



RYSA Board Communication & Confidentiality Protocol

To support open and effective Board discussions essential to sound decision-making, it is important that all members of the Rutland Youth Soccer Association (RYSA) Board of Directors operate with a shared understanding of what information is confidential and what may be communicated outside of the Board.

This protocol outlines the collective agreement of the Board and is to be followed by all members as a matter of mutual understanding and governance integrity.

1. Commitment to Team-Based Governance

The Board of Directors functions as a unified team. To promote constructive and open dialogue, all members must trust that comments shared during discussions will remain confidential and will not be disclosed outside of Board settings without explicit consent.

2. Communication of Board Decisions

Board decisions are formally documented in the meeting minutes, typically adopted at the following Board meeting. Unless restricted by Section 5 of this protocol, decisions made by the Board may be shared publicly after the meeting in which they were made.

3. Collective Responsibility Post-Decision

Once a decision has been made by the Board, all Directors are expected to support and implement it, regardless of their individual positions during the discussion.

4. Respect for Individual Perspectives

Board members may share their personal stance on motions outside of the Boardroom, including whether they supported or opposed a decision. However, members must not disclose:

- The vote count or margin
- How any other individual Board member voted or commented

This ensures an environment of mutual respect and preserves the integrity of Board deliberations.



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5. Strictly Confidential Topics

The following matters are not to be disclosed under any circumstances:

- Discussions held in camera
- Items marked as "Confidential," "Not for Release," or "Legally Privileged"
- Personnel matters involving staff, Board members, or RYSA members (e.g., compensation, disciplinary action, or personal information). Refer to RYSA or BC Soccer's Privacy Policy
- Legal or potentially legal matters
- Contract negotiations or commercial arrangements
- Issues involving individual RYSA members

6. Media Communications

The Communications Director (or designated representative) is the official media contact for RYSA. All media inquiries must be referred to them.

The Board Chair may authorize other Directors to speak to the media on clearly non-sensitive topics such as tournament results, volunteer recognition, or community events. Press quotes attributed to Board members will only be used if the member has provided or approved the statement.

7. Member Support & Information Accuracy

Board members are expected to maintain open communication with the membership and provide timely, accurate information regarding policies, rules, and procedures. To ensure consistency, inquiries should be directed to the appropriate committee chair, staff member, or Director for confirmation of the official RYSA position.

8. Conflict of Interest

Any Director with a real or perceived conflict of interest must declare the conflict and remove themselves from related discussion, voting, or commentary. For further guidance, refer to RYSA or BC Soccer's Conflict of Interest Policy.

9. Exceptions & Amendments

Any Director who wishes to act outside the scope of this protocol must obtain prior approval from the



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Communications Director (see Section 6). Any Director may propose amendments or revocation of this protocol at any scheduled Board meeting.