step back?
- Would not going to provincials allow us to have a longer cup competition? Like the way our cups are set out the way they are.
- For cup play, would have to go back to playing in own divisions, especially for provincials. We are granted three seeds in A, three in B, three in master B, two in masters A.
 - Feel a lot of people would be nervous about playing in provincials, playing all of BC. Would be nice to play more cohort games instead. Metro women's soccer league is thinking along the same lines.
 - Does this have to be a motion or are we just getting feedback? Good idea, we can send a question out in an email for feedback.
Action Item: Executive Board will send out an email communication to survey teams on how they want to proceed in participating with Cup Play and Provincials.

NEW BUSINESS

- None

MOTIONS

- Motion by Campbell River: This year in the same situation as last year. Working very hard to establish a club in Campbell River. Relied a lot on youth permitting. Were at a point where we almost could not field a team by the end of the season. Have lost a couple of our rec teams for youth because of COVID.
- Motion is specific to Campbell River premier team to receive permission to permit unlimited youth players this year. These girls currently have nowhere to play. They do not have club soccer because of COVID. These are skilled players and do deserve to play at a higher level. They are looking to getting scholarships and are needing to play at a high level this year. They do not have the option in the north island to be able to hop on a ferry or play any other teams or clubs. That is what we are requesting this year, and it is for this year only.
- Motion: Motion by Campbell River Outlaws (premier division) motion to the LIWSA and its members to allow special dispensation to be granted to youth players not currently playing within their youth leagues to play in the LIWSA for the 2020-2021season. Seconded by Harj. Floor is open up for discussion:
 - How many players and what ages are we looking at? I do believe we are looking at 7 players ages 15-17.

- Tyler: What do we would need to do for more minors being on these teams in terms of criminal record checks, team officials. Would there be any impact to that kind of liability coverage? Casey: as it is all team officials need CRC's anyway. Do the adult members of the teams need CRCs? What are any of the changes that would be needed if there are more minors in the league. In the rules and regulations, minor players are not talked about, so what are the rules for the minors? There should not be any changes. We need this motion because we have a youth rule already in place. This is to allow special dispensation in this COVID year. Any players that are permitted have got to enter the cohort same time the team enters. Can not practice or play with another team during that time.
- Brad: Think this is a much larger problem, about retention. This is a micro-solution to a macro problem. Think it needs a much larger discussion and longer, because there are a whole bunch of issues surrounding this. Where a solution may fit Campbell River, but not Lower island, but may create a worse environment down here. I do sympathize and lean towards supporting you this time, with a goal of looking at this in a larger solution and bigger discussion in future.
- Marika: Appreciate that and we also would love to be part of a bigger solution. Our main goal is to make sure these girls can continue to play soccer. That is really what we are trying to do here. This is a small solution to a bigger problem. Our motion is just for our team to be allowed, and not for the league to grant this for every premier team. Just trying to give these girls the opportunities they deserve.
- Robert: This is a one season decision until the bigger discussion in future. Would not want to see this come back next season from another team.
- Collin: For it, lets do whatever we can to get teams playing this season.
- Jules: All we are asking is, can we add those kids now period. For this year, for this cohort? Next year we will revisit this issue in a bigger way if youth rule needs to be revisited and revised. Lets help these kids out this year.
- Would it work for them to play in Nanaimo youth league? Those leagues are full and do not want to have to travel so much outside of community. Could be the turning point for a lot of these girls to stay and play.
- Casey: The youth leagues came to us for our help 10 years ago, we helped and built the youth rule and the youth leagues began to flourish. Now it is the other way around and the adult league could use help.
- Marta: Right now we are looking at this year. If we have to make an amendment, we can make it for upper island youth. In theory, lower island has places for youth players. It is upper island that has no place this year. Two things: it is strictly for this modified cohort season, and for youth players up island who have nowhere else to play.
- Harj: yet another issue, because of this covid team, got 15 players that are registered and want to play but because of this situation 7 have backed out. Now 8 players. I

think because of this COVID situation, we have to not only support this, but I think it should be open to lower island as well.

- That motion is not on the floor right now, we have to think specifically to this motion on the floor right now.
- Every adult team is allowed 2 under age players, now we are asking for more for upper island just for this year. Keeping people playing soccer should be our number one goal.
- In the interest of moving this along, can we vote specifically on this motion right now and then table the other issue for lower island to later? Yes. Call the question. Jules. Seconded. Harj.
- Polling feature not working but we can still do the vote. Marta will remove non-voting members for a few minutes.
- Motion passed.
- Next motion by Bay's Breakers: Sharon Scott would become director of o35 division in the LIWSA, and that LIWSA puts up a directorship for her to take that position.
 - Jean o30 liaison: Sharon would be great and have no problem with that at all.
 - We have two other LIWSA roles still be filled.
 - We have got to table this to AGM to create a new director role. At this particular time we can appoint her as a director to oversee the division.
 - Jules: Motion for the members to table this to the AGM and executive will have to meet. Seconded, Veronica. Motion passed.
- Want to adopt rule that kick-ins in place of throw-in are to stay on the ground. Simply a restart to the game. 10 yard distance.
- Any other new business? No.

Motion to have meeting adjourned: Robert K. Seconded: Tyler.

Meeting adjourned by President at 8:31pm.