

MANITOBA SOCCER ASSOCIATION RECORD OF MEETING

DRAFT NOT APPROVED BY THE MEMBERS

2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: November 2, 2024

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

The MSA President introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Everyone was asked to pause for a moment of silence for those who participated in our game or were contributors to our sport across Manitoba and Canada who have left us in 2024.

The guests in attendance, Don Story CSA Soccer Director representing Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut; Janet McMahon from Sport Manitoba; Auditor Adam Sus and Alex Sebeski from Boone & Partners; and Dr. Pram Tappia, MSA Nominations Chair, were welcomed.

Referees Julio Ruiz, Cody Baldauf, Nicolas Howey and Life Members Lynda McLeish and Pat Roe were welcomed.

The Board Members were introduced and thanked for their hard work. It was indicated that the Members had been very well served by the Board and its Committees and as such the President acknowledged their contribution to the Association.

The President thanked the members of the standing committees.

Glenn Nunka was thanked for his years of service to the Association.

The President recognized the referees present who have attained higher levels of accreditation and presented Nicolas Howey and Julio Ruiz with the regional badge, and Cody Baldauf with the provincial badge.

At this time, the MSA President welcomed Don Story to bring greetings on behalf of Canada Soccer.

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Don Story provided updates on Canada Soccer's activities, including the appointment of Kevin Blue as CEO and General Secretary, challenges with Canadian Soccer Business agreements, collective bargaining with players, and governance changes. He also highlighted successes in both men's and women's national teams and the preparations for the upcoming World Cup 2026.

At this time, the MSA President welcomed Janet McMahon to bring greetings on behalf of Sport Manitoba.

Janet McMahon emphasized the need to revitalize and modernize the sport system in Canada. She highlighted challenges in governance, safe sport, and technical advancement, and encouraged community-level involvement in shaping the future of sports. She thanked MSA Members for their work.

The MSA President thanked Janet McMahon for her positive message.

The President called the meeting to order and announced that there was a quorum in accordance with Article 3.9 of the Association's By-Laws as there were 44 delegates in attendance.

The business procedures for the meeting were reviewed.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Members were informed that there were no new business items submitted for the AGM.

Proposed Motion: 1

Moved by: Dale Friesen - WYSA
Seconded by: David Holder - WYSA

To approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

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II. PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Proposed Motion: 2

Moved by: Derek Simpson - WYSA
Seconded by: Cara Isaak - WWSL

To approve the minutes from the November 4, 2023, Annual General Meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

III. BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

IV. MSA PRIORITIES REPORT

It was indicated that all Members had received the reports 30 days before the AGM.

It was mentioned that the report reflects the continued impact on the sport and the activities of the association in the last 12 months.

No questions of the report were brought up.

Proposed Motion: 3

Moved by: Eleanor Farrant - WWSL
Seconded by: Brant Long - WYSA

To approve the report as presented.

CARRIED

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V. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE and VI. AUDITOR REPORT

Leo Zimmerman presented the financial report, noting a revenue of \$14,442 that reversed a projected deficit. The organization's dependence on grant revenues was discussed, with clarifications on funding sources from Sport Manitoba.

The discussion focused on WYSA's handling of registration fees, which include funds for refereeing. If no referee is available and no volunteer steps in, WYSA returns the funds to the teams. MSA only receives funds when a referee, either official or volunteer, officiates a game.

Bonivital SC raised a concern about the financial breakdown, noting that most expenses seem to go toward referee pay, with minimal funds allocated to recruitment, retention, and development. It was explained that development efforts, such as clinics and refresher courses, are not always categorized under "recruitment and retention" but are still addressing the referee shortage.

It was suggested that future financial documents better reflect these development expenses under the appropriate category to provide clearer transparency for members.

The lack of a specific Sport Manitoba grant line for coaching was mentioned, with a suggestion for MSA and Sport Manitoba to focus more on supporting coaching development. The budget currently reflects a shift toward online education, which is less costly than in-person clinics, though this does not always represent the full scope of coach training.

It was confirmed that MSA is prioritizing coaching development in its current budget process, with discussions at the staff and board levels. The goal is to allocate more resources to coach training, including support for costly programs like C and Youth licenses. Future mandates from Canada Soccer, including those set for 2026, are expected to require further investment in coaching, including new initiatives like implementing grassroots standards.

Proposed Motion: 4

Moved by: David Holder - WYSA
Seconded by: Dale Friesen - WYSA

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To approve the report as presented.

CARRIED

VII. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

The Treasurer recommended the appointment of the Auditors for next year.

Proposed Motion: 5

Moved by: Eleanor Farrant - WWSL
Seconded by: Mandy Furney - WYSA

To approve the appointment of Booke & Partners as the Auditors for the Manitoba Soccer Association for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

CARRIED

VIII. AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

The discussion focused on proposed amendments to the By-Laws, which were relatively minor this year.

The first change involves a correction in the introduction, where the word "governance" was missing. The sentence will be updated to reflect the correct wording, ensuring it accurately describes the association's governance.

The second change is in Article 3.1, 0.2, where the phrase "total number as registered players" will be corrected to "total number of registered players" for grammatical clarity.

The third and more substantive change is in Article 5.5, where the position of "secretary" is listed as having signing authority, but this position no longer exists. Therefore, it will be removed, leaving the five positions with signing authority as president, vice president being the new addition, treasurer, executive director, and finance manager.

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These proposed amendments are straightforward and involve inserting a word, replacing a preposition, deleting a non-existent position, and adding a signing authority.

Proposed Motion: 6

Moved by: Dale Friesen - WYSA
Seconded by: Emily Lieberman - WWSL

To approve the proposed By-Laws amendments as circulated.

CARRIED

IX. ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The President passed the chairing of this portion of the AGM to the Nominations Committee Chair Dr. Pram Tappia.

Dr. Tappia led the election process for the three board positions.

The Nominations Committee received three nominations. Ramona Rohringer was nominated to the MSA President position, while John Baker and Annika Friesen were nominated as Directors. All the information was provided to the Members in the meeting package.

The terms of the positions are three-years each.

All the nominees spoke to the delegates. Since R. Rohringer was not present, she provided her message via a recording played for the Members.

The By-Laws still require that an election be held even if there are only three candidates and candidates require a simple majority to be elected.

The Auditors were asked to be the scrutineers for the election.

The voting was carried out via a secured online voting platform observed by the auditor.

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The membership elected the following candidates to the MSA Board of Directors:

Ramona Rohringer (President) - 3 year term

John Baker (Director) - 3 year term

Annika Friesen (Director) - 3 year term

Proposed Motion: 7

Moved by: Derek Simpson - WYSA

Seconded by: Eleanor Farrant - WWSL

To approve destroying the election ballots.

CARRIED

Thanks were expressed to all nominees that allowed their name to stand for election.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The MSA staff were thanked for their hard work over the year.

Prior to concluding the President extended his sincere appreciation to the membership for their contributions to the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 11:35 a.m.