



**Vancouver Youth Soccer Association  
VYSA Board Meeting Minutes March 21st, 2016**

Regrets: Pat Banks, Ed Soltysik, Klaus Iden

Absent:

Present: Floyd Salazar, Susan Dhillon, Steve Minns, Glyn Roberts, Jaiden Simmons, Randy Finlay, Kieran Siddall, Marc Bowley, Jackie Larson (by conference call), Tom Madden, Steven Chang

Guest: Michele Chui

Meeting was called to order by Floyd Salazar at 7.02pm

**Agenda.** A reduced agenda was proposed to focus on the two most important current issues: 1) The proposal by Vancouver United to enter teams into MSL and 2) The job opportunities at VYSA. - MOTION: "To adopt the agenda of the meeting". Steve/Tom. Carried.

**Minutes** - MOTION: "To adopt the revised minutes of the VYSA Board Meeting held on February 15th, 2016. Susan/Jaiden. Carried.

**Job positions for Mini-scheduler, 4D scheduler and Photo ID:**

The deadline for applications is March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. A sub-committee comprising Michele Chui, Jaiden Simmons and Pat Banks will review the applications following the deadline and make a recommendation to the board.

**Vancouver United proposal to enter teams into MSL league, outlined in the letter dated February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016:**

In its letter dated February 23, 2016, VUFC requests that the VYSA Board approve VUFC entering teams in the MSL. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

Before discussion on the proposal started, Floyd advised that he had talked with Jason Elligott of BCSA, who confirmed that the decision on whether to allow clubs to enter teams at MSL level is one that needs to be made by the District.

At this point of the meeting, Floyd Salazar, Susan Dhillon and Tom Madden left the meeting due to potential conflicts of interest.

All Vancouver district clubs were provided with the proposal from VUFC and invited to comment. Correspondence has been received from all clubs with the exception of Killarney. There are currently some changes occurring at board level in Killarney and they have been unable to formally respond, although it was noted that they had expressed an interest to be included in the joint letter submitted by Marpole/KLM/ICSF. Copies of the correspondence received are attached to these minutes.

Responses by Vancouver Athletic, Vancouver FC and Marpole/KLM/ICSF all request that VYSA not support the proposal. Reasons include the need for further discussion with VYSA and the district's associated clubs; the potential lowering of standards at MSL level; and the impact on smaller clubs.

It was noted that there was little evidence that VUFC had been consistently outperforming gold level in the last 5 years.

It was acknowledged that VUFC raise many important issues in their letter and VUFC's desire to enter its teams into MSL has highlighted the potential need to review youth soccer league structure in British Columbia. The challenges of player movement between the league, MSL and BCSPFL were highlighted and it was suggested that

enabling teams to move between the league and MSL, or even phasing out the MSL in favor of a new top league comprising of club teams, may be of benefit. These issues could be raised at a “round table” of Vancouver district clubs and also to a wider audience at the forthcoming Youth Soccer Forum meeting.

As pointed out by VUFC, the league structure and the fielding of teams at MSL level was last discussed in 2009, prior to the amalgamation of several smaller clubs to form Vancouver United and Vancouver Athletic. With the formation and development of these larger clubs, it was agreed that there was potentially the need to review league structures and VYSA policy on entering MSL teams. However, it was generally agreed by all that far more discussion and consultation was required.

One option may be for Vancouver United to field a team at MSL level and for the other clubs in Vancouver to combine with Richmond to enter a “Fusion” team at MSL level.

A vote was then undertaken as worded at the beginning of the VUFC proposal. Current VYSA board members voted 5 “Against”, 0 “For”, with 2 abstentions for allowing the request to field VUFC teams at MSL level for the 2016/17 season. The request is therefore denied. However, current VYSA board members voted unanimously “For” deferring the request to field VUFC teams at MSL level for the 2017/18 season and beyond, pending further discussions with VYSA and the district’s associated clubs.

At this point, Floyd Salazar, Susan Dhillon and Tom Madden returned to the meeting.

**The VYSA Annual General Meeting will be on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

MOTION: to adjourn at 8:30 pm Susan/Glyn. Carried.

Submitted by VYSA Secretary, Steve Minns