

Welcome everyone. I want to take this time to thank those of you who have taken the time from your busy schedules to be here. Most of you know me but for those who may not my name is Dannielle Donnelly. I am the Chair on the Board of Directors, U11/13 Girls FC coach, and volunteer person of a great many things within MJSA. Regretfully our Admin Assitant, Kelsey Fleischhaker, is in Regina coaching our U13 Boys FC team in a gold medal game in the FCR Cup. KF is not only our paid Admin Asst, but he has been our Volunteer Technical Director for the past 18 or so months, our Volunteer U11 Boys FC Coach, Volunteer U13 Boys FC Coach, and Volunteer U13 Boys FC Coach among many other volunteer positions that extend past the 18 months.

To be completely honest, I wanted to be up here today telling everyone about the great things that our current Membership of 260 players, along with the additional 150+ parents to our youth players are doing. Unfortunately, this is not the case. My journey with MJSA began nearly 7 years ago when my son began playing soccer. While I could see that there was a struggle to have coaches return for more than one season, it still appeared to me that there was more than enough volunteer coaches to keep up with the number of players we had. My son's first season was completed while John Shurniak was the Office Manager. Things ran smoothly, there were volunteers walking around speaking to the members and giving information. My second season started quite rocky when I was handed a bag of balls and a large number of kids and almost no coaching experience. I made the best of it because as a parent we just want to see our little people happy in the sport they are playing.

By late 2020 I was approached by the then Executive and Technical Director, our only paid staff of the association, to join the Board as the secretary. Covid had forced a decrease in numbers due to all of the restrictions but MJSA made the best of it. However, when our ED/TD was let go from their employment with MJSA I was thrown into the role of essentially running every aspect of the Association without more than the support of about 10 people. By this time I was also stepping in to the Treasurer role, a position that no one would willingly take. I approached the 2021 AGM with optimism about the future of MJSA because our numbers grew with the restrictions lessening and we were able to run our Adult Co-ed League once again. Since then it has not been easy. More bills that were not known about were brought to the Board's attention. Many of the Board Members chose to leave the Board. Myself and a few others recruited more Board Members, who unfortunately either resigned or have become names on a piece of paper. Our 2022 AGM again was disappointing with respect to our AGM attendance, but again I was optimistic because we were able to fill 9 of our 10 Board positions. Which leads us to today.

In this past year we have hosted a successful Club Day with Valley Soccer Association. We have taken part in several tournaments, mainly U11 and U13 ages, and this season our U13 Boys have come away with a Gold medal and will have another medal after this weekend. Our U15-19 Boys age has seen a huge increase, allowing us to have a U15 Boys and a U17/19 Boys team. Our girls side is not growing as fast as we would like but this is due to several factors. Also new this year has been our House League and our Just 4 Kicks program. These

two programs have taken the place of our Grassroots. The rationale behind this is to align with what parents and players were asking for; the option for those who wanted to play games and have their own team and the option for those who we're wanting less structure and game play. Our U11/13 House League and our U7/9 House League each saw 4 teams, a turnout we have been happy with so far. Feedback from the players is that they have all enjoyed it and most parents seemed to enjoy it as well. Our U5 Just 4 Kicks began strong but unfortunately dwindled come the end of the 1st session. We had a small number of U7/9's which worked out ok for one coach. Interest for our U11/U13 Just 4 Kicks was minimal. Our Adult League easily hit 8 teams this year, a great change given the 3 teams that started in 2021.

I love seeing MJSA grow. However, I am seeing a complete lack of support from the majority of our Membership. We have only a couple of our Board Members helping and a handful of member volunteers that are likely not going to come back because they too are forced to put more work in than they were expecting. We need help on the field, off the field, at the field, in general. We can't continue having members say that they will help and then they stop right after without so much as a word.

Between myself and the Admin Asst though, we are running nearly every single aspect of the Association, not only on the field but behind the scenes. This is not acceptable. We are two people and are not able to get much further than telling people that we need coaches, or picture takers, or cleaning done, etc because if we had this time we would be doing it. We need members that are willing to help learn and grow with us, and members to teach us how to do things better or more efficient. Our Association needs the support from our members and our players. We need members to be on committees as well as to help on the field. We need our players to keep coming back and enjoying themselves. We are in dire need of Sponsorship and Donations because if something doesn't change fast, we will be forced to drastically reduce programming and/or close our doors. The time to work together is now.



MOOSE JAW SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC.

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December 17, 2023

Good evening members of MJSA:

Sorry I'm unable to be present at tonight's meeting. I wish I could be there, however I am currently coaching our U13 FC boys in a gold medal tournament game however, I hope that there are members here tonight to both listen and participate in our AGM.

I have been volunteering for a while now in all areas of our organization. I have been working hard to maintain structure and allow for some happy faces on our youth, but this has become too huge of a role for me alone. Thankfully, I have had a selected few people step up and offer some help in certain areas without which I would be waving a white flag. I really want to see our parents and players stepping up to help in order to keep our organization running. I wish we could learn to build on our organization and come together to keep MJSA alive. We are in need of committees and leaders in all areas immediately or things won't be improving anytime soon.

One area we truly need help with is sponsorship. I have reached out to many companies and have struggled to gain anything in this area. I have tried to think of ways to improve our sponsorship letter and still have not received any callbacks or replies. Sponsorship is strongly required in order to keep our new house leagues on track, as well as many other areas of the organization that require help. If anyone has some names of individuals, businesses or organizations, or ways to help out please, please, please speak up and reach out.

I would love to just get our house league set up with having more people to help set-up the fields or inputting our standings into RAMP. This was a new program this year, and I felt it brought a lot of smiles and fun for our youth, but we will not succeed if we don't find more ways for receiving help. Some of the things we require are: refs, score cards, coaches, helpers on the field and inputting the standings. These should be easy things one would think but I struggle to find help with these items each week.

I would like to say that our Adult league has been growing and is going well, but again this is an area with great growth but lacking in help from our members. We have reached out to many and I truly feel that in this program we are making steps in a good direction. We could have more teams as each time is fully rostered, and I'm turning people away because we are not receiving registrations on time or there are no fields booked or referees to ref the match. I would love to gain more players on each team come next season or for us to find ways to have others to help in this program. Again score cards, refs, committees (ref/discipline/tournament), website keeper, rules updated and imputed are just some of the items requiring volunteer assistance. Again, we also need help gaining sponsorships for this league for things such as: jerseys, balls, and nets, as well as funding to run tournaments. We need help to improve game rules and the implementation

of them. Physical play has gotten way too out of control and I need help to implement rules properly.

With our FC programs, I would love to see better formatting implemented and more commitment from both parents and players. We have noticed that players are not committed to regularly attending practice or committing to games and tournaments as emphasized in our registration. We try to have coaches commit their time and energy to this program, but it has become difficult in a sense to maintain structured practices without players being present. It would be nice to see more fundraising or seeking more grants to aid in promoting and maintaining this higher level of programming. I hate to see these programs struggle due to lack of parents and volunteers committing to help. I am currently being stretched way too thin (in my eyes) between too many programs and it is causing problems down to even being on time to each group game/practice. It starts to become frustrating when you can't structure something good because the lack of time or help. Our numbers are reducing in our older age groups, but we are gaining a lot of interest in our earlier ages (such as U9). I would love for us to be able to gain a U9 FC program, but we need to see more faces present.

We have gained a strong working relationship this year with many outside clubs and I'm super excited to grow and gain this soccer feeling back to MJSA. I feel I have come to Moose Jaw and made many changes for the better of our organization and community as a whole. I love to see us gaining and keeping players once again. We are seeing less and less overall complaints and see smiles when our players are on the turf, but please listen when we say help in many ways. If we don't gain more volunteer help, it doesn't matter how many areas I work to better things, it will be for nothing ... I don't want to lose these gains and have us all lose out just because we couldn't come together.

I'm at a point where I'm in disbelief in the lack of volunteers from our membership. I myself put in 80+ hours a week to help in all areas of our organization and love doing it but, I'm scared I won't be able to keep doing it if I don't see changes. I try to drive our organization forward, hoping to see our members step up and help out but, in the past 3 years of me trying to help, I'm seeing a very small number of members asking to help out. In addition, I feel bad for them because I have become so busy I can't properly direct and guide them to a spot to help. Maybe, someone can help by thinking of a new way to explain all of what can be done to assist our program and improve our tasks for the volunteer bond.

I love MJSA and the members and will always work hard and do what I can to help it grow. I feel that these small things we need can be accomplished but we don't have time to waste. Let's work together and allow me to keep my smile and the smiles of your children so please, please help. I really don't want to watch this association crumble after all of the work others like myself have put into it. Let's put our heads together to improve our organization and gain many more years of soccer programming for our community and get us going in the direction I know we are capable of.

Thank you and sorry again that I'm not able to be here in person.

Yours truly,
Kelsey Fleischhaker



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2023 Annual General Meeting

Kinsmen Sportsplex
December 17, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

1. **Call to Order @ 7:09 pm**
2. **Greetings/Welcome – Dannielle Donnelly (Chairperson)**
3. **Roll Call/Establishing Quorum**

Dacey Seaborg – City of Moose Jaw	Jerry Jialin Song
Mike Johnson	Meagan Ong
Eri Svenson	Orville Francis
Michelle Dodd	Scott Osmachenko – City of Moose Jaw
Joann Blazieko	Michelle Lewis
Dannielle Donnelly	
4. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Michelle L.- seconded by Joann – carried
5. **Approval of Minutes from Last AGM**

Motion made by Michelle L. – seconded by Mike – carried
6. **Messages from Special Guests**

Scott O. from City of Moose Jaw– nothing much new from last year, nothing major regarding building upgrades, the turf will need to be replaced in roughly 2 years, Yara Centre (name) will remain for another 10 years.
7. **Messages from Board and Staff**

Reading from Administrative Assistant Kelsey Fleishhaker (attached)
Chairman report (attached)
8. **Financials**
 - We have been without a treasure since March of last year – Dannielle has been doing dual roles.
 - Our financial situation is not good.
 - Financial Statement is waiting on self-directed investment at BMO – have spent many hours trying to gain access (Joann is to reach out to John Shurniak to have him transfer funds).

- Have roughly \$35,000 outstanding fees between adult and youth (approximately \$5-10,000 will be funded yet by Kidsport)
- Desperately need fundraising and Sponsorship to aid in our financial situation
- Behind in paying the City of Moose Jaw \$36,528 – we won't be able to have an outdoor season if this isn't rectified ASAP

9. Election of Directors

Chairman – Dannielle Donnelly – 1 year remaining on term

Vice Chairman – Mike Johnson – 2 year term – unopposed

Secretary – Michelle Lewis – 2 year term – unopposed

Treasure – no one elected

Member at Large – Orville Francis – 1 year term – unopposed

Member at Large – Joann Blazieko – 1 year term – unopposed

Member at Large – Eri Svenson – 2 year term – unopposed

Member at Large – Meagan Ong – 2 year term – unopposed

Member at Large – William Hanniford – 1 year term – unopposed

10. Questions/Comments/New Business

- Task Sheet for Volunteers to know what is required for the organization (attached)
- Need for committees to aid in organization
- Need to sell/remove shed at West Heath Field – list for \$200 OBO and will be required to move on their own

11. Adjournment @ 8:17 pm