



PRINCE ALBERT YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

1084 Central Ave

PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATCHEWAN S6V 7P3

PHONE (306) 922-2545 – FAX 922-5757

ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT PRESENTED BY NNAMDI NDUBUKA AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN PRINCE ALBERT ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2022

On behalf of the PAYSA Board of Directors and staff, I would like to welcome you all to the Annual General Meeting of our great Association.

PAYSA continues to be responsible for the administration of youth soccer for the City of Prince Albert and surrounding rural areas. Permit me to highlight some of our accomplishments during the past soccer season.

1. Pandemic Response

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges to PAYSA operations. There were mandatory masking and vaccination from last October until the Spring season. We have responded accordingly and continue to follow public health guidelines under the direction of the Saskatchewan Health Authority and Saskatchewan Soccer Association. The safety of our members remains a top priority. We appreciate our members for supporting PAYSA during this challenging period.

2. Equipment

The two full-size irrigated grass fields behind AJF were utilized this past spring season for the very first time and the feedback from members was very positive. The only concern was inadequate parking space around the facility and a single exit that led to traffic congestion. Members were advised to notify the city via usual channels.

3. Club Membership

Obviously, due to the continued pandemic restrictions, our numbers reflect the hesitation of some parents to enroll their kids. We had 594 players in the indoor season and 915 during the spring season. Our First Nation groups continued to support us as best they could.

4. Soccer programs

i. Celtic

Under the leadership of our Technical Director, Dragutin Ivkovic, PAYSA Celtic program continues to gain momentum. Overall, there were 26 gold or silver medals for Celtic teams, 4 medals from the Provincial tournament, and U17Boys featured in the PSL finals. That is an excellent achievement and hope we will continue the same way in this upcoming season.



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We had a few Club days with teams from Warman, Melfort, Saskatoon, and North Battleford. We appreciate the effort of our athletes, parents, and volunteers in making these events a huge success.

ii. House League

Efforts are ongoing to enhance member experience in the PAYSA recreational soccer program – House League. After three years, this is the first regular season without any public health restrictions. The season started on time with 756 registered players. Considering the size of our community, that is an impressive number.

As part of PAYSA's effort to support the plight of displaced Ukrainians, the Board approved the participation of new refugee Ukrainian children in the 2022-23 House League indoor program free of charge. This positive gesture received media attention with much appreciation from the Ukrainian community.

iii. First Nation Soccer Development

PAYSA continues to partner with First Nation bands in delivering high-quality training sessions as part of our commitment to improving grass root soccer in surrounding communities. We appreciate the ongoing collaborative efforts of our First Nation partners. Players from seven First Nations communities have registered to participate in the House League 2022-23 indoor season.

5. Coaches Development

PAYSA recognizes the importance of continuing professional development for coaches. The Technical Director has continued to create opportunities for coaching development and mentorship in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Soccer Association (SSA). In the seasons ahead, our effort will be geared toward supporting coaches to obtain their soccer licensure.

We are proud to have one of our coaches, Ryan Kenedy named as part of the male coaching staff who led Team Sask to the Canada Summer Games, Niagara 2022. Congratulations Ryan for your accomplishment.

6. Club Administration

During the period under review, the PAYSA Board of Directors met with representatives from SSA led by the President, Lisa Bagonluri to discuss issues of mutual interest. As a member of SSA, PAYSA remains committed to advancing the strategic goals and



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priorities of SSA. PAYSA Board and staff will make concerted efforts to strengthen the existing relationship.

Our Office Manager, Mitzi Pytlak continues to administer the day-to-day operations of our club. Her administrative experience continues to be an asset to PAYSA, and we appreciate her hard work. As the Age Group Coordinator, Trina Bell continues to organize all house league teams and coaches, with guidance from Dragan and Mitzi. She continues to demonstrate competence in her role.

7. Appreciation

i. Sponsorships and partners

We would like to acknowledge our sponsors and partners: Leon's for continuing to sponsor our coaches' apparel; Tim Hortons for contributing to all U5/U7 and U9 apparel. Over the past year, our strategic partnership with Adidas continues to evolve. Source for sports also continues to provide PAYSA with high-quality products at competitive prices.

ii. Referee Development

We would like to express our profound gratitude to Rory McIntosh, who continues to be responsible for PAYSA's Referee Development and Coordination. Thank you for all your hard work these past years.

iii. Out-going PAYSA Board members

It is with a deep sense of humility and gratitude that I would like to acknowledge our outgoing Board members – Marina Mitchell and James Isbister for their dedication and selfless service to PAYSA. They have made significant contributions in taking our organization to lofty heights.

I would like to acknowledge all PAYSA Board members for their contribution over this past year. Thank you for your countless volunteer hours in leading PAYSA in the right direction.

Nnamdi Ndubuka

President, PAYSA