



CENTRAL OKANAGAN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

District Board Meeting: Thursday, May 11, 2023, 7:00pm

CNC, Kelowna, BC

MINUTES

APPROVED (as is/~~as amended~~): **September 13, 2023 Motion #1126**

CALL TO ORDER: Roll Call

Stuart Wright, COYSA Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

Present: Al Ryder (Referees), Andy Hyatt (Discipline), Sheryl Turner (Administrator)

Voting Members Present:

Dan Bourbonniere Jon Basaraba Mary Kampman (via zoom)

Andrew Purnell (for Megan) Steve Steed

Total Votes = 5

Regrets: Bruce Clark (Discipline), Curtis Morcom (Bookkeeper), Megan Purnell

Absent: Lindsay Rainbird, Eli Gilbert

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA

APPROVAL of MINUTES of the March 09, 2023 regular Board meeting.

May 11, 2023 Motion #1124 It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the March 09, 2023 regular Board meeting as presented. Carried by unanimous consent.

CHAIR REPORT – BCSA SGM coming up May 31 to amend their bylaws again in order to carry on with their 5 year governance plan. Another BCSA meeting in Kamloops June 10. Some complaints about the outside management company TOYSL is using - no other contenders. Fielded questions on field/goal/ball sizes. Next year at U13 will be interesting. Not every District has access to correct field sizes. Great start overall to the season. Kids having fun, parents being supportive.

BUSINESS: CARRIED FORWARD / NEW BUSINESS

Kelowna Cup – Not based just in Kelowna any more, do we want a name change? COYSA Cup? Next year. U14-18. Take back to Club for suggestions.

Lopsided Games – Rule or guidelines in place? Maybe weaker team add a player. Suggest more touches, single touch, moving players around. A child can move up but a whole team BCSA doesn't like. COYSA league is grassroots. We should be able to play up more than where they are. No fun, no developing. Have to be careful kids don't get hurt. Let's talk this fall and make a decision. Document went out. Will look at playing up potentially. Concern on players not coming to games.

KCFC update – Now part of COYSA with teams for next season.

Saw a communication about TOFC merging with KU. Very much like OMYSA, TOFC will disband their board. Isn't this Clubs from different Districts? Will only be one Club: KU and will be within COYSA. BCSA wants a team based out of Okanagan and one in rest of province.

U7-10 game fields – Have run out of field space for more teams so will have to add more time slots as needed.

Promoting Club Camps/Tournaments etc - When Clubs have tournaments, coaching courses, camps, should COYSA promote or be neutral? Some felt they weren't promoted enough and now it's more competitive. Maybe a bulletin board for information. Some will have an issue with Clubs that are for-profit and budgets are different. Essentially we want to promote but also to provide good governance. Can't force receiving or giving of information. Hope people will be the greater benefit. Maybe a summary page or a Google calendar on our website. Dan will take that on.

REFEREE REPORT – Too many teams, not enough officials. TOYSL is a problem with tripled number of COYSA teams. 55 District refs. May 598 games, June 664, including adults. Only one third of refs from 2019. Cannot fill all. How do we promote? Get more in 4 hours at McDonald's than 2 hours at Men's game where they get yelled at. Younger games is less money so why would do it? Huge cost to start: course, kit, whistle, bag, cards. \$500. No other job has that. Too expensive especially as they don't know if they are going to like it. Harshness of soccer fans is turning away refs. Pre-Covid had 30 mentors. No high school kids because other jobs pay better, treat them better and don't cost to start.

Solution? RYSA is reimbursing half course fee and after 10 games reimburse other half. Trying to have a field marshal. One gap is pay. Support is also key. Need coaches to be leaders and not yell. Need to free up people to mentor. Difficult to see games without a ref. If we take experienced refs out of middles, they can't train ARs. All comes circling back. Maybe spread games out, play during the week. Change our way of thinking. Think outside the box.

Dan arrived at 7:47pm

Need more reasons to be and stay a ref. Camaraderie of refs is good. Whole system is in crisis right now. Identifiable Club Field Marshals where lots of games are in their area would help control those making life miserable for refs. Gives refs feeling of safety and comfort. We need to protect them; be observant – if someone's yelling at refs, Field Marshal would step in. If a big guy is yelling at a 12 year old, refs aren't going to do as instructed and write it down. People behave better if someone is watching. Maybe where there's only a ref, a parent can call out of bounds on the lines. Makes a huge difference for a lone official.

May 11, 2023 Motion #1125 It was moved and seconded for U11-18 with a missing AR, each team has to provide a volunteer to call the ball out of bounds. If only one AR missing, first team listed provides the volunteer. Kick-off will not happen until this is in place. Carried by unanimous consent.

Clubs need to look at doing something about Field Marshals next season.

Can COYSA hire a Ref Mentor? Still pulls them away from middles. Maybe someone older, retired or injured and officially schedule them to a site.

Would like a sponsor to buy the first ref jersey and offer next at half price or something. Sponsor patch on the arm.

Found a package at a phenomenal deal: Black and yellow shirts, shorts, socks, whistle, cards, watch, flags. \$110.

Need 15 for a private clinic and has to go through BCSA. Holding a meeting for all league heads June 6. Suggesting Men's run un-official AR courses; they aren't affiliated. Sanctioned have to go through BCSA and takes 6 weeks: 4 weeks advance notice and a week between each session. Now, in season, instructors are doing games and potential refs are playing. That's why we do before season start. Maybe part of academies, school, leadership programs in winter. Lots to think about. AR piece now in place should help. Clubs should be able to put in budget for starter kits. For years COYSA has trained refs and adults benefit.

DISCIPLINE REPORT – written report. Had a wonderful visit with Bruce and he is doing well.

CLUB REPORTS

PFC – had to cancel last Saturday due to field conditions.

RYSA – promoting Mini World Cup for U7-10. Bouncy houses, face painting, medals. Canada Day Tournament on July long weekend.

OMYSA – most are happy to have their kids playing. All positive.

WYSA – registration is good. 180 coaches. Lots of happy faces.

OFC – questions regarding TOYSL and 2011-12 schedule. Why are teams playing some over and over but haven't seen others? Go through Club to TOYSL. Some players doing supplementary training with OFC are in other COYSA Clubs – need to complete their commitment to first Club. All COYSA members need to follow - not switch mid season.

KU – no rep, no report.

KYSA – no rep, no report.

Recent news talked of no ball heading the States. Any talk of that here? Not that anyone's heard.

ADJOURNMENT 8:34pm

NEXT MEETING: Thursday June 08, 2023