



Executive Director’s Report 2024

Saskatoon Youth Soccer Inc.

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Personnel and Volunteers

Office Staff

I, Amanda Probe, Executive Director, have now been with the organization for 18 ½ years and I oversee all staff and operations for the organization, advertising and promotion of soccer, grant and sponsorship requisition, policy development, fiscal management, and strategic planning. In addition to the above, I am also the organization's Administrative Lead for CSA Club Licensing requirements.

Erin Fehr, Operations Coordinator, has been with the organization for 21 years and continues to bring efficiencies and tremendous value to our operations in the areas of roster management and reporting, day-to-day financials (accounts payable, receivable, and deposits), standings, and tournament schedules.

Jordan Paul, Program Administrator, has been with us for nearly seven years and provides a tremendous amount of support to the organization in the areas of social media and communications, RAMP and website administration, social media and awards, provincials and PSL roster approvals, program and National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) clinic field bookings and registration, academy and PSL administration, equipment and clothing coordination for all programs, payroll assistance, meeting minutes, and discipline and complaints.

After six years with SYSI, Dan Kelly, Technical Lead, moved on to Lakewood Soccer Association as their Director of Soccer Operations in September 2024. SYSI wishes to thank Dan for his many contributions and accomplishments, one being the formation of the Alliance Academy and league restructure in conjunction with our member Zones in 2021. Dan also developed and implemented various requirements for CSA's National Youth Club License application which is still in progress.

SYSI was very excited to acquire Ian Knight as our new Technical Lead in October 2024. Ian comes to us with a National B License and close to 30 years of experience in professional & grassroots coaching & administration, having led numerous programs and initiatives in England and across Canada. He's held various positions, including Technical Director and Director of Operations at respected soccer organizations, and has built a reputation for developing sustainable soccer programs that inspire both players and coaches. His commitment to youth development has been demonstrated through his hands-on approach in fostering talent at all levels. One of his more recent notable achievements was acquiring CSA's National Youth Club License with Abbotsford Soccer, BC., skills and knowledge which will help SYSI in our application process. In addition to his professional journey, Ian is an advocate for creating safe and welcoming environments for children in sports. He has completed extensive training on child protection and is a firm believer in the power of sport to positively shape young lives. Ian had the following to say about his new position with SYSI, "I'm thrilled to be joining the SYSI family and to have the opportunity to work alongside the dedicated team here. In working with the respective Zone TD's and Alliance partners, I'm excited about what we can achieve together, particularly in terms of elevating both the technical and community aspects of the game in Saskatoon."

The Technical Lead is responsible for program development and oversight of the Alliance Academy, Alliance and City Leagues, under-15 and under-17 PSL teams, the Community School Dream League, Kids in the Park, Parent and Tot, and All-Abilities Soccer; strategic coach development; player pathway and development; leading operational committees; zone and community association technical matters; and National Youth Club Licensing tasks.

Tianna Raduloff, League Administrator, joined us in September 2023 as a new position to help bring

further capacity to our staffing resources. Tianna provides a tremendous amount of support to the organization in the areas of main reception and communications, coach certification compliance, referee assigning of U11-U13 league games, reschedule and game cancellations, volunteer honorariums, player requests (transfers/late maturation) and travel permits, player ID cards, pre-season info packages/coach packages/tournament packages, daily game sheet preparation and checks.

Randi MacDonald joined us in September 2024 as a League Administrator in a part-time capacity to support Tianna's position two days a week while Tianna pursues university studies. Randi comes to us with over 15 years of experience in sport administration and management from minor basketball and has been eager to apply her wealth of knowledge and skills with SYSI.

Having five full-time dedicated staff has increased our capacity to better serve our members and provide quality programming such as the indoor and outdoor leagues, Alliance Academy, Dream League after-school program, summer Kids In the Park program, Parent-Tot program, and most recently the start of a new program All-Abilities Soccer, which we are very excited about. We have also been able to move the assigning of referees of U11 and U13 league games in-house and provide greater focus on ensuring our programs are meeting Safe Sport Roster requirements.

All staff show great dedication and enthusiasm in their roles, and we are fortunate to have such a strong staff team going into 2025.

Governance Board

Since 2008, SYSI has had a governance board structure with 7-12 elected directors. The board is composed of three standing committees including Audit/Finance, Board Development, and Strategic Planning.

SYSI Board of Directors 2023-24:

Mark Millard, President

Current Term Nov 2022 – Nov 2024 – *nominated for re-election*
Director 10 years and President 7 years - since November 29, 2014
Retired Territory Sales Manager, Standard Motor Products, Saskatoon SK

Rachelle Lockwood, Vice-President

Current Term Nov 2022 – Nov 2024 – *nominated for re-election*
Director 2 years - since November 22, 2022
Project Coordinator, Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative, Saskatoon SK

Natal Laycock, Audit & Finance Chair

Current Term Nov 2023 – Nov 2025
Director 1 year - since November 28, 2023
Director of Administration for the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, Saskatoon, SK

Cameron James Klein, Director

Current Term Nov 2023 – Nov 2025
Director 7 years - since November 21, 2017
Lawyer, WMCZ Lawyers, Saskatoon SK

David Taylor, Director

Current Term Nov 2023 – Nov 2024 – *resigning at conclusion of 2024 AGM*

Director 14 years - Oct 2021 – Oct 2024 and Apr 2008 – Nov 2019

Retired and Nordic Walking Instructor, Saskatoon SK

Heather Johnson, Director

Current Term Nov 2022 – Nov 2024 – *nominated for re-election*

Director 2 years - since November 22, 2022

Educational Assistant, Saskatoon SK

Michel Bernier, Director

Current Term Nov 2022 – Nov 2024 – *nominated for re-election*

Director 2 years - since November 22, 2022

Partner, Professional Computer Services, Saskatoon SK

Scott Werner, Director

Current Term Nov 2023 – Nov 2025

Director 1 year - since November 28, 2023

Project Manager, Rely-Ex Contracting, Saskatoon, SK

Terike (Teri) Miller, Director

Current Term Nov 2023 – Nov 2025

Director 2 years - since January 2023

Communications Manager, Traxx Footwear, Saskatoon SK

If you or someone you know would be interested in becoming an SYSI Director, feel free to submit a [Nomination](#) Form at anytime. We are always looking to recruit and fill current vacancies and there are three vacancies at present.

Membership Listing

While SYSI manages and oversees the operation of the leagues, coach clinics, Alliance Academy, Saskatoon Alliance PSL teams, and several diverse and inclusive programs; the membership manages and oversees player registration, team formation, and club operations and SYSI's success is largely due to the amazing volunteers who dedicate their time in ensuring their club is meeting their players' needs.

SYSI has five zone association members who receive SSA membership benefits as Entities through SYSI and are as follows:

- Zone 1: Saskatoon United Soccer Club
- Zone 2: Hollandia Soccer Club
- Zone 3: Aurora Soccer Club
- Zone 4: Lakewood Soccer Association
- Zone 5: Eastside Youth Soccer Association

SYSI has had the following community associations enter teams into our Community Under-5 to Under-9 League this past year:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Adelaide Park/Churchill | 5. Evergreen / Aspen Ridge |
| 2. Clavet (outdoor only) | 6. Fairhaven |
| 3. College Park / East College Park | 7. Hampton Village / Dundonald (HVD) |
| 4. Eastview | 8. Lakeridge |

- 9. Lakeview
- 10. Lawson Heights
- 11. Montgomery (outdoor only)
- 12. Nutana (outdoor only)
- 13. Rosewood
- 14. Silverwood Heights
- 15. South Corman Park (outdoor only)
- 16. South Nutana Park
- 17. Stonebridge
- 18. Sutherland Forest Grove (outdoor only)
- 19. Varsity View
- 20. Wildwood
- 21. Willowgrove

Advisory Committee

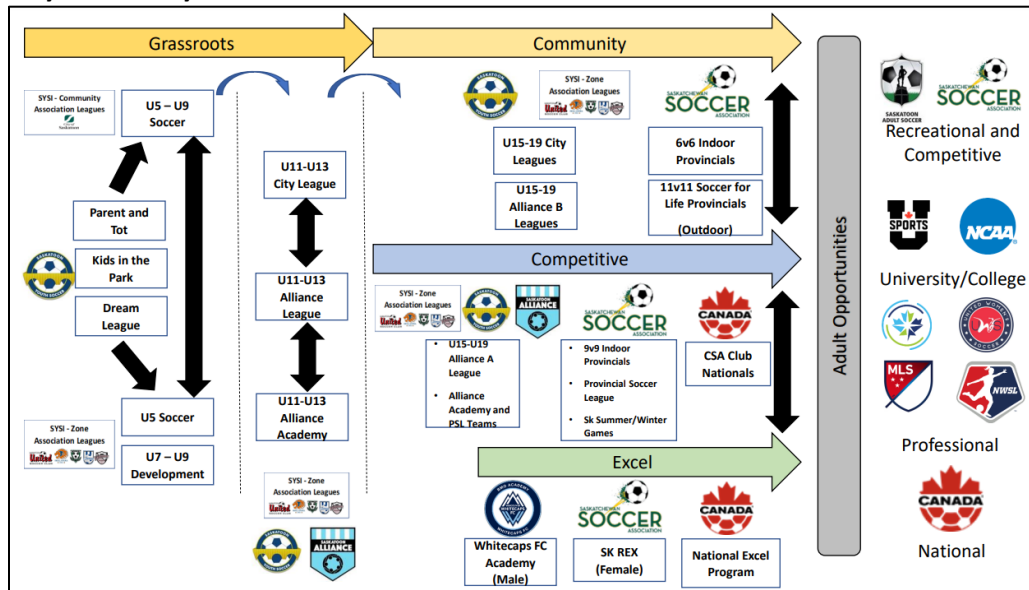
The SYSI Advisory Committee was established in February 2022, with zone representation whose purpose is to provide recommendations and feedback on SYSI program and technical matters. All previous operational committees such as the Program Coordination Committee, Alliance Technical Committee, and PSL Structure Committee were dissolved at the same time and replaced with the Advisory Committee. This change was necessary in establishing SYSI’s governance and authority over its programs and decisions.

The former SYSI Alliance Technical Committee was instrumental between November 2020 and February 2022 in creating a framework for the Alliance Academy to be under the SYSI umbrella where players from all zones come together to receive high quality supplemental training sessions complimentary to the league and zone practice schedules. The committee was comprised of all five zone technical directors, zone presidents, the SYSI president, and SYSI staff.

The Advisory Committee is consulted throughout the season and year on technical topics, division alignment, rules of the game, and academy/PSL related matters. Zone Presidents (or their designate) have one vote per zone on providing recommendations to SYSI.

League

Player Pathway



Structure

SYSI and its zones introduced a league restructure in indoor 2021-22 and outdoor 2022. The league structure created further opportunities to address the needs of all players by providing two league types for under-11 to under-19: the City Recreational (Rec) League and the Alliance League. The City Rec League provides one weekly game (Fridays or Sundays) with optional practices resulting in a league which requires less time commitment for multi-sport athletes, those who take part in other academies and find regular league difficult to fit into their schedule, those who simply wish to play, or those who are looking for a more affordable option. The City Rec League is also more ‘relaxed’ in that it does not have player evaluations yet still provides fun competition with referees as well as standings for under-13+. The Alliance League requires player evaluations to group players onto skill-based teams into three divisions such as A, B1, and B2 in each age. The Alliance League places a greater emphasis on player development by offering two weekly training sessions and one weekly game all within the soccer centres. City Rec League teams account for roughly one third and Alliance League teams account for two thirds of overall U11 – U19 team registrations. Click [here](#) for a more in-depth explanation of the league structure.

U5-U9 Player Driven Choice:		U11-U19 Player Driven Choice:	
<p>Community League U5 – U9</p> <p>0-1 weekly practices 1 weekly game</p> <p>U5-U7 – Sundays U9 – Saturdays</p> <p>Lower Commitment Recreational League Lower Financial Demand</p> <p>Predominate game location: Saskatoon Kinsmen Henk Ruys Soccer Centre</p>	<p>Zone Dev-League U7 – U9</p> <p>2 weekly practices 1 weekly game</p> <p>Sundays</p> <p>High Commitment Intensive Training Higher Financial Demand</p> <p>Predominate game location: U7 – Kinsmen Henk Ruys U9 – Saskatoon Sports Centre</p>	<p>Zone City Rec League U11 – U19</p> <p>0-1 weekly practices 1 weekly game</p> <p>U11 (7v7) – Fridays U13-U19 (7v7) – Sundays</p> <p>Lower Commitment Recreational League Lower Financial Demand Relaxed Transfer Rules Optional Practice</p> <p>Predominate game location: Saskatoon Kinsmen Henk Ruys Soccer Centre</p>	<p>Zone Alliance League U11 – U19</p> <p>2-3 weekly practices 1 weekly game</p> <p>U11 & U13B (7v7) U13A & U15-U19 (9v9)</p> <p>High Commitment Intensive Training Higher Financial Demand Player Evaluations Three Levels: A, B1, B2 Alliance Academy Option</p> <p>Predominate game location: Saskatoon Sports Centre</p>

Zone Boundaries

Saskatoon Youth Soccer Inc. (SYSI) started as an informal collection of clubs that joined together to become a registered non-profit corporation in 1984 and member of Saskatchewan Soccer Association, with the purpose of organizing leagues, tournaments, and the overall promotion of soccer for all community associations and clubs within Saskatoon. Leagues and practices were played at Prairieland Park, warehouses, and various school gyms. As the clubs grew, it became apparent that greater parity was needed within the leagues to provide more meaningful competition and further grow the game. In addition to this, soccer needed a place to play as the sport was growing at a rapid pace and was becoming more and more challenging to fit the leagues and accommodate growth within the current play spaces.

To address these needs, in 1996 the organization became more structured with the formation of five permanent clubs/associations, each with responsibility for a geographical area or zone established under the By-laws of SYSI. These member clubs are Saskatoon United Soccer Club, Hollandia International Soccer Club, Aurora Soccer Club, Lakewood Soccer Association, and Eastside Youth Soccer Association. With the formation of the five zones, clubs became dedicated to an assigned geographical area of Saskatoon ensuring no player was left behind and all had a place to play with their zone of

residence, which ultimately led to growth in registrations and better parity in the leagues. The new organizational structure also gave the Saskatoon youth soccer community the stability it needed to participate in the construction of the first dedicated soccer facility in Saskatchewan, the Saskatoon Kinsmen Henk Ruys Soccer Centre in 1998 and played a key role in the creation of the Saskatoon Sports Centre in 2006.

Since inception, SYSI has been a leader in Saskatoon in connecting communities and zone clubs to the largest organized youth soccer league in the province and is one of two sole members of the two soccer facilities in Saskatoon receiving priority bookings for our leagues and programs further heightening a consistent and exceptional playing experience for our members.

SYSI continues to set the benchmark for league program delivery in Saskatoon and we continue to see growth in participation despite an ever-changing economy. This is due in large part to our extraordinary community of players, families, and volunteers who ensure that SYSI and its member community and zone associations have a bright future.

In 2012, the SYSI Board and its members adopted an annual review process which is conducted by a committee comprised of SYSI Board and Zone Board Directors who then recommend any necessary zone adjustments for SYSI Board final consideration and approval. Adjustments are made typically every three years if a variance of 5% in registrations exists between two or more zones. Ensuring soccer registrations amongst all five zones are balanced leads to greater parity in the league and meaningful competition for all participants. The annual review provides the ability for the SYSI Board to anticipate and respond to shifts in population, registrations, and other factors which drive registration in particular neighborhoods.

A zone boundary map can be accessed on the [SYSI website](#).

Registrations

For a recap on the pandemic and how it affected the leagues from 2020 to 2022, feel free to read the [Executive Director's Report 2022](#) pages 6 – 7.

The past three outdoor seasons experienced drastic growth with a 600 player increase in outdoor 2022, 985 player increase in outdoor 2023 exceeding pre-covid 2019 participation numbers, and another slight increase of 132 players in outdoor 2024 with an estimated player total of 5,134.

The past two indoor seasons experienced astounding growth as well with a whopping 800 players in indoor 2022-23, another 575 players in indoor 2023-24, and a slight decrease of 18 players in indoor 2024-25 with an estimated player total of 3,854, numbers which not only far exceed pre-covid 2019 numbers but are numbers we have not seen since the Saskatoon Sports Centre opened its doors 17 years ago! The slight decrease accounts for the difference in decreasing by 33 mini teams but increasing by 23 youth teams, which have larger roster sizes. The steady registrations has both soccer centres buzzing with activity and excitement especially Saskatoon Kinsmen Henk Ruys Soccer Centre on Sundays where you will see all four fields utilized with 14 soccer teams coming and going every hour from noon to late afternoon. One field is split into twos for the under-9 who are playing 5v5 and another field is split into thirds for the under-5 and under-7 who are playing 3v3, while the remaining two fields have under-13 to under-17 City Rec league games. The smaller sided games for under-5 to under-9 create a more appropriate playing size for these age groups and the soccer centre installed curtains to ease the task of splitting the fields opposed setting up and tearing down physical barriers. The curtains have contributed to fewer interruptions in play from adjacent flying soccer balls. Another big shout out to all

the zone and community coaches for setting up and cleaning up flags used for goals at the start and end of each Sunday!

This marks the 19th indoor season of having practice time allocated for every youth team in the two soccer centres. We were happy to once again to welcome Valley United Soccer Club (VUSC) and their teams into our leagues for both indoor and outdoor seasons.

The zone development leagues have matured as an attractive program for under-9 programming going into its 14th year and under-7 programming going into its eighth year.

This marks the second year of offering the under-17 to under-19 Alliance Academy League which offers approximately eight 11v11 indoor league games and one final for the 1st vs 2nd team. Last year the league games took place on weekday mornings at 6:30 AM in the Saskatoon Sports Centre with two weekly training sessions occurring weekdays between 4:00 – 7:00 PM. Last year, the league comprised of Saskatoon Alliance teams, (two female and two male), Astra Academy teams (one female and two male teams), and SSA’s Excel teams (one female and one male). Going into indoor 2024-25, we’re excited to have secured full pitch bookings at the newly built Martensville Sports Complex on Sundays beginning in January 2025, getting us away from those brutal weekday early mornings! Again, we welcomed four teams into the male and four teams into the female leagues comprised of Astra Academy, SSA’s Excel, and Saskatoon Alliance teams.

INDOOR	Mini Teams	Mini Player Est	Youth Teams	Youth Player Est	Total Teams	Total Player Est	Team Variance	Player Est Variance	Seasonal Notes
2011-12 Indoor	128	1280	136	1904	264	3184	n/a	n/a	
2012-13 Indoor	153	1530	139	1946	292	3476	28	292	Olympic Bronze
2013-14 Indoor	150	1500	136	1904	286	3404	-6	-72	
2014-15 Indoor	167	1670	132	1848	299	3518	13	114	
2015-16 Indoor	153	1530	118	1652	271	3182	-28	-336	
2016-17 Indoor	156	1560	122	1708	278	3268	7	86	
2017-18 Indoor	102	1020	135	1890	237	2910	-41	-358	Change to Odd Age Groups
2018-19 Indoor	122	1220	137	1918	259	3138	22	228	
2019-20 Indoor	130	1300	138	1932	268	3232	9	94	
2020-21 Indoor	71	710	118	1652	189	2362	-79	-870	COVID-19 Impact
2021-22 Indoor	93	930	113	1582	206	2512	17	150	Olympic Gold & COVID-19 Impact
2022-23 Indoor	149	1490	129	1806	278	3296	72	784	
2023-24 Indoor	159	1590	163	2282	322	3872	44	576	
2024-25 Indoor	125	1250	186	2604	311	3854	-11	-18	Increase 23 zone U11-U19 teams Decrease 15 zone U7-U9 teams Decrease 18 community U5-U9 teams

OUTDOOR	Mini Teams	Mini Player Est	Youth Teams	Youth Player Est	Total Teams	Total Player Est	Team Variance	Player Est Variance	Seasonal Notes
2012 Outdoor	370	3700	132	1848	502	5548	n/a	n/a	
2013 Outdoor	392	3920	122	1708	514	5628	12	80	Olympic Bronze
2014 Outdoor	366	3660	119	1666	485	5326	-29	-302	
2015 Outdoor	367	3670	107	1498	474	5168	-11	-158	
2016 Outdoor	370	3700	106	1484	476	5184	2	16	
2017 Outdoor	322	3220	108	1512	430	4732	-46	-452	
2018 Outdoor	279	2790	122	1708	401	4498	-29	-234	Change to Odd Age Groups
2019 Outdoor	291	2910	126	1764	417	4674	16	176	
2020 Outdoor	0	0	0	0	0	0	-417	-4674	COVID-19 Season Cancelled
2021 Outdoor	198	1980	106	1484	304	3464	304	3464	COVID-19 Impact
2022 Outdoor	245	2450	115	1610	360	4060	56	596	
2023 Outdoor	307	3070	138	1932	445	5002	85	942	
2024 Outdoor	274	2740	171	2394	445	5134	0	132	Increase in 33 zone U11-U19 teams No change in zone U7-U9 teams Decrease in 33 community association U5-U9 teams

Discipline

Since 2018, the SYSI office staff has administered discipline which was formerly administered by a committee of volunteer zone reps. This allocation of responsibility has proven to be a more efficient use of time, less zone bias and conflict of interest, as well as less burden on volunteers.

Since outdoor 2022, SYSI has had greater capacity in checking game sheets for various infractions. In doing so, SYSI has placed greater importance on going over game sheet infractions and permit rules during pre-season SYSI Coach Nights. The past four consecutive seasons of this has led to fewer and fewer game sheet infractions and a greater understanding amongst team personnel of proper game sheet procedures.

Referees

SYSI and Saskatoon Adult Soccer Inc. (SASI) continue to work closely with the Saskatoon and District Referee Association Inc. (SDSRAI) to ensure we have sufficient qualified referees for our leagues. Zones are reminded that any assigning of tournaments is to be done by SASI and no other third-party individuals or organizations.

Beginning indoor 2023-24, SYSI gained greater staff capacity with the fifth position, League Administrator, enabling our association to take on the responsibility of assigning referees for under-11 and under-13 league games. This provides SYSI greater flexibility in re-balancing or making any necessary changes to the younger division indoor schedules mid-season. Having an SYSI staff person responsible for these younger age groups also helps lessen the workload on the SASI referee assignor and enables SYSI to work closely with the SDSRAI in ensuring our newest referees are being provided adequate mentorship and support. In addition to the above benefits, the savings SYSI experiences from not having to pay SASI for assigning referees for under-11 and under-13 league games, helps offset the cost of the new position significantly.

Fields and Facilities

Outdoor Season - All under-11 to under-13 Alliance leagues and under-11 to under-17 City leagues play two-thirds of their outdoor games on City of Saskatoon natural grass fields and the other third is played at the Saskatoon Sports Centre (SSC) indoors on smaller fields. The under-15 to under-19 Alliance leagues play half of their outdoor games on City of Saskatoon natural grass fields and the other half outdoors on full size artificial turf fields. Since outdoor 2022, SYSI has front loaded all schedules with SSC games at the start of the season and had most games completed in April and May which historically are cooler months leaving the hotter months outdoors on natural grass fields. Natural grass fields are preferred in the heat due to better air circulation opposed to indoor turf and less heat radiating off the field opposed to outdoor turf recycled tire infill. SYSI plans to continue this practice going forward with having majority of SSC games at the start of the outdoor season. Providing a longer break from natural grass fields at the start of the season also allows the fields to better establish roots which improve field quality and longevity. SYSI continues to advocate for fair allocation of fields and field improvements with the City of Saskatoon.

Indoor Season - The Saskatoon Kinsmen Henk Ruys Soccer Center is now entering its 26th year of operation and will host the indoor season under-5 to under-9 community leagues, the under-7 development leagues, all boarded under-11 to under-17 City league games, parent-tot program, All-Abilities Soccer program, several zone practices, and the Hollandia Off the Wall tournament. The Saskatoon Sports Centre is currently in its 19th year of operation and will host our indoor season under-9 development league, under-11 to under-19 Alliance leagues, countless zone practices, NCCP coach clinics, the Alliance Academy, and several zone and SYSI ran tournaments. Community associations continue to utilize school gyms for their community team practices.

Player and Coach Development

Alliance Academy

In February 2020, Saskatoon Youth Soccer along with the five zones founded the Saskatoon Alliance. The Saskatoon Alliance's purpose is to provide enhanced playing and training opportunities that promotes growth, enjoyment, and retention for youth soccer players in Saskatoon.

The Alliance Academy is overseen by SYSI's zone technical directors, the SYSI technical lead, hired head coaches, hired assistant coaches, and volunteer mentor coaches.

The indoor academy is in its fourth year of operation offering training to under-13 through under-19 players on weekday afternoons from November to March. Under-11 receives additional training sessions in-house within their zone's skills centres. Weekly training of the academy is held on a day which does not conflict with the age group's game day or zone practice schedule making it possible for families to fully participate in both club commitments and supplemental academy training. As for the intake process, under-13 to under-19 players attends player assessments in late August to late September depending on the age group. The training includes a minimum of eight to 13 goalkeeper training sessions at the under-13 to under-19 age groups.

Indoor 2024-25 marks an exciting season for the under-17-19 girls and under-17 boys as we move the academy league away from weekday mornings to Sundays at the new Martensville facility comprised of an eight-game schedule with 11v11 full field format including Astra Academy and SSA's Excel male and female teams. On the girls' side we have four teams with two Saskatoon Alliance Academy teams, one

ASTRA Soccer Academy team, and one SSA EXCEL Female team. On the boys' side we have four teams with two Saskatoon Alliance Academy teams, one ASTRA Soccer Academy teams, and one SSA EXCEL Male team. This league will provide great benefit to player development leading into the under-17 Provincial Soccer league (PSL) season as well as significant referee development of middle and assistant referees throughout the indoor season better preparing them for the outdoor full pitch games.

The outdoor academy welcomes non-PSL players in the under-11 to under-13 age groups. Players do not attend outdoor assessments and are accepted until available spots are filled. During the outdoor season, the under-15 and under-17 PSL players do not take part in the academy as they have multiple weekly training sessions and PSL games to focus on.

	Indoor Alliance Academy - BOYS					Indoor Alliance Academy - GIRLS					TOTAL Overall
	U11B	U13B	U15B	U17-19B	Total Boys	U11G	U13G	U15G	U17-19G	Total Girls	
Indoor 2021-22	14	28	31	12	85	13	26	20	20	79	164
Indoor 2022-23	15	15	25	63	118	14	25	23	24	86	204
Indoor 2023-24	0	21	27	40	88	0	15	38	37	90	178
Indoor 2024-25	0	37	31	40	108	0	43	35	39	117	225
Total Indoor 4 Years	29	101	114	155	399	27	109	116	120	372	771

	Outdoor Alliance Academy - BOYS					Outdoor Alliance Academy - GIRLS					TOTAL Overall
	U11B	U13B	U15B	U17-19B	Total Boys	U11G	U13G	U15G	U17-19G	Total Girls	
Outdoor 2022	27	13	7	0	47	21	14	3	0	38	85
Outdoor 2023	26	21	14	12	73	17	13	6	0	36	109
Outdoor 2024	24	16	0	0	40	17	13	0	0	30	70
Total Outdoor 3 Years	77	50	21	12	160	55	40	9	0	95	255

Saskatoon Alliance PSL

During the outdoor season 2021, SYSI launched part of the Alliance structure which encompassed the formation of citywide Saskatoon Alliance Provincial Soccer League (PSL) teams in the under-15 and under-17 age groups with two teams in under-15 boys, and one team in under-17 boys. With the delay of the PSL season due to the pandemic which led to a season extension into late summer months, registrations and interest in this league were lower on the girls' side. CSA's club nationals were cancelled in 2021 due to COVID-19.

During the outdoor season 2022, SYSI formed five teams to compete in the PSL: two under-15 boys' teams, one under-15 girls' team, one under-17 boys' team, and one under-17 girls' team. Two of which, under-15 boys Saskatoon Alliance Weber and under-17 girls Saskatoon Alliance, represented our province at CSA's club nationals in October 2022 where the boys placed seventh and the girls placed ninth.

During the outdoor season 2023, SYSI formed seven teams to compete in the PSL: two under-15 boys' teams, two under-15 girls' team, two under-17 boys' team, and one under-17 girls' team. The under-17 boys Saskatoon Alliance Weber represented our province at CSA's club nationals in October 2023 and finished in sixth place.

During the outdoor season 2024, SYSI again formed seven teams to compete in the PSL: two under-15 boys' teams, two under-15 girls' team, two under-17 boys' team, and one under-17 girls' team. This year was notable in that Saskatoon Alliance won three of the four births to club nationals to represent Saskatchewan, under-15 girls, under-17 girls, and under-17 boys. The under-17 girls Saskatoon Alliance led by Mark Lord, played hard and were extremely competitive in their matches, finishing ninth place.

The under-15 girls Saskatoon Alliance, led by Alex Hein, came home with silver medals, a first for this age group to medal in our province, and a second time a female team has medaled since 2012, when the under-18 girls Eastside Vortex brought home gold! The under-17 boys Saskatoon Alliance team, led by Dan Weber, brought home gold medals, marking a momentous first in male youth history for our province!

Producing three teams that represented Saskatoon on the national stage is no small feat, and it is a true testament to the vision, collaboration, and unwavering dedication of everyone involved. Two further have two teams bring home medals is phenomenal!

These successes are not only the result of the coaches and players' hard work on the field but also of your relentless efforts behind the scenes. From the coaches, technical staff, and administrators to the volunteers and families, your commitment to excellence and support for our teams is what makes moments like these possible.

Thank you for being the driving force behind Saskatoon Alliance. Let's continue to build on this success and keep pushing forward, knowing that together, we are creating something truly special.

	Saskatoon Alliance PSL – BOYS Teams			Saskatoon Alliance PSL – GIRLS Teams			TOTAL Teams
	U15B	U17B	Total Boys Teams	U15G	U17G	Total Girls Teams	
Outdoor 2021	2	1	3	0	0	0	3
Outdoor 2022	2	1	3	1	1	2	5
Outdoor 2023	2	2	4	2	1	3	7
Outdoor 2024	2	2	4	2	1	3	7
Total Teams 4 Years	8	6	14	5	3	8	22

We are looking forward to seeing how PSL season 2025 turns out. We hope that all players involved in the past couple of years of Alliance Academy and PSL have had fun, experienced meaningful competition, and have made lifelong friendships and memories!

SYSI wishes to extend a huge thanks to DSG Power Systems and Xtratime Sports Soccer Locker for the past three years of sponsoring the Alliance Academy and under-15 to under-17 Saskatoon Alliance PSL teams.

Coach Certification

SYSI continues to ensure all SYSI coaches are certified according to the CSA standards and Safe Sport Roster requirements and host NCCP age appropriate on-field clinics as well as MED clinics each season.

Season	Active Start & Fundamentals	Learn to Train	Soccer for Life	MED hosted by SYSI	TOTALS
Outdoor 2022	87	20	12	8	127
Indoor 2022-23	26	9	5	36	66
TOTAL 2022	113	29	17	44	203
Outdoor 2023	58	19	12	19	108
Indoor 2023-24	26	16	3	30	75
TOTAL 2023	84	35	15	49	183
Outdoor 2024	30	21	13	60	124
Indoor 2024-25	15	10	6	48	79
TOTAL 2024	45	31	19	108	203

RAMP, the common registration system managed by the SSA assists SYSI in verifying Respect

in Sport, NCCP certifications, and criminal record check requirements.

Team Personnel Requirements as of Indoor 2024-25:

Task or certification to complete prior to first game or practice: Abbreviations: HC = Head Coach, AC = Assistant Coach, App/Dev = Apprentice/Developmental Coach, PSL = Provincial Soccer League	FULL Safe Sport Roster Requirements – All U15-U19 and U7-U13 teams in SYSI League who <u>ARE</u> entering tournaments/provincials & Dedicated Player or Skill Centre Coaches		Modified Safe Sport Roster Requirements U5-U13 Teams in SYSI League who are <u>NOT</u> entering tournaments other than U5-U9 FOS/SISCO	
	Head Coach Assistant Coach Development Coach	Manager Gender Rep	Head Coach Assistant Coach Development Coach	Manager Gender Rep
RAMP registration each season	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Criminal Record with Vulnerable Check uploaded into RAMP	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Respect In Sport online module (every five years) - free	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
Gender Rep - one per team at all times	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
NCCP Understanding the Rule of Two Online Module - free	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED	REQUIRED
CSA's NCCP Coaching Soccer in Canada Online Module	REQUIRED	n/a	REQUIRED	n/a
CSA's NCCP Age Appropriate Online Module U5 - Active Start - \$20 reimbursed by community or zone U7-U9 - Fundamentals - \$20 reimbursed by community or zone U11-U13 - Learn to Train - \$30 reimbursed by community or zone U15-U19 - Soccer for Life - \$30 reimbursed by community or zone	REQUIRED	n/a	highly recommended	n/a
CSA's NCCP Age Appropriate On-Field Clinic U5 - Active Start - free for SYSI coaches hosted by SYSI U7-U9 - Fundamentals - free for SYSI coaches hosted by SYSI U11-U13 - Learn to Train - free for SYSI coaches hosted by SYSI U15-U19 - Soccer for Life - free for SYSI coaches hosted by SYSI U15-U19 Provincials (6v6/11v11) - Soccer for Life	REQUIRED	n/a	highly recommended	n/a
NCCP Making Ethical Decisions (MED) Online Clinic - MED hosted by Coaches Association of Sask - \$50 reimbursed by community or zone - MED hosted by SYSI - free for SYSI coaches	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a
NCCP Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation - free complete evaluation online after attending online clinic	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a
NCCP Making Head Way Concussion Online Module - free	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a
NCCP Understanding the Rule of Two Online Module - free	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a
NCCP Emergency Action Plan Online Module - free	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a
Indoor 9-Aside Provincials Under-15 - Under-19 - HC B-License Part 1 certified or CSA Youth License trained; AC C-License certified; App/Dev C-License in training and cannot be gender rep coach Gender Rep - Minimum 1 coach and 1 non-coach on the bench	REQUIRED	n/a	n/a	n/a

Festivals and Events

With the adoption of the new governance model and strategic plan in June 2008, this was the 16th year that decisions based on tournaments or festivals are made by the office staff. A pat on the back goes out to SYSI staff that did a fantastic job with all SYSI special events. The hard work done by our staff has helped make these events a great success. Due to the limitations of available turf fields during the indoor season, SYSI no longer organizes or offers youth tournaments as there are plenty of zone-ran youth tournaments. SYSI does however continue to organize mini festivals for under-5 through under-9 teams registered in the SYSI leagues.

Mini SISCO and FOS Festivals

SYSI offered the Mini SISCO Festival in March 2023 as well as the Mini Festival of Soccer (FOS) tournament in June 2023; both of which had Xtratime Sports Soccer Locker as a platinum sponsor; Pizza Hut was a gold sponsor at Mini SISCO; Xsight Photography and Saskatoon Co-op were gold sponsors at Mini FOS; and Dulux Paints was a silver sponsor at Mini FOS. Both events consisted entirely of under-5 to under-9 community and zone teams who were in the SYSI league. The Mini SISCO had 144 teams, and the Mini FOS had 248 teams.

Mar 14 – 16, 2025 Mini SISCO (under-5 to under-9 community and zone)

June 6 – 8, 2025 Mini FOS (under-5 to under-9 community and zone)

June 22, 2025 Tim Hortons Jamboree (under-5 to under-7 community)

Provincial Championships

The provincial championship format was changed in 2014 from separate premier and division II & III championships to an open format for 9-aside half field and 6-aside quarter field. The SSA changed the format to reflect different league structures through the province.

Three consecutive seasons of provincials were cancelled in outdoor 2020, indoor 2020-21, and outdoor 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Up until indoor 2023-24, SYSI alternated hosting 9-aside and 6-aside indoor provincials. In doing so, SYSI would receive a hosting grant from SSA and be responsible for the field rental expenses, recruitment (and expense) of first aid workers, admission staff, and an SYSI rep throughout the weekend who would be responsible for running game sheets and any other tasks assigned by SSA. With the hosting grant and admission revenues, SYSI would barely breakeven but did so for the benefit of our athletes in being able to have a local provincial competition and being free from travel expenses and has allowed us to showcase our top-notch facilities to other teams around the province and generate revenue for our economy in Saskatoon. Over the years, SYSI found this event to be increasingly burdensome on staff coupled with the ever-increasing demand for turf becoming difficult to set aside fields to host the event annually. As a result, SYSI released this hosting obligation to SSA staff beginning indoor 2023-24 and continue to cooperate and assist SSA in their efforts to secure facilities. For indoor 2024-25, the event will be hosted in Regina, February 20 – 23, 2025 during the winter school break.

SYSI Zone teams who placed in provincials:

2023-24 Indoor:

- U15 Boys Hollandia Hoff (9v9) – Gold
- U15 Boys Hollandia Joslin (6v6) – Silver
- U19 Boys Aurora Stealth (6v6) – Gold *Also won Fair Play Award*

2024 Outdoor:

- U15 Boys Hollandia Joslin (11v11) – Silver
- U17 Boys SUSC Crewe (11v11) – Gold
- U19 Boys SUSC Swansea (11v11) – Gold

*Fair Play Award is establishing through accumulation of points awarded by the match officials based on

the conduct of the players, coaches, and spectators of the team throughout the round robin of the tournament.

Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Programs

Kids in the Park

Saskatoon Youth Soccer Inc. provided the 17th summer of O’Reilly Insurance and Financial Services and the Co-operators Kids In the Park soccer program, a free drop-in soccer program, which ran from July 2 to August 22, 2024 and took place at 44 locations in Saskatoon.

The program was coordinated by four energetic soccer program leaders with coaching certifications and a desire to make soccer fun and enjoyable in the parks.

YEAR	Ages 0 - 12	Ages 13 - 19	Adults	Totals
2008	785	0	122	907
2009	1,141	149	329	1,619
2010	1,401	82	426	1,909
2011	2,580	231	359	3,170
2012	2,040	62	312	2,414
2013	2,101	71	293	2,465
2014	2,464	40	489	2,993
2015	2,165	56	256	2,477
2016	1,697	116	253	2,066
2017	2,412	48	654	3,114
2018	2,422	34	746	3,202
2019	2,826	64	797	3,687
2020	152	0	162	314
2021	2,733	45	1,195	3,973
2022	2,819	95	1,048	3,962
2023	2,473	80	913	3,466
2024	2,388	52	873	3,313
TOTAL 17 yrs	34,599	1,225	9,227	45,051

Over the course of 17 years, this program has reached a total of 35,824 children and youth as well as 9,227 parents or guardians.

Each summer this program is intended to increase the enjoyment and participation in soccer through eliminating financial and transportation barriers and providing positive mature role models for those who may not have otherwise tried the sport. This program also aims to increase the soccer "hype" during the summer leading into indoor for current and potential future soccer players. Participant certificates were provided to each participant at the end of each session with information regarding registration for soccer and how to access KidSport funding. We consistently receive positive feedback from participants thankful that this program offered during the summer months.

This past summer’s participation numbers, although lower than the previous year, are still significant considering the number of days we had air quality issues due to forest fires as well as several extreme heat waves. For the past three indoor seasons, we have seen considerable growth in registrations, and this program no doubt, has helped with this increase by making soccer more visible in the communities throughout the summer months. The consistent participation in the program over the years as well as

the increase in registrations leading into the fall season shows how greatly needed this program is in the community.

For this summer's CTV News footage of the program in action click [here](#) (a video or photo says a thousand words!) For more information on the program click [here](#).

This program wouldn't be possible without the support of our sponsors and grant providers. Thank you to the 2024 diamond title sponsor O'Reilly Insurance and The Co-operators; two platinum level sponsors Nu-Trend Industries Inc. & Carrier and Panago Pizza; five gold level sponsors Affinity Credit Union, Merlin Ford Lincoln, Saskatchewan Indian and Gaming Authority, Saskatoon Adult Soccer Inc., and Virtus Group LLP; and three community in-kind sponsors Tim Hortons, Rawlco Radio, and CTV Saskatoon. We would also like to thank our grant providers Government of Saskatchewan's Community Initiative Fund, City of Saskatoon's Saskatchewan Lotteries Community Grant, and the Saskatchewan Soccer Associations' Membership Assistance Grant through Saskatchewan Lotteries.

SYSI looks forward to running this program again in the summer of 2025 and is actively seeking sponsors. For a sponsorship package please click [here](#).

Community School Dream League

In the fall of 2016, we announced a new program aimed at reaching underrepresented youth in Saskatoon and the Dream League was born.

SYSI had to put this wonderful program on hold during the pandemic for two years but were excited to launch back into the community schools in the fall/winter of 2022-23 and again last indoor season 2023-24.

The Dream League is an after-school soccer league which takes place in school gyms in partnership with five to six community schools and SaskSport's Dream Broker program. The program benefits four boys' teams for a six-week league in Nov-Dec and four girls' teams for a six-week league in Jan-Feb made up of approximately 60 boys and 65 girls ages eight and 10. The league is funded entirely with the help from KidSport's Community Grant and the participant jerseys, shorts, socks, soccer balls, and medals are provided by Tim Horton's Timbit sponsorship program. The league is led by four certified coaches and transportation is covered by the Dream Brokers through SaskSport funding. We are very excited to offer a league to children who normally are unable to participate in soccer due to financial and transportation barriers.

The aim of this program is to expose soccer to underrepresented children in hopes that they will love the game and apply for KidSport funding in future years to join our main league with the help of transportation from Dream Brokers. SSA has also helped support this program by covering the expense of player and team personnel registration costs for this league.

In past years, SSA has had the following to say about this program, "SSA is pleased to partner on this initiative. SYSI's efforts to provide soccer opportunities to youth who face barriers to participation as well as supporting the development of coaches through this initiative are laudable. The SSA will cover the full provincial registration cost for the participants (players and coaches) in the program that would not otherwise register with SYSI. Like past years, athletes and team personnel that are active in SYSI programming and participate in this league would be expected to register as usual."

For indoor season 2024-25, Dreambrokers sadly announced they were unable to commit to the Dream League program due to transportation funding cuts and are hopeful the program will be able to resume in 2025-26.

Parent-Tot Timbits Program

In the fall of 2016, we announced a new program for stay-at-home parents/guardians and their toddlers to learn fundamental movement skills through a physical literacy program instructed by certified coach during daytime hours during the week. The program is sponsored by Tim Hortons through in-kind jerseys, soccer balls, and medals.

YSI had to put this wonderful program on hold during the pandemic for two years, but we were excited to have it launched back into the soccer centres in the fall of 2022 and onward. Prior to the pandemic the program offering only provided daytime weekday options which catered to a very select group of parents or caregivers who could make it work during the day. After the pandemic, we expanded the program offering to include daytime, weeknight, and weekend offerings, and we have seen immense growth as a result!

Year	Tues evening	Wed morning	Saturdays	Totals	Pre vs Post Expansion
2017	0	82	0	82	320 over 4 years daytime offering only
2018	0	42	0	42	
2019	0	126	0	126	
2020	0	70	0	70	
2023	94	46	46	186	775 over 3 years with expanded offerings
2024	138	0	272	410	
2025	79	0	100	179*	
Totals	311 over 3 yrs	366 over 5 yrs	418 over 3 yrs	1,095 over 7 yrs	

* Each total year includes the prior indoor season and outdoor season of that year. The year total 2025 includes the current indoor season 2024-25 and the upcoming outdoor 2025 season and is reflective of two indoor sessions with five remaining sessions to collect registrations indoor 2024-25 and outdoor 2025.

The program consists of 45min sessions once a week for five weeks. This program is imperative in making lasting impressions and sparking a love for the game at a very young age to hopefully carry them through their youth and into adulthood loving soccer.

All-Abilities Soccer Program

In the fall of 2024, we announced a new program for athletes of all abilities and hired contract coaches who obtained specialized certifications for coaching those with a disability. We recruited volunteers to assist one-on-one with volunteers, many of which are athletes from our Saskatoon Alliance teams, as well as students from Sask Polytechnic’s Recreation Therapy program. The program is partially funded by SSA through a Soccability Canada grant and they waived the SSA participant fee for the fall program. Tim Hortons is a proud sponsor by providing jersey tops, balls, and medals which is imperative for making all feel they are part of a team. The Saskatoon Soccer Centre also plays a key role in this program by providing a sponsored special rate to help keep the fees down.

The program runs from November to December 2024 for a six-week program with 30-minute sessions. Another intake for registrations will open in December for an eight-week program to take place from January to March 2025 where we anticipate the program doubling in registrations.

The primary objective of the All-Abilities Program is to provide the opportunity for children and youth of all abilities, including those with special needs, physical and/or intellectual disabilities to play soccer, have fun, form friendships and participate in a team sport. Every child deserves a chance to build lasting friendships, make memories and feel like they belong. The All-Abilities team strives for an inclusive environment where no child is noticed for their disability. It is a place where enormous abilities shine. Our program is fully inclusive, designed and adapted for children with any disability or level of behaviour. Whether they use a wheelchair, walker or wear orthotics, or live with an intellectual, communication (ASD) or developmental disability, we provide support (1:1 as needed) and welcome all on the field. At the grassroots and recreational levels, disability soccer programs can provide regular healthy activity to promote wellness, social integration and physical literacy. At the elite level, high performance programs can provide ambitious and talented disability players with opportunities for achievement in national and international competition.

Soccer is Soccer. In coaching players with disabilities and delivering disability soccer programs, coaches and soccer organizations need to remember this. It is easy for coaches and administrators to be fearful that they lack the knowledge to serve players with disabilities. The truth is that they know more than they realize, and disability soccer does not require them to be disability experts. Soccer for players with disabilities is still soccer, and the skills needed to coach disability soccer are just an extension of the same skills that coaches use already. In limited instances where specialized knowledge of a disability is required to serve the players, local disability experts can be engaged as partners in helping to deliver programs.

Year	Ages 3 - 5	Ages 6 - 9	Ages 10 - 17	Totals
2025	7 (4-boys, 3-girls)	15 (10-boys, 5-girls)	3 (1-boy, 2-girls)	25 (15-boys, 10-girls)

Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition

Coach Pre-Season Nights

In addition to providing important pre-season announcements and information, the SYSI Coach Nights allows SYSI the opportunity to show our appreciation to the countless coaches and volunteers by providing treats/refreshments, announcing door prize winners, presenting “Friend of Soccer Awards” (Outdoor Zone Coach Night), and presenting “Years of Service Pins”. These meetings are great opportunity for coaches and team personnel to connect with SYSI staff and other zone team personnel and volunteers. It’s also a nice opportunity for SYSI to acknowledge and celebrate the great work that is being done by our volunteers!

During the pandemic we held these meetings through Zoom online (for three years) and saw an increase in attendance due to the ease of joining from an online device. Nonetheless we decided it was important to get back to in person and began doing so again in outdoor 2023 season where we also began including the Community League coaches. We continue to provide a pre-season slideshow on our website of important season items for those unable to attend the in-person meeting.

Years of Service Pins

In the fall of 2017 SYSI began awarding volunteers and staff persons with “Years of Service Pins” in recognition of their dedication and time served in the soccer community either with a community association, soccer zone, or with SYSI. Eligibility is defined by someone who volunteered or worked with a zone, community association, and or SYSI as a coach, assistant coach, trainer, team manager, board

member, committee member, administrator, registrar, technical director, or staff member. We offer a 5-year pin, 10-year pin, 15-year pin, and a 20-year pin and provide these at the Indoor and Outdoor Pre-Season Coach Nights. If you or someone you know wishes to obtain a pin for their years' of service please contact the SYSI Office.

Friend of Soccer Award

The Saskatoon Youth Soccer “Friend of Soccer” Award was first handed out in 1989. The award was created to recognize the contributions of the outstanding volunteers (and staff) involved with youth soccer in Saskatoon. In 2016, SYSI expanded the award to include five “Friends of Soccer” recipients each year. There is one award to recognize a volunteer from each of the five geographical zones in Saskatoon. People who are eligible to be nominated include any current or former volunteer or staff member of a zone or community association who have demonstrated a prominent level of dedication to the development and support of youth soccer in Saskatoon.

Past Recipients:

1989 – Al Day	1998 – John Tomchuk	2007 – Bob McAllister
1990 – Jill Postlewaite	1999 – Garry Harder	2008 – Hal Lackie
1991 – Bob Speed	2000 – Lawrence Martz	2009 – Terry Carruthers
1992 – Ross Wilson	2001 – Bernadette Garrity	2010 – Tom LaPointe
1993 – Ken & Carol Wagner	2002 – Pat Gillies	2011 – Joe Garcea
1994 – Jim Cook	2003 – Gloria Rowan	2012 – Edward Halyk
1995 – Percy Hoff	2004 – <i>not awarded</i>	2013 – Mark Lord
1996 – Huw Morris	2005 – Mike Grevers	2014 – Bob Rohachuk
1997 – John Riggs	2006 – Brett Mario	2015 – Wilf McDougall

Year	Zone 1 - SUSC	Zone 2 - Hollandia	Zone 3 - Aurora	Zone 4 - Lakewood	Zone 5 – Eastside
2016	<i>No nominations</i>	Sean Wilson	Mark Schramm	<i>No nominations</i>	Trevor Conquergood
2017	Lorena Walls	Paola Kobussen & Sean Wilson	Shaun Eaton	Leonard Lewko	David Chan
2018	Shawn Dyky	Leigh Saunders	Kevin Foster	Dan Weber	Lynne Gelner
2019	Celeste Glasser-Cook	Hernan Tapia	Alex Hein	Garnette Weber	Angele Thiessen
2020	Michele Mason	Randy Poelzer	Dan Cote	Melanie Scott-Kwan	Jodi Blackwell
2021	Morgan Reagan	Alicia Osses	Crystal Shendaruk & Steph Hnatiw	Samantha Lamborn	Michael Diegel
2022	Cory Clapson	Darcy & Erin Pederson	Mukasa Bagonluri	Tim Wong	Dean Stanzel
2023	Allen Brewster	Kevin Brown	Vijay Tumber	Chris Todd	Kevin Cuff
2024	The 2024 nomination form can be found under the “ Forms ” section on our website. All completed forms are to be submitted to your respective Zone Board on or before Fri Feb 24, 2025. Each Zone Board will decide on who their Zone’s recipient of the award will be and will communicate their decision to SYSI no later than Fri Mar 14, 2025. Awards will be presented at the Outdoor Coaches’ Night in April of 2025. Any questions about the award can be directed to the SYSI Office.				

Funding

Volunteer Honorariums

Between 2017 and 2021 we provided incentive to encourage zone and community association team personnel to obtain their necessary and required certifications in exchange for applying for an honorarium as appreciation for their time spent in coaching clinics. The honorarium was a one-time per individual honorarium. Once an individual had taken advantage of the full \$50 honorarium available per person per lifetime, they were no longer eligible to apply. This incentive program reached its full

allotment in 2021, saw a decrease in applications year-over-year as return coaches reached their allotment, and is no longer offered.

In 2017, we also started an honorarium to thank and recognize community association coordinators and zone registrars for their hard work and efforts in meeting all SYSI deadlines and RAMP roster criteria. Coordinators and registrars are eligible each season for this honorarium and the amount is dependent on how many criteria they have met each season to a maximum of \$200 each per season. The deadline for these honorarium applications is in February and June of each year.

Honorariums are paid out at the end of the season in the form of a cheque and are mailed out. Applicants have the option to have their amount donated to the KidSport or the SYSI Athlete Fund.

YEAR	TEAM PERSONNEL	ADMINISTRATORS & COORDINATORS	TOTAL
2023-24	n/a	\$2,810.00	\$2,810.00
2022-23	n/a	\$1,815.00	\$1,815.00
2021-22	n/a	\$1,830.00	\$1,830.00
2020-21	\$650	\$1,995.00	\$2,645.00
2019-20	\$885	\$2,104.95	\$2,989.95
2018-19	\$1,589.33	\$4,076.06	\$5,665.39
2017-18	\$1,828.54	\$3,309.56	\$5,138.10
2016-17	\$2,710.00	n/a	\$2,710.00
Total	\$7,662.87	\$17,940.57	\$25,603.44

Zone Funding

From January 2013 to July 2021, SYSI provided a grant application process in which zones and other non-profit organizations could apply to support mini soccer player development programs. In 2013, SYSI's reserves were at a point where we were able to allocate certain funds to our members to focus on mini program development with a plan to decrease the reserves by about \$300,000 over the course of five to eight years. SYSI commends all zones and organizations that took part in this funding program and offered development programs to mini players within and around their zone which really assisted zone members in the creation and development of under-7 and under-9 development leagues and programs. In addition to mini development program funding, zones also took part in the community head coach program where SYSI supplied an honorarium of \$500 per season to help off-set the costs of hiring a community head coach who would work with and mentor mini coaches within their zone and community associations which fall within their zone boundaries; a program of which had been in place prior to the reserve funding initiative. To be eligible, a zone's mini development program could not make a profit, and all revenue and expenses were reported in the follow-up along with expense receipts. If a zone was not allotted funding it was either because they did not apply, failed to submit a follow-up report, or their program experienced a surplus.

In July 2021, SYSI completed the benchmark of \$300,000 reserve spending for mini development programs. Zones have begun finding other ways of ensuring their D-Leagues are sustainable moving forward beyond 2021 now that this funding is no longer available.

SYSI continues to apply for SSA MAP Grant Special Projects funding to assist SYSI and Zone projects. If your Zone wishes to put forth future applications for special project funding to be funnelled through SYSI, we will welcome such applications received by March 1 of each year.

Beginning in the fall of 2021, with the launch of the Alliance, SYSI committed to providing annual honorariums to zones in recognition of the technical directors' support and dedication to the academy and PSL season through attending player assessments, committee meetings, and mentorship of academy groups and PSL teams.

Beginning indoor 2023-24, SYSI began providing incentive honorariums to zone technical directors who show a commitment and presence during Alliance Academy training sessions. Their involvement in the program provides great mentorship, support, and oversight of the program alongside SYSI's technical lead.

Included in the below breakdown is the SYSI Athlete Fund disbursements to zones who had eligible athletes request funding which beginning indoor 2023-24 and outdoor 2024. Totals below for 2024 do not include disbursements for athlete funding for the indoor season 2024-25, however are provided in the breakdown under the SYSI Athlete Fund. Instances where some zones received more funding than other zones were a result of a zone not offering a program, not applying for funding, not submitting a follow-up report, experienced a program surplus and were not eligible for funding, had less players from their zone take part in the Alliance Academy/PSL, or did not provide zone TD support during Alliance player assessments.

YEAR	SUSC	Hollandia	Aurora	Lakewood	Eastside	Other	TOTAL	Project
2024	\$310.00 Athlete Fund	\$425.00 Athlete Fund	\$0.00 Athlete Fund	\$1,325.00 Athlete Fund	\$500.00 Athlete Fund	n/a	\$2,560.00 Athlete Fund	Players funded by SYSI Athlete Fund
	\$1,725.00 Alliance	\$1,940.00 Alliance	\$2,430.00 Alliance	\$2,485.00 Alliance	\$2,780.00 Alliance		\$11,360.00 Alliance	Alliance kick-back & TD honorariums
	\$2,035.00	\$2,365.00	\$2,430.00	\$3,810.00	\$3,280.00		\$13,920.00	Total funding
2023	\$720.00 Alliance	\$930.00 Alliance	\$870.00 Alliance	\$765.00 Alliance	\$1,200.00 Alliance	n/a	\$4,485.00 Alliance	Alliance TD honorariums
	\$462.50 FSQ	\$462.50 FSQ	\$462.50 FSQ	\$462.50 FSQ	\$462.50 FSQ		\$2,412.50 FSQ	Zone marketing project funding
	\$1,182.50	\$1,392.50	\$1,332.50	\$811.50	\$1,662.50		\$6,797.50	Total funding
2022	\$1,167.50	\$1,167.50	\$1,167.50	\$1,167.50	\$1,137.50	n/a	\$5,807.50	Alliance zone honorariums
2013 to 2021	\$45,419.18	\$99,101.32	\$60,396.85	\$31,074.78	\$81,062.15	\$9,811.60*	\$326,865.88	Reserve spending to support mini development
2009 to 2012	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	n/a	\$7,500.00	Community head coach programs
Total	\$51,804.18	\$106,026.32	\$65,326.85	\$36,863.78	\$90,642.15	\$9,811.60	\$360,890.88	

* Other funding was disbursed to Open Door Society between 2013 and 2014 to engage in summer soccer programming for newcomers.

Athlete Fund & Sustainability Committee

In the fall of 2021, with the launch of the Alliance Academy and league restructure underway, SYSI started the SYSI Athlete Fund, to provide financial assistance to eligible athletes taking part in additional training with the U11-U19 Alliance Academy and/or participate with a U15 or U17 Saskatoon Alliance PSL teams in the outdoor season.

Beginning fall of 2023, after three years of successfully building the fund to \$26,000, SYSI began extending the fund to zone athletes taking part in the SYSI indoor or outdoor leagues and the application form is available on our [website](#). To be eligible, athletes are to have reached their maximum annual allotment through KidSport, Jumpstart, and Helpone Foundation.

SYSI wishes to thank Alliance Academy and PSL coaches and managers who have generously donated their time and honorariums to the fund, those who have made donations to the fund or have chosen to

sponsor specific players in need, Jumpstart Charities, KidSport, and Helpone Foundation for their continued support of our athletes, those who supported the various SYSI 50-50 raffle efforts, and last but not least, the SYSI Sustainability Committee who were instrumental in the success of our largest fundraiser yet, the Rock the River 50-50 raffles in August 2023 which brought in \$16,000 and August 2024 which brought in \$20,000.

Over the past four years, SYSI has raised a total of \$82,125.44 through 50-50 raffles during the indoor and outdoor seasons, 50-50 raffles during Rock the River, SLGA matchups, donations, and athlete sponsors.

Over the past four years, SYSI has provided total funds of \$18,740.32 for eligible athletes in the Saskatoon Alliance PSL and/or Alliance Academy; \$5,745.00 to sponsored athletes in the Saskatoon Alliance PSL and/or Alliance Academy Alliance; and \$5,312.18 to Saskatoon Alliance PSL teams who took part in 50-50 selling fundraiser opportunities to help offset PSL season travel expenses.

Since extending the fund to zone athletes in fall of 2023, SYSI has provided total funds of \$12,615.00 to Zones for eligible athletes who requested funding.

The Sustainability Committee is comprised of SYSI directors and the committee looks forward to the year ahead and putting in place new fundraising ventures to support the SYSI Athlete Fund.

SYSI wishes to thank the soccer community for their ongoing support of our fundraising efforts which help benefit players in need from all SYSI zone and community association members. We also wish to thank our Zones who provided 50-50 selling volunteers during Rock the River the past two years – whose efforts have greatly benefited their zone athletes who have accessed funding from the SYSI Athlete Fund.

Funds Generated	2022	2023	2024	2025	TOTAL	
Athlete Fund - 50-50 Raffles Minus Expenses	\$1,326.50	\$24,140.14	\$25,300.35	\$0.00	\$50,766.99	\$82,125.44
Athlete Fund - SLGA Match-Up 25%	\$0.00	\$6,034.16	\$6,824.20	\$0.00	\$12,858.36	
Athlete Fund - Donations	\$2,065.00	\$299.82	\$567.02	\$0.00	\$2,931.84	
Athlete Fund - Coach Honorarium Donations	\$5,165.00	\$4,079.75	\$578.50	\$0.00	\$9,823.25	
Athlete Fund - Alliance Academy/PSL Athlete Sponsors	\$2,070.00	\$2,015.00	\$1,660.00	\$0.00	\$5,745.00	
Other Funding - Alliance Academy/PSL:						\$9,700.00
KidSport Assistance	\$965.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,555.00	\$500.00	\$5,520.00	
Jumpstart Assistance	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	
Helpone Foundation Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$605.00	\$500.00	\$1,105.00	
Social Services Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$675.00	\$0.00	\$675.00	
TOTAL Funds	\$11,891.50	\$38,368.87	\$40,565.07	\$1,000.00	\$91,825.44	
Funds Disbursed	2022	2023	2024	2025	TOTAL	
Athlete Fund - Zone 1 (SUSC) Athlete Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$310.00	\$3,300.00	\$3,610.00	Zone Player Disbursements \$12,615.00
Athlete Fund - Zone 2 (Hollandia) Athlete Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$425.00	\$3,755.00	\$4,180.00	
Athlete Fund - Zone 3 (Aurora) Athlete Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	
Athlete Fund - Zone 4 (Lakewood) Athlete Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,325.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,325.00	
Athlete Fund - Zone 5 (Eastside) Athlete Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	
Athlete Fund - Alliance Academy/PSL Team Assistance	\$0.00	\$3,087.34	\$2,224.84	\$0.00	\$5,312.18	Alliance Academy/PSL Disbursements \$29,797.50
Athlete Fund - Alliance Academy/PSL Athlete Assistance	\$3,952.50	\$5,707.82	\$8,580.00	\$500.00	\$18,740.32	
Athlete Fund - Alliance Academy/PSL Athletes Sponsored	\$2,070.00	\$2,015.00	\$1,660.00	\$0.00	\$5,745.00	
Other Disbursements - Alliance Academy/PSL:						\$9,700.00
KidSport Assistance	\$965.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,555.00	\$500.00	\$5,520.00	
Jumpstart Assistance	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	
Helpone Foundation Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$605.00	\$500.00	\$1,105.00	
Social Services Assistance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$675.00	\$0.00	\$675.00	
TOTAL Disbursements	\$7,287.50	\$12,610.16	\$20,659.84	\$11,555.00	\$52,112.50	
SYSI Athlete Fund Balance (as of Nov 15, 2024)					\$39,712.94	

* Each total year includes the prior indoor season and outdoor season of that year. The year total 2025 includes the current indoor season 2024-25 and the upcoming outdoor 2025 season.

CSA's Club Licensing

In October 2019, all zones including SYSI applied for and achieved CSA's Club Licensing Quality Soccer Provider which is the introductory level of CSA's Club Licensing and is now a requirement of SSA's to qualify for their funding grant which SYSI applies for each year.

Beginning in 2022, Club Licensing Member Association Level 1 designation was required of SSA Member Organizations who wish to participate in 9v9 Youth Indoor Provincials and the PSL.

In March 2021, Aurora Soccer Club, Lakewood Soccer Association, and Saskatoon United Soccer Club all achieved Club Licensing requirements for CSA's Club Licensing Member Association Level 1 designation; and Eastside Youth Soccer Association and Hollandia Soccer Club achieved CSA's Club Licensing Member Association Level 2 designation. SYSI is very proud of our zones who achieved these levels of Club Licensing this year.

In July 2021, SYSI applied for CSA's Club Licensing Member Association Level 1 designation and were approved positioning SYSI to host Saskatoon Alliance under-15 and under-17 PSL teams. SYSI is currently in the application and review process to achieve National Youth Club License status, however it is proving to be a longer process than anticipated given the unique structure of our association and zone members. We recently developed and met several requirements in October 2024 and SYSI expects to receive results and feedback on our application from SSA/CSA in early December.

Strategic Plan

The SYSI Board of Directors renewed and updated the Strategic Plan 2024 – 27 in April 2024.

Saskatoon Youth Soccer Inc. (SYSI) is responsible for the governance and promotion of the game of youth soccer in Saskatoon within our membership. A member association of the Saskatchewan Soccer Association, SYSI represents member organization Zones and Community Associations within a 100km radius of Saskatoon.

Mission: To create the culture and opportunity for every participant to enjoy youth soccer.

Vision: Develop life skills through a lifelong passion for the game.

Strategy: SYSI's Board of Directors provides strategic guidance to the organization in pursuit of its mission and vision.

Operations: Staff work with SYSI's member Zones to execute the mandate of the association and achieve the strategic vision of the board through the strategic plan.

Values: Our values are fully aligned with the Saskatchewan Soccer Association and guide the daily behaviours of our staff and board in pursuit of our strategic goals and operational excellence.

- Integrity – We believe that sport should be a safe, welcoming, and positive experience for all.
- Inclusivity – We work intentionally to build an equitable system that represents everyone.
- Innovation – We seek to find new and creative approaches to the development of soccer.

Strategic Areas

1 - Development (players, coaches, referees) – Every person involved in the game from players, coaches, referees, and volunteers are integral to its growth, and develop in synergy with each other.

Players

1. Increase focus on under-5 to under-11 development and opportunities.
2. Align with Canada Soccer Association's (CSA) Long Term Player Development and Grassroots Standards.
3. Continued enhancement of Alliance academy program offerings.

Coaches

1. Ensure all coaches have met the required age-appropriate training and screening procedures.
2. Promote mentorship of Community Association coaches.
3. Identify gaps and needs in underrepresented coach demographics.
4. Collaborate with members to develop strategies to increase team personnel retention.

Referees

1. Create a respectful culture for referees.
2. Ensure efficient and effective communications between SYSI and referee association to enhance development and mentorship of referees.

2 - Experience (leagues, programs, events) – One of our goals is to give all participants a consistent, high-quality experience in every program we offer.

1. Foster accessibility and inclusion in program design for a place for all to play.
2. Define player pathways through SYSI and how they align with the Canada Soccer Pathway.
3. Increase enrolment and maintain retention of players in all age groups from youth to senior soccer through collaboration with Saskatoon Adult Soccer.
4. Maintain an effective feedback system.
5. Cultivate continued respect and trust between SYSI and its member Zones and Community Associations.

3 - Growth (Engagement, Diversity/Inclusion, Sustainability) – Collaborate and lead with all soccer organizations to promote the game and eliminate barriers to participation.

Engagement

1. Build and strengthen key strategic partnerships to expand the scope of the game.
2. Continue to enhance presence through community functions, programs, and initiatives.
3. Attain greater levels of transparency and cohesiveness through membership collaboration and conversation.

Diversity & Inclusion

1. Increase the scope of existing programs to drive participation levels.
2. Partner with organizations serving underrepresented groups to expand the reach of SYSI participants.

Sustainability

1. Augment and diversify revenue streams and marketing capacity.
2. Work to remove barriers to allow for and encourage increased involvement from underrepresented groups.
3. Cultivate strategies to retain volunteers to encourage long-term involvement in the sport.

4 - Leadership (Management and Governance) – Strive for efficiency and integrity by continually evaluating and implementing structure and governance to impact the greater good of the game.

Management

1. Ongoing evaluation of SYSI staff structure, development, and responsibilities to heighten operational efficiencies.
2. Continual enhancement of website and forms for greater user-friendliness and efficiencies.
3. Provide guidance to member Zones and Community Associations with respect to league operations.

Governance

1. Examine responsibilities of board and committees to uphold high levels of governance.
2. Regular policy and bylaw review for attainment of best procedure.

3. Measure Board efficiency, accountability, and engagement.
4. Identify development opportunities for directors to enhance growth and expertise.

In Closing

With 18 ½ years with SYSI as executive director, I look forward to another upcoming year. It is motivating and energizing to see the outstanding growth in registration numbers these past couple years. Our zone members and SYSI have become closer and stronger over the past four years with the formation of the Alliance. Together we have achieved milestone accomplishments in growing the game within SYSI.

I would like to extend a huge thanks to all those involved on the SYSI board and committees, staff, and countless zone and community association volunteers. There aren't enough words to characterize your supreme dedication to the well-being and the enjoyment of our players and to the betterment of our sport movement. It is our volunteers' efforts and endless hours behind closed doors or on the field that continue to drive this sport despite its challenges. Your continuous contributions that benefit our players and our sport are highly appreciated.

Let's continue to work together to advance past our challenges, maintain our leadership, and offer our players the best playing environment.

Thank you,

Amanda M Probe
Executive Director