

Club President's Meeting Minutes

November 23rd, 2023 – 6:30 PM



Introductions

- John Copp (HDSA President) welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for travelling to the meeting. Noted the importance of and recent lack of face-to-face gatherings.
- Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves and the club they were representing.

ONCA & Constitution Updates

- Paul Morra (HDSA District Administrator) went over material provided in handout.
- Clarification was given that ONCA only applies if the organization is incorporated.
- Clubs have the option to amend their current bylaws or draft new ones.
- Template from Ontario Soccer provides a good starting point to draft new bylaws.
- John then discussed an idea from a club to have a committee put together to address these ONCA changes. Any interested individual can come forward to the District.
- Clarification on HST was given. In order to collect HST, the club must be incorporated.

HDSL Rule Changes

- Brad Doubrough (HDSA Senior Manager) then covered the HDSL rule changes for the 2024 season (full rule changes listed in handout).
- The goal of the changes is to improve the standard and quality of HDSL across the board.
- Huronia SC asked about field checks for out of district teams. Brad clarified that clubs/teams would be held to the same standard if they are competing in the HDSL.
- Innisfil Greyhounds mentioned that some facilities in Innisfil are being lost to other sports due to lack of use. For clubs that want to increase opportunities, the District can support with a letter to municipalities.
- There were some questions regarding the breakdown of mixed divisions. The goal of mixed divisions is to keep more players playing within the district.
- Playing down approvals in development age group will be more heavily scrutinized this season.
- SSU asked why Ontario Soccer referee certification is not open year-round. This has been brought to OS multiple times from the districts. Nicole said that they are working on a year-round certification program. There is also a link on the [Ontario Soccer Match Official's tab](#) of website where you can input personal information to receive an email when the program opens.



Match Officials

- Nicole Pagliaro (HDSA Harassment Officer and Standing DRC) provided an overview of the district referee program. The retainment of new referees is a key issue.
- Touched on the district practical sessions and mentorship program. Uptake for both was not good this past season and Nicole would like club head referees to be more actively involved with the programs available at the district level.
- Nicole then touched on the positives from last season. The clubs really stepped up with the No Ref No Game campaign. Discipline did improve from the previous season.
- Nicole plans to continue with district ref kits and also wants to focus more on match official development sessions across the whole district (north, south, east, west).

HDSA Board Positions

- John went over the HDSA board positions that will be up for election at the January AGM.

Positions up for election at 2023 AGM

- Vice President
- Secretary – Currently Open (Interim Filled by Kaelyn Thom)
- District Referee Coordinator - Currently Open (Interim Filled by Nicole Pagliaro)
- Director of Discipline & Appeals – Currently Open
- Director at Large – Currently Open
- If a club has any nominations, they can be shared with HDSA office 21 days prior.

Overview of Fees

- John then discussed the proposed fee increases for 2024.
- SaaS fees will no longer be charged as a single item. The \$3 fee will now be rolled into player registration.
- Proposed \$1 per player fee increase for Match Official development.
- Proposed \$1 per player fee increase for inflation.
- Ontario Soccer has a 3.40% fee increase for the 2024 season.
- These fees will be voted on at the AGM.

HDSL Registration Fees

- Development: \$500
- Youth Recreation: \$500
- Youth Competitive: \$600
- IModel HDSL Operated: \$800
- Adult Recreation: \$500
- Adult Competitive: \$800



Questions & Adjournment

- Some additional topics included digital ID cards and the new Demosphere website.
- Digital ID cards will be used in HDSL for 2024.
- Demosphere will be used for HDSL operations in 2024.
- Reminder that SportsEngine HQ is now free to all clubs. Clubs should use a platform that they understand and trust.
- IModel is still a pilot project, but is now being managed by the Central Region.
- Lastly, John discussed the possibility for teams travelling to Sudbury to also play double headers against Sault Ste. Marie.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.