



**Pacific Northwest Soccer Club
Informational Board Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2022
5:00 pm
Zoom Videoconferencing**

Board Members Present: John Wilson, Jeff Hemmen, Ryan Meeks, Marilyn Montenegro, Brian Reckling, Kris Cebull, Tami Nguyen. **Also Present:** Todd Johnson, Kaelen Aramaki, Michelle Patton, Robin Hautamaki.

Meeting Called to Order by John Wilson 5:03 pm

1. Discussion of Federal Way Merger

- Federal Way reached out to us. Culminating in a presentation to all Federal Way FC and Mod Board.
 - WPFC also presented before PacNW.
 - Tuesday night received a request from their treasurer to see our form 990.
 - They are meeting sometime this week to discuss and deliberate.
- a. Where are we going from here?
- It would be all hands-on deck if accepted. We would do tryouts late April early May for tryouts for PacNW and Federal Way.
- b. What does GRTYSA know?
- Met with James Leeper and let him know that we had been approached by Federal Way and it was now on the table. James expressed no concerns. John told him it would not change our relationship with our association. Have informed James of the potential changes.
- c. What does WYS know about this?
- We have not spoken to WYS but Federal Way has. They are aware of the ongoing talks. A representative has met with their board and talked the process through with them.
- d. What does this look like if we combine?
- Everything would be under the PacNW brand. There might be some specific identifiers based on a particular program or location:
 - i) At the top would be ECNL – operating out of Starfire
 - ii) RCL side by side RCL programs -PacNW Starfire RCL and PacNW Federal Way RCL (300 players). They could potentially play against each other. These would be

side by side regional RCL programs. Players would choose the program they want to participate in by region.

- iii) Select program running only in Federal Way – their select program is 60 players
 - iv) Mod program running only in Federal Way (300 players).
 - v) Select and mod would only operate out of Federal Way and would not compete with Southlake. Southlake would continue to operate in Renton/Tukwila. In a perfect world it is a good time for GRTYSA to get a growth and connection with Southlake.
- Key take-away and theme:
 - 1) If this moves forward, we need to ensure that this is a collaborative partnership to continue offering a high quality soccer program in Federal Way. We are not taking over and imposing our will. This is collaborative partnership.
 - 2) We want to be ready. We are getting some indications that they might be leaning in our direction. We are going to need to start rolling up our sleeves and working forward.
 - We have heard they are currently in the black, but haven't actually seen anything on paper.
 - We have committed to maintaining the fee structure for their current players. Their cost structure is different. They pay \$5 an hour for a lit turf field. It's a different cost structure. We did commit to. They also don't pay for tournaments for their teams.

Questions:

- Why would we do 2 RCL programs? Can ECNL and RCL be held at Starfire and the mod select be in Federal Way? Malia: How we go into it certainly may not be how it looks in year 2 or 3. Malia thinks the reason they are leaning towards us is because we are agreeing to leave things the same. We will do our best to help make the programs better and try to keep RCL in Federal Way. If we can't maintain it in this way, then we would have to revisit. The goal is to have a Federal Way chapter and a Starfire Chapter.
- Why would they choose WP? They have a board member that coaches for WP. In the past there may have been hard feelings or impressions that PacNW wasn't easy to deal with.
- Federal Way asked us is about our structure of our board. John explained our board was a working board. John told them that he would be comfortable expanding our board to 9 and designating two of those board seats to Federal Way. They really want to feel like they have a voice and that seemed to really resonate with them.
- Why are they looking to merge with another club? They are failing, they are going to collapse if they don't have support. They need help. Lack of membership. Kris looked at their form 990's. Concerning is that they have reorganized and are DBA. They are operating as a DBA as a non-profit.

- As far as geography goes, what's between our boundary and their boundary. Do we have a contiguous boundary. Not sure.
- Tami: What a great bonus that would be for fields.

No action necessary at this time. Expect Federal Way to make a decision by the end of this week.

Meeting adjourned at 5:32p