



VALLEY UNITED SOCCER CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.



Now that the winter season is finished and the summer season is starting I thought it was time to send out an update on recent developments.

Firstly, we recently achieved recognition by Canada Soccer and Soccer Nova Scotia as a Quality Soccer Provider. This is the first rung on the ladder of Club Licensing in Canada and required us to meet 37 criteria, both organizational and financial.

As of this year Canada Soccer will require all soccer clubs in Canada to meet these standards and Soccer Nova Soccer now has a full time employee whose job it is to work with clubs to ensure that they meet the required standards. There are a further 3 levels of accreditation above QSP and we intent to continue working toward a higher level of club licence.



As the only club in the Valley which operates year round and which has been through the accreditation process we are in a position to assist those clubs which operate only in the summer to meet the new standards and we have offered them our support.

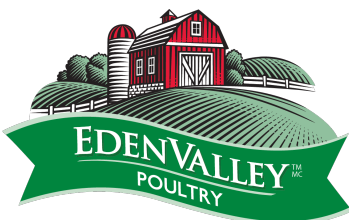
I also have to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work which Stephen McNeill, our Administrator, and Findlay MacRae, our Technical Director, have put in to enable us to achieve this recognition.

At the end of the NSSL Indoor season we finished slightly above .500, with a record of 53 wins, 50 losses and 6 ties. We scored a total of 268 goals and conceded 269. Obviously, some teams had better records than others but I don't think there was any team which wasn't better at the end of the season than they were at the beginning. The Women's team picked up silver medals after losing the final to Dartmouth on PKs. The Men's A team beat the Men's B team in the semifinal then beat Dunbrack in the final to win gold.

Looking ahead to the summer season, we are disappointed that we will not be able to field a Women's team this year. The team has been one of the top teams in the league for the past several years but this summer many of the Acadia players from HRM who usually play for VU in the summer have chosen instead to play in HRM since Halifax will be hosting Nationals in the fall. We will also be fielding a team in only 1 of the 4 AAA divisions. (U15 Boys.)

On a happier note, we are pleased to announce that this summer, for the first time, we will be providing all our recreational players, from U11 up to U18, with matching red shorts and red socks. We believe that all kids feel better (and maybe even play better!) if they look like real soccer players.

And finally, a new Board was elected at the AGM on March 30th. We lost 4 Board members, Marie Doucette, Megan Trace, Gillian Williams and Kelly Flecknell, who chose not to re-offer or to resign. We thank them all for their efforts on behalf of the club.



I was happy to be returned as President for another 2 year term. David Crabb moved from his position as a member of the Board to take over as Treasurer since Kelly Flecknell did not re-offer. Mike Landry re-offered for the Board and was returned. We welcomed 2 new Board members, Krista Robertson and Corey Cadeau.

Krista works in the Athletics Department at Acadia as Athletics Services Coordinator. In that position she helped organize 3 USPORTS national championships which Acadia were hosting and also worked on last year's CFL Touchdown Atlantic. She has a long association with VU as a parent, team manager and previous Board member. Corey is a lifelong VU player who also played at Acadia. While working in HRM as a Certified Professional Accountant he was Treasurer of Halifax City. He has now returned to the Valley for work and played on the Men's team which recently won the NSSL Indoor Championship.

The full Board is now composed of myself, Troy Lenihan, as President, Devin Tetlow as Vice-President, David Crabb as Treasurer and Cate McCormick as Secretary. Board members are Angela Morrison, Laura Akao, Mike Landry, Ross Bentley, Krista Robertson, Corey Cadeau and Rod McBeath.

Hope you all have a great summer of soccer!

Troy Lenihan, President, VUSC.

TEAM OF THE MONTH.

Back row: Findlay MacRae (coach), Devin Tetlow, Calum MacRae, Gabe Morgan, Mike O'Flynn, Max Rogers, Xavier Fitzgerald.

Front row: Noah Schurman, Ben Chisholm, Wes Aucoin, Cody Holland, AJ Magamura.

Not in photo are Adrian Deveau and Corey Cadeau.

Valley United A won the NSSL Indoor Championship in March. They defeated Valley United B on penalties in the semifinal then beat Dunbrack 2-1 in the final with both goals being scored by Calum MacRae.

The team features some long time Valley United players. Cody Holland, Corey Cadeau and Calum MacRae were on the U16 team in 2014 which won the provincial championship and went to nationals. That team was also coached by Findlay MacRae. Many of the team have attended, or are attending, Acadia University.



Some players, like Wes Aucoin and Xavier Fitzgerald, ‘came from away’ but are now living and working here. AJ Magamura is an Acadia student originally from Zimbabwe. Cody, Calum and Mike will be working together this summer in Cody’s landscaping business. Adrian, who missed the final through injury, features elsewhere in this newsletter and will be working for Valley United this summer. Devin and Corey are both on the Board of Valley United.

The A and B teams will be combined for the summer season.



WELCOME ADRIAN DEVEAU.

Valley United is delighted to welcome ADRIAN DEVEAU as our first confirmed summer student, thanks to a Provincial grant which pays part of his wages. Adrian has been a familiar sight around the soccer fields and the CURC for the past year or so. He has coached the U12 Boys and has assisted Findlay MacRae with the various programs Findlay ran during the winter and March Break. Adrian grew up playing for Dartmouth United and various Provincial teams, including the Canada Games team. He chose to come to Acadia to study psychology and plays centre back for the Acadia Men's team. He also plays for VU and was a member of the team which recently won the Indoor Championship.

