



# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

## West Seattle Soccer Club

Website:

<https://clubs.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=851829>



# 2020 REVIEW



What a year. West Seattle Soccer Club was 52 years old this year, a year like no other in its history. For the first time, an entire year passed without a single soccer game being played. With the help of our friends at UK International Soccer, we were able to create a six week skills clinic for our youngest players, U6-U7s, which met Washington State's Covid protocols at that time: 4 players to a group, no games or scrimmages, temperatures taken, masks, lots of social distance. And despite everything, the sight of these tiny players running around and laughing as they learned to kick a ball gave us all joy and hope, and reminded us why West Seattle Soccer Club is so important.

## Governance

WSSC is governed by a twelve-person volunteer Board of Officers and Commissioners. Terms are two years; half the board is elected each year by vote of WSSC's membership. Your 2020 board was:

President: Chip Goss  
VP Administration: Joel Oltyan\*  
VP Players: Stefan Persson  
VP Coaches: Erich Wiener\*  
Treasurer: Curtis Allan\*  
Secretary: Maggie Lucas

Commissioners:  
Brett Conway  
Jamie Foulk\*  
Tim Hinthorn  
Pushpa Larsen\*  
Mick O'Byrne \*

One seat was open in 2020  
(\* Elected April 2020)

The Board meets the second Monday of each month, currently via Zoom. In 2020 many additional meetings were held as we navigated the Covid crisis and planned, re-planned, and eventually un-planned the spring and fall 2020 seasons. Minutes of all meetings are available on the WSSC website.

## Financial Summary



WSSC's financial position is strong. In 2020 there was much less financial news than in a normal year. Our co-ed U6-U7 clinic brought in \$17,730 in registration fees and we paid coaching expenses of \$10,831 including UK Coaches International. In anticipation of a fall season, WSSC expended some funds on scheduling and field assignment (paid to Highline Soccer Association) and some to Seattle Parks Department for field reservations; much of the field fees were refunded to us. Ongoing expenses such as bank fees, Soccer Office admin fees, gear storage locker rental, PO Box rental, insurance, annual goal maintenance and repair, were paid as usual. Nearly \$7,000 in donations was received from our incredibly generous membership. WSSC paid the transaction fees associated with registering and refunding player fees when the spring 2020 season was cancelled and continued to support our UKIS partner. WSSC had a net operating loss of \$32,000 for 2020; a portion of this was a large purchase of soccer balls which will be used for future seasons. In lieu of the annual volunteer appreciation event, which could not be held, WSSC donated \$1,500 to the West Seattle Food Bank. WSSC ended 2020 with a positive balance of \$248,718 (of which approximately \$188,500 is set aside for field development). Annual accounting information for WSSC is available for review by membership upon request. WSSC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation organized under the laws of Washington State.

In 2020 Washington Youth Soccer announced it would no longer provide Directors and Officers insurance for member clubs. WSSC obtained its own policy.

You will all have noticed that registration for WSSC now takes place through Sports Connect/Blue Sombrero. The previous registration system was discontinued and all clubs using it were compelled to switch to this new system. The transition is complete but the learning, and improvements, are ongoing.

## Member Services

In 2020 almost all WSSC activities were cancelled due to Covid. The single exception was the skills clinic for the co-ed U6-U7 or “minis” players in fall 2020. Working with UK International Soccer, the same group that operates the U6-U7 Master Coach Program in normal years, WSSC was able to provide a six week course of skills clinics to introduce soccer to 140 of our youngest players. In cohorts of four players, with masks and social distance, UK coaches guided volunteer team coaches in skills drills and lessons of the game. While no scrimmages or games were permitted, much learning occurred and the minis had a lot of fun.



SafeSport, the recently created national program to protect youth athletes from misconduct and abuse, was integrated into WSSC. Our parent entity, Highline Soccer Association, enacted a SafeSport Protocol for its member clubs. You can find FAQs and other information about SafeSport, including links to the national Center for SafeSport, on the WSSC website.

VP of Coaches Erich Wiener has been building more support structures for our volunteer coaches over the past two years, including monthly Coaches’ Socials (held in 2020 via Zoom), a Coaches’ Clinic, free membership at United Soccer (a source of considerable training and information), and improved support for the RMA clearance process.

Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA): WSSC recognizes the quality of each player and parent experience is highly dependent upon coaching. WSSC supports PCA training for coaches that emphasizes goals, integrity, resiliency and teamwork over winning.

## Highline Soccer Association

WSSC is a member of the Highline Soccer Association which also includes the Highline Soccer Club. It is through the HSA that WSSC provides players with the opportunity of advancement to more skilled and competitive Select and Premier leagues. HSA launched the HSA Select Program in 2015. The program provides a select tier of instruction and play for members of the communities served by HSA. Teams are led by volunteer coaches and the youngest teams are formed at U-11. Highline Premier FC (HPFC) is the highest competitive level within Highline Soccer Association, and a proud sister club to WSSC, HSC and HSA Select.



With gratitude to all who contribute to make WSSC so successful, here’s to a much better 2021.

March 31, 2021

West Seattle Soccer Club Board