

## WSSC Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, Oct. 12, 2020

7 pm to 9:27 pm via Zoom

Attendees: Goss (Pres.), Persson (VP Players), Weiner (VP Coaches), Allan (Treas.), Lucas (Sec.), Conway, Larsen, Hinthorn, O'Byrne, Foulk

Excused: Oltyan (VP Admin.); Foulk until 7:20

**Sept. 14, 2020 Minutes:** Persson moves, Conway seconds approval; unanimous pass.

**Sept. 21, 2020 Minutes:** Special Meeting Minutes: Conway moves, Larsen seconds approval; unanimous pass.

**Sept. 28, 2020 Minutes:** Special Meeting Minutes: Larsen moves, Conway seconds approval; unanimous pass.

**Sept. 30, 2020 Minutes:** Special Meeting Minutes: Larsen moves, Conway seconds approval; with Lucas, Hinthorn, Allan, O'Byrne and Persson abstaining because they were not present at this meeting, all other members vote approval; motion to approve passes.

**Oct. 6, 2020 Minutes:** Special Meeting Minutes: Conway moves, Larsen seconds approval; unanimous pass.

**Club Finances:** Allan reports that a few previously requested refunds have been processed, and with season cancellation approximately \$151,000 in additional refunds will be processed. Many normal expenses will not be incurred this year, but we will still pay Association fees of some amount, expenses for the co-ed clinic, some field expenses, and RMA clearance fees. We paid \$777 for the new D&O insurance, recorded as a misc. expense. \$11,000 has been spent on equipment, believed to be for a large stock of balls. \$6,000 was paid to UKIS for last spring, and \$5,500 will be billed to UKIS for their field use for their summer camps. We will pay for the Hiawatha field for the co-ed clinic, we have turned back other fields we won't use, and some fields will end up being paid for by HSA as their teams use the space. NOTE: Although WSSC has not used fields with exception of Hiawatha for Coed U6/U7 clinic, there are some fields on the permit(s) that were **not used** by HPFC, HSA Select and HSC, so cost sharing of these "unused" fields will need to be determined. Jamie is maintaining a field tracking file and will work with Curtis to determine WSSC's share.

**Co-ed Clinic:** Larsen reports the launch of the clinic went very well. Goss reports it was "excellent" and Larsen was thanked for her efforts. Not all went exactly according to plan, for example it was discovered that no-touch forehead thermometers don't work outdoors in a rainstorm, but kids were wearing masks and the format was successful.

**Field Reservations:** As previously discussed, Goss asked Tim McMonigle, WSSC field scheduler, to transfer certain of our WSSC field reservations to HSA for this year only. We wanted field permits to be in the name of the actual user, HSA, who will also pay for those fields this year, but we want to be certain not to prejudice WSSC's historical use records of those fields so as to preserve this asset to WSSC for future years. Goss reports that McMonigle assures him that Parks has stated it will treat this year as an anomaly and it will have no impact on historical use records.

Persson raises the concern that historical field use position is a very valuable asset which WSSC has built up over the years. While acknowledging the mutually beneficial relationship between WSSC and HSA, he expresses concern that WSSC has ceded scheduling authority for these fields such that the board is not making the direct decisions involved in parceling out use of its fields between WSSC and HSA. Looking toward spring, when high school girls and boys will (hopefully) both be playing, and the proliferation of new leagues, and the rise of other sports, we may face a more severe field shortage in the future, so our historic use will be even more valuable.

After full discussion, it was agreed by consensus that the value of historic use is such that we want to keep fall fields in the WSSC name, so Goss suggests we ask McMonigle to withdraw our request to Parks to change the field permits for fall 2020. Allan will let McMonigle know and then speak with his Parks contact as he is in touch with them for other reasons. It was acknowledged that the novel circumstances of the current season have made these decisions complicated and changeable.

**Refunds for Fall Season:** At the last meeting we passed a motion to cancel the fall season and refund all registrations. Since that meeting, HSA has decided that the two WSSC teams which were scheduled to play in the NPSL can become HSC teams which will play in the NPSL; this means that these players' registrations in Affinity will be removed from WSSC and added to HSC, and it is requested that their registration fees be transferred to HSC rather than refunded. Allan points out that not refunding these teams would violate our prior passed motion to refund all teams.

Allan moves, Larsen seconds, that WSSC not cancel the registrations of these two teams, or process their refunds, until the details of their transfers to HSC can be worked out. With Goss and Persson abstaining, the motion otherwise passes unanimously.

**Future Meetings:** The November board meeting will remain on the calendar. There will be no in-person December volunteer appreciation event.

**ACTION ITEM:** Send suggestions for the January retreat agenda to Goss.

**Registrar:** Hinthorn is asking Soccer Office to post an ad on social media for a new registrar. If we cannot find a good volunteer registrar, we will consider hiring Soccer Office to perform this function.

**Soccer Connect/Blue Sombrero:**

**ACTION ITEM:** Continue to send your complaints with this system to Goss, who will compile them in preparation for a meeting with US Soccer Connect.

**Impacts of Cancelling the Season:** Allan reports that he also asked HSA if his rec team could be transferred to HSC for play in SSUL but was told no. Foulk reported that HSC/HSA felt it could take on two teams in NPSL but that it did not have the resources to add all 17 WSSC teams playing SSUL, and it felt it should not take one SSUL team without taking all them, which it was unable to do.

Allan questions the significance, if any, of the fact that when these two teams registered, they signed waivers to WSSC but now they will be part HSC. Goss opines that since the players are moving voluntarily to HSC, that club is a successor to the original waivers.

Concern was raised that these two teams found an alternative way to play, but only these two teams. Goss stated that any WSSC team or player that wants to register elsewhere for fall is of course free to do so.

Persson points out that, given the current Covid infection rates in King County (86/100,000) and the recent upward trend, the Governor's recent guidelines prohibit soccer games in King County, so no one will be playing in the near future.

Allan raised concerns about HSA's decision to play the fall season and WSSC's decision not to, particularly a concern that Select and Premier teams, whose players pay more to play for their programs than rec players do, will be playing while WSSC's rec players will not. Allan asserts this difference "smacks of institutional racism" and is based upon implicit bias, and proposes the board hire a bias trainer to "review board policies and decisions" and perhaps make this a topic for the board retreat. Other board members strongly objected to this characterization and the implication that any member had acted with bias or ill intent. Other board members also pointed out that the decisions on whether HSA premier/select teams would play and whether WSSC rec teams would play were made independent of each other, by two separate boards, each for the entirety of its own cohort, based upon safety considerations and its ability or inability to comply with State mandated Covid guidelines. Agreement on this concern was not reached. It was again acknowledged that this season is unique, complicated and difficult, with constantly changing facts, guidelines and mandates.

**Important Dates:**

Monday, Nov. 9: Regular Board Meeting

January 2021: Board Retreat