



MANITOBA MAJOR SOCCER LEAGUE

MMSL Competitions Committee Report 2024

MMSL team representatives, associates, and key stakeholders,

The 2024 Competitions committee consisted of Chris Deane, Josh Krcadinac and myself, Matt Gowdar as Chair.

Please find below a summary of the work done by the Competitions Committee over the course of this fiscal year:

Indoor 2023-2024: Last winter, the MMSL hosted the most teams for an indoor competition in league history. We were pleased to capture the vast majority of games using the VEO cameras, publishing the footage to our YouTube channel. We appreciated the work teams put in adjust to the new online system and printed player cards during this time.

MMSL Draft Day 2024: In partnership with community soccer program SWB, the MMSL once again hosted our annual Draft Day event. We were able to provide value to both players and coaches, with the majority of registered players picked up by MMSL teams across all divisions. We are working to schedule a fourth Draft Day, although scheduling conflicts may force us to host this years' event outdoors in April.

Outdoor 2024: In order to provide better services to our members, the decision was made to cancel the Bison Cup for 2024. In doing so, we reallocated staff resources to ensure more prompt processing of discipline cases, faster rescheduling of rained-out games, and other day-to-day tasks. We hope that, as we continue to build capacity, we can re-introduce the Bison Cup in the coming years.

The competitions committee has been monitoring the success of the 2023 Divisional Realignment project. We are happy to see how the change has enticed more new teams to join the league; however, we recognize that teams in Division 3 have a desire for a more expansive playoff format, and we are working to implement this for the 2025 outdoor season.

Looking Forward: In 2025, the Competitions Committee will be looking to address two key issues: the rise of violent incidents occurring during matches, and the use of illegal players by exploiting the new player card system. We have already dealt out severe punishments to teams for these offences in the past year, and will continue to do so. Further, our committee also aims to explore options for keeping our highest divisions as competitive as possible. Lastly, we continue to consider new competition formats, including full-field indoor and futsal.

Warm Regards,
Matt Gowdar
On Behalf of the MMSL Competitions Committee

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