



SASKATOON ADULT SOCCER INC.

150 Nelson Road

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President's Report – 2023 Annual General Meeting

As we move further and further away from our COVID seasons, soccer feels like it's back to normal. It almost feels like a distant memory of needing to be vaccinated to play, having our leagues set up in small clusters, and shortening our outdoor game to half fields. It feels so good to just play soccer like we all love.

While playing soccer does feel like it's back to normal, our leagues are still feeling some effect of those times. We haven't got back to our pre-COVID team numbers yet, but we do continue to move in that direction. Our tournament numbers are lower than our pre-COVID entries, yet at the same time that has allowed for a more condensed tournament without games running so late into the night. The players participating in JFK and January Chills are still loving every minute of it and our SAS tournaments continue to be something our members look forward to!

This past year we had to make a larger than normal increase in the team entry cost for our leagues. This is not a decision our board made lightly. We want to operate our leagues in a way that is affordable, cost effective, and yet also ensure our leagues and entire association can be sustainable over the long term. As the costs of everything increases, and with our current team entries being lower than pre-COVID, this increase was vitally important to the health and vitality of Saskatoon Adult Soccer.

As I look to the future, I am excited at what I see. We have a large core of players that love soccer and continue to make our leagues amazing. We continue to provide the best and most fun place to play adult soccer. Our leagues are competitive with referees that keep us safe as we play, yet recreational enough for our members to love coming out to play for the enjoyment of the game. Saskatoon Adult Soccer is the number one adult soccer league in Saskatoon and area and our board will continue to work hard to ensure this always remains true.

Speaking of our board, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the Saskatoon Adult Soccer board members. Our board continues to work hard at making our leagues as amazing as possible. Our meetings often run over 3 hours as discuss our leagues, technical improvements, financial decisions, upcoming tournaments, concerns from players, and so much more. These board members continue to give up countless hours of their time to meet both in committees and as a full group to provide the best, safest, and most fun environment for everyone to play soccer in. While all our board members are extremely important, I'd like to say a big thank you to our Executive Team consisting of Dena our Financial Director, and Eileen our Vice President. It's all behind the scenes, but the amount of time and energy these two put into our leagues is absolutely incredible and they deserve to be recognized.

Thank you once again to our Saskatoon Adult Soccer staff. Our staff team continues to work diligently at running our leagues and keeping our players safe. As the front lines of our association, there is so much work they do to keep our leagues operating. From answering questions from our members, scheduling referees for games, entering game sheets, ensuring there is fairness and no ineligible players are playing, it is honestly a huge job to keep everything going...and they do it every day with a smile on their face with every phone call they make and email they send. Thank you.



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Ultimately, it's the members that make our association so amazing. Our leagues would be non-existent without the continued support of each and every member that plays. Everything we do is for our members and we thank you for being a part of Saskatoon Adult Soccer season after season.

Thank you also to the SDSRAI for providing the referees to make our games possible. Thank you for your commitment to our leagues, to providing quality refs at all levels of play, and for managing the games and players to ensure a safe and fun playing environment for all of us.

As President, I find it a true honour that our members allow me to be in this role working for them. I continue to be proud of SAS as we strive to always offer the best competitive and recreational soccer leagues in Saskatoon, providing you the opportunity to play in the best soccer facilities in the province, with the best soccer players and members around. There are some exciting things coming up on the new year that I know everyone will love and appreciate. I can honestly say that as long as I am President I will work extremely hard to keep pushing forward to make our leagues better and better for our members each year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheldon Mathies'.

Sheldon Mathies
President
Saskatoon Adult Soccer Inc.