

**LYSA AGM - DRAFT**  
**Wednesday, December 30, 2015, 7pm**  
**Londonderry Town Offices, Moose Hill Chambers**

Attendees: Jessica Anastasia, Paul D'Errico (voted as a voting member prior to opening of meeting), Alli Flaherty, Joe Green, Kathy Martinez, Paul Roberson, Chantal Schreiner, Sam Schreiner, Kerri Stanley, LYSA Members of Spring and Fall 2015 seasons (Mike Bartlett, Eric Goedde)

Non-member: Glenn Douglas

Before the meeting began, Joe opened discussion on whether Paul D'Errico, who is not a LYSA member, should be allowed to vote since he was in attendance and was under the assumption that he always had been a LYSA member. Kerri voiced her opposition and stated that regardless of his involvement as a current paid vendor, the AGM was for the 2015 spring and fall seasons, and as a paid vendor, the By Laws did not allow him to vote. After discussion and review of the By Laws to find a corroborating statement to dispute this (none was found), Joe made a motion to allow Paul the privilege to vote and it passed 8-1. (Taking a vote tonight to let a non member become a member and vote was a disregard for the By Laws written. This disrespect of the written By Laws enables future discrepancies to occur based on the lackadaisical concern of following the rules. Complications could arise with the knowledge that what is good for one is good for others and this could open a door of disruption since this interpretation introduces the fact that LYSA pays its volunteers.)

The meeting was opened at 7:24pm. Joe Green stated the reason why he was standing in for the former President, Patti Maccabe, who resigned earlier in the month. He thanked her for her service. He introduced the executive board members and volunteer members (board of directors), and individual who runs concession, who were in attendance.

The Meeting Minutes from 6/30/14 were reviewed and approved by Sam, seconded by Kathy.

Review of 2015 season: Successful, nearly 1500 players between two seasons. Effort was made to try to get members to register early to avoid last minute scheduling which caused extra work to all. We do offer a scholarship to those with hardships so that can't be the reason why some people were late in registering. We will look in the future to have a firm deadline two weeks before Opening Day and possibly wait-list late registrants. We are implementing steps (ex: earlier planning meetings with tri-town leagues) to make the seasons better in the future. Joe opened the floor to anyone who wanted to add input.

Lights on Field 1: We've been working to raise funds to get lights installed on field 1 since Field 3 is the only one currently lighted. We are working with the town since they are technically town-owned fields, to get financial assistance. The Town Manager felt this would be a great asset to the recreational organizations of the town, and this will be addressed at a future Town

Council agenda. It would also benefit the travel soccer club in town, LUSC. At this time, we are looking to get one field lighted sooner than later. This may increase the number of volunteers to our organization if coaches know they can hold practices later. The approximate cost to light Field 3 was \$65K. This cost was split with LUSC where they paid back their portion over a period of years for use of the field. Currently it is about \$90K. Mike Bartlett asked if there was a way for the organization to apply for the reserved funds (undesignated fund balance) the town usually has, and Joe suggested that members send letters or voice their request to get the Town Manager to support it and submit the request to the Town Council. A minimum of 26 signatures are required to get a Petition article put on the voting ballot.

Financial Results: Sam presented his verbal report (no written report was provided). Membership brings in about \$65K per year, which is enough to sustain our expenses and keep us in a healthy status. Largest expenses go towards uniforms and referee fees. We still have difficulty getting volunteers and have agreed to increase the volunteer fee from \$10 per player to \$25 per player (parents only need to volunteer for 1 2-hour shift to be reimbursed their volunteer fees) with the hope that this will increase the number of volunteers to our organization (coaches, concession workers, etc.). Kathy suggested posting a video to the website showing what is entailed in concession volunteering.

Sam indicated we have never had a financial audit and that we are in the process of getting one done and perhaps every 2-3 years going forward. Joe asked how much this would cost and the value we'd get. Sam stated the value will be a stand alone document completed by a professional which will be available for anybody (dues paying members) who want to review it. The cost involves the level of service provided, ranging anywhere between \$2K - \$10K depending on what suits our organization. We will obtain three quotes from three different organizations to do this. It was asked by Paul D'Errico if we are changing accountants, and Sam stated that we were because our former accountant (Kevin Student) was accused of embezzling funds. A past accountant, John Tishler, has said he is not available so we will need to seek a new accountant.

It was commented that people are surprised at the low fees we charge for food at concession. (Lafa brings in nearly \$20K yearly, and LYSA loses money.) Joe commented on why our prices are low but that it can be discussed further so that we can stop losing funds and perhaps even break even if we can. A budget proposal should be created before the start of the spring season. Paul stated that we typically don't open concession during the spring season and perhaps that should change. This is because spring season players are less than in the fall and it was predicted that there would be no way to profit by opening concession in the spring. Mike Bartlett suggested we open a Twitter account to announce concession specials and other LYSA-related information. (LYSA currently has a Facebook account.)

Joe made a motion to move the election of officers to the end of the meeting and brought up new business. He opened the floor to how LYSA can improve in the future. Mike Bartlett commented about our sister club, LUSC, and that he believes they should be a part of LYSA

because other town soccer clubs (Rec and travel) work cohesively together. He does not think the town will be successful in developing our town players while the two organizations are divided. Joe stated that he was not interested in pursuing the open position of President but if he was, he would prefer the two organizations merged, although he agrees it is not always the right thing to do for everyone. He invited Sam to speak on this since he is interested in filling the vacant position of president, and Sam agreed to Mike's points and stated that he has been talking with a LUSC board member (Chris Gingrow). Joe referenced the lighting issue as well as another reason that we would like to perhaps work closest with LUSC, although it is still uncertain whether the two clubs should merge. Eric Goedde asked if the door is open to this merger and Joe stated it was, but there were hindrances based on personalities and other issues that were keeping this from happening but we were working towards a closer relationship with LUSC.

Sam stated the need for volunteers for the many different areas LYSA needs to continue to succeed and grow while keeping costs down and Joe invited others to share comments or questions to help "shape the future". Sam stated that we could post the open board positions on our website, but one needed immediately was a webmaster since our current one, John Maccabe, resigned. Mike Bartlett asked if we paid someone. Sam stated that we paid for a hosting site but that the webmaster was a volunteer. Mike stated that there are web services out there that perhaps we can pursue. We haven't pursued this because of the various GotSoccer fees.

Proposed By-Law changes: Joe read the recommendations being brought to vote tonight:

- 1) To have a fifth member of the Executive Board to be named "Operations Director".
- 2) To set term limits for each Executive Board Position of 2 @ 3 years concurrently.
- 3) To add a rule for the election of the officers to the Executive Board that they may not be relatives.
- 4) To add the stipulation that when your term begins as President, that you must have a child active within the organization.

Kerri stated the description for #1 was vague and that she, as an executive board member, was not consulted. Sam stated it was sent to all executive board members in November.

The second proposal was intended to try to keep ideas fresh and new. Joe believes most organizations have this in place. Chantal stated that Londonderry is looking into this, and Kerri clarified that it was one person who was seeking to have this applied to all town committees, not necessarily the entire town.

Joe asked for a motion pass the annotated by-laws, #1. Mike asked how this role was handled previously and Sam stated the former president predominantly handled it, but it was more or less fragmented between various volunteers within the board. Jessica Anastasi asked if there was an individual in mind, and Joe stated there are a couple of individuals in mind who are

interested and we could talk about the qualifications of these individuals later. Mike stated that typically this role is overseen by a number of individuals, not just one.

Joe made a motion to pass #1. Paul made a motion to accept, Sam seconded. It passed 7-1.

Sam made a motion to pass #2, seconded by Paul. It passed 9-0.

Chantal made a motion to pass #3, seconded by Alli. It passed 10-0.

For the 4th proposal, Kerri asked to include an adjustment to the sentence to include all executive members and not exclusively the president. Sam asked for clarification as to whether this begins now or re-election. Joe stated it would be when a new executive board term begins. It passed 8-2.

Sam asked for a second clarification: What is 'active'? Joe stated that he crafted it and stated that all active members included players, referees, or anybody somehow involved within the organization somehow. Active is defined as a youth who is a player, a referee, or assistant coach. Joe made a motion to accept the revised wording. It passed 8-1.

Joe made a motion to add #4 (with revisions\*) to the by-laws and discussion ensued that the By Laws allow an exception to appoint an individual who doesn't have an active child in the organization if there is no person interested. Extensive conversation followed regarding this entire proposal. It was unanimously voted down.

\*To add the stipulation that when your term begins as an Executive Board Member, that you must have a child active within the organization. (Active is defined as: player, referee, assistant coach). When a shortage of nominees exists, the Executive Board may waive this requirement by unanimous vote.

Election of officers: Joe stated that on December 11, the Executive Board had an emergency meeting since we had received a resignation of the former president and discussed how we would go forward. It was decided we wouldn't rush into things and that the president's term will expire on December 31, 2015, and that he, as vice-president, would run the meetings until a new president was appointed. Currently, only the election of treasurer was on the agenda, so Paul Roberson made a motion to accept Sam Schreiner, seconded by Alli, and it was passed 9-0 (1 abstained).

Joe made a motion to recess this meeting to March 30, 2016 (90 day timeframe) to give other individuals time to submit interest. Kerri asked why this date was chosen and Jessica asked how a specific date will affect the spring season. Joe stated it wouldn't affect the spring season. Kerri stated she felt more comfortable having a president in place as soon as possible. Joe asked what would be the reasons that an earlier date was needed. Eric Goedde stated that there is not enough communication. He does not look at emails and says he gets confused with

them between the two soccer organizations. He learned of tonight's meeting via his wife and the Facebook page. Sam stated that our goal for 2016 is to communicate often and early. School flyers may be a better means to get notifications to parents. This motion failed 1-9.

Kerri suggested a shorter recess and suggested 45 days as some felt 30 would be too soon. Sam suggested February 17, 2016, where members can vote on interested candidates and have received information on their views and intentions and why they want to take on the position.

Sam made a motion (seconded by Paul) to resume this meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 7pm. Interested candidates should provide a one-page summary of why they want to be president which would be available to members. This passed 10-0.

The meeting was recessed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerri L. Stanley  
LYSA Secretary