

Dear WDAFA board and members,

It is a heavy heart, frustration, sadness, and anger, that I submit my resignation as WDAFA president, coach, and equipment co-ordinator and step away from all activities organized by WDAFA and the CDMFA. This resignation takes affect July 18, 2022 at 11:59pm.

At this time with the circumstances that have been handed to the WDAFA organization by the CDMFA, Football Alberta, and Football Canada I do not believe that I am able lead WDAFA or participate in activities and keep our participants, both players and volunteers safe.

At the beginning of the year, WDAFA having one of the strongest and largest ladies program in Alberta, a place for females aged 13 and 14 to play, the want to protect participants and volunteers, and the want to follow Football Canada recommendations in there Long Term Athlete Development document the WDAFA board made the decision to limit female participants from participating in the bantam program in 2022. As the president of WDAFA I was tasked with explaining the decision and guiding the organization through the decision. As we worked through the decision and the opposition to the decision, documentation from Football Canada was brought forward that made it clear that although others agreed with our decision no organization above WDAFA was going to support the decision made by the WDAFA board. The documentation also made it clear that if as the president, participant, and member of WDAFA, if I accepted the documentation and continued on, I would be party to putting participants and volunteers in danger of possible sexual assault, possible injury, and possible discrimination.

From the time I started with WDAFA my focus is and has been the safety of our participants and volunteers and I have always said that when I could not keep our participants and volunteers safe I would have to leave. For me that time is now and although it makes me angry, sad, and frustrated, and will limit the opportunities for kids to play football in Wetaskiwin, I have to stick with my convictions and leave minor football until other decisions at higher levels such as the court system and provincial and federal political levels.

I would like to thank each and everyone of you for the last ten years and I hope that one day and I have been glad that each of you have been part of my football family. Please know that although I am leaving WDAFA and minor football I am still part of the football family and if anyone needs anything do not hesitate to contact me 780-312-9400.

Regards,

Codey Soanes