

## SASKATOON ADULT SOCCER INC.

150 Nelson Road Saskatoon, SK. S7S 1P5 Ph: 306-975-3427

www.saskatoonadultsoccer.com

## President's Report - 2024 Annual General Meeting

When I think of our Saskatoon Adult Soccer Association, I am humbled by just how blessed we all are here as adult soccer players in Saskatoon.

We are blessed with our facilities. To think that 25ish years ago our league used to play on concrete floors in a building that sometimes smelled from sharing the space with livestock shows. Now our members get to play in some incredible soccer facilities dedicated to our sport...both in our turf and boarded leagues.

We are blessed with officials. While we all have our moments when we adamantly disagree with a referee's call, the truth is our leagues wouldn't be the same without them. These dedicated individuals that work hard to enforce the rules of the game, keep the players safe, and allow us to have fun while playing competitively.

We are blessed with our SAS staff. Our league is big. While we all see the end result of the games being played on the pitch, there is an enormous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes. Our three full time staff members, Crystal, Ifman, and our Executive Director Danielle work tirelessly to ensure our leagues function smoothly. Without them, our association and leagues simply could not run in the same manner as they do.

And mostly, we are blessed with our members. The Saskatoon Adult Soccer Association is the number one and best place to play soccer in the city. Our leagues provide our members a place to play that is fun, is as competitive as they want to play with multiple leagues and divisions, and is the safest place to play as our members know there is discipline handed out to those not abiding by the rules. I thank the members for their trust in our organization to provide them an excellent place to play the game they love.

As I look to the future, I am excited at what I see. COVID can barely be seen in the rear view mirror anymore, and honestly I'm not looking in the rear view mirror anyway! There is way too much potential and optimism looking ahead as to where our association is headed and can grow.

However, I won't be the one to lead our association moving forward. After 12 years on the SAS board, with the most recent 6 years as President, I have decided not to run for another term. While I'd love to remain on the board and continue to move our association forward, I feel it is time to allow someone else to lead us forward into the next phase. I have loved my time on the board and as President, and I am not leaving the board for anything negative. Actually, I'm leaving because I feel things are going well and it's a perfect time to transition the lead to someone else. Our association has battled through COVID, our leagues continue to recover and grow, and I see so much potential in the next number of years. Allowing someone else to take the helm at this point is ideal, and I will be cheering them on and providing my full support in any way possible as I love this association.

With that, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the Saskatoon Adult Soccer board members. These individuals give so much of their time and energy to making our leagues the best place to play soccer. I have loved working with them all, and hearing the passion behind the thoughts and varied opinions of everyone in our discussions. It's these discussions that make us strong as we come to a consensus on what is best for our association and our members.



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While all our board members are extremely important, I work the closest with our Executive Team. I honestly can't thank Dena our Finance Director and Eileen our Vice President enough for all they've done to help our league, and for their support in my role as 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.

Finally, a huge thank you to our Executive Director Danielle. I will definitely miss chatting with you about soccer situations, upcoming meetings, sharing my long term dreams for our association, and simply seeing how much you care about soccer, our association, and our members. Your passion and understanding of the game is immense, and I am thankful to have worked with you for so many great years.

As President, I have found it a true honour and privilege to work for and represent our members. I love seeing the success of our teams on the national stage. Seeing the fun the teams have playing co-ed and hanging out afterward. Seeing the different divisions play their hearts out on the field where any team could win on any given night. I look forward to continuing being part of this association as a player as I have been for the past 26 years, and to put my energy into areas where I can help us continue to grow.

Sincerely,

**Sheldon Mathies** 

President

Saskatoon Adult Soccer Inc.