

Athabasca Soccer Association  
**Annual General Meeting**  
February 3, 2016

***MINUTES***

**1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

President Russ Strathdee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on February 3, 2016.

**a) Agenda for 2016 AGM**

Mark Francis motioned to approve the agenda with no additions, seconded by Mandy Smith, the motion was passed.

**b) Minutes from 2015 AGM**

Mark Francis motioned to approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of February 3, 2015. Gayle Deren-Peredy seconded the motion, the motion was passed.

**2.0 Reports/ Presentations**

**a) Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Karen Seal provided the financial statements (see attached) for the year ending December 31, 2015, and they showed a balance of \$96,649.59. The August 2014 Casino in Fort McMurray earned the Association \$54,665.84, so casino is a very important part of Athabasca Soccer Association's fundraising. Next casino is March 11-12, 2016 and volunteers are needed.

Karen reviewed our commitment to the Multiplex for the outdoor soccer fields: we paid \$50,000 in 2013 and 2014, \$150,000 is therefore owing on the original \$250,000 commitment of \$50,000 per year for 5 years. Due to the uncertainty over the future of our outdoor fields with the proposed construction of the new school, no decisions have yet been made about the remaining \$150,000. Glenda Gray motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, Travis Semashkevich seconded the motion, the motion was passed.

**b) President's Report**

President Russ Strathdee reported that the Athabasca Soccer Association had another successful season in 2015. The total registration numbers were 421. 369 kids played outdoor soccer and 52 kids played indoor soccer. Only U6, U8 and U10 kids played indoor soccer.

In Outdoor soccer, we had a successful tournament for U4-U10. U10 and up played in the TriCounty Cup, with Athabasca U10 teams taking gold and bronze. Many of our teams represented Athabasca in Outdoor Provincials:

U12 Girls – 4th place

U12 Boys – 5th place

U14 Girls – 8th place

U14 Boys- 7th place  
U16 Girls – 4th place  
U16 Boys – 5th place

### TriCounty News

Regarding Tri-County, Fort Saskatchewan will be playing in TriCounty this year, which will make the year stronger. In the last 3 years, since Fort Saskatchewan left to play in Edmonton/Sherwood Park, there has been a lack of teams at the older age groups, especially U16 and U18. We will have to wait until team declarations are finalized on April 10 (pre-declarations are due March 6) to know which teams will have a TriCounty league to play in, but are hoping with the return of Fort Saskatchewan, most teams will have a TriCounty league to play in. If a particular age group does not have enough teams for a viable league (Tri-County's definition of a viable league is a minimum 4 teams), EMSA (Edmonton league) will be an option for our Athabasca teams. The U10 age group will be playing in the Tri-County league but the ages U4 – U8 will remain in-house leagues. There will be a North/South split when scheduling games to reduce travel during the season, and teams from all over TriCounty will participate in the TriCounty Cup.

It is important that we have our registration numbers for the older players finalized by the Tri-County pre-declaration date of March 6. On this date, all Tri-County communities declare the number of teams they will field for U10+ age groups and Tri-County can then determine if there are enough teams for a viable league at each age level. Teams will be finalized April 10. Other options, such as EMSA or a tournament team, can then be pursued for any teams that do not have a league in Tri-County.

The Outdoor Season will begin in early April with indoor practices for the U10 to U18 age groups. All teams will begin playing games outdoors the first week in May, field conditions permitting. All games will be scheduled for midweek, but games can be rescheduled if both teams agree and follow the Tri-County process for the rescheduling of games.

### Soccer Fields

Mark Francis, Superintendent of Aspen View School division addressed the issue of soccer fields during the construction of the new school. The new school will be built where current soccer fields are (will lose the U12 field and one large field but will still be able to play on the other large field). Construction of the new school is hoped to begin in May to early June of 2016. Construction will take 2 years. During this time we can use one big field near the multiplex, possibly make a new big field at WHPS, and/or use the fields at EPC. In the future, the school and soccer community can decide together where and how many fields to build near the new school, so all soccer in the community can take place in one place.

### ***c) Coaching Director's Report***

Coaching Director Glenn Martin began his report with an announcement that all registrations will be online this year to facilitate the registration process. Lorrill Waschuk, the registrar to give details about it later in the meeting. He then launched a plea for volunteer coaches, especially for the younger ages. The Association struggles with coaches at the U4 to U8 level mainly because there are

so many kids playing soccer at these ages so we need so many more coaches, and also because we keep the teams small, the benefits being a low ratio of kids/coaches and kids get more time to play. Vice president Shelly Younker had a sign up sheet for anyone interested in coaching.

### Coaching Certifications and Clinics

Coaching clinics are put on by very experienced people, they provide countless tips and ideas for coaching the various age groups and they provide a consistent level of coaching. The Athabasca Soccer Association needs a minimum of 12 people to run a clinic locally, which we are hoping can happen for the younger age groups. The Association pays all costs for anyone who attends coaching clinics (registration fees and babysitting costs if necessary for local clinics and registration fees, mileage and hotel if must attend out of town clinics). The head coach of each team from U10 to U18 must be certified for the appropriate age level (outlined below). U6 to U8 coaches are not required to be certified but it is strongly recommended they participate in a clinic. The clinics are:

**Active Start U4-U6 Coaches** – 3 to 4 hour long course

**FUNDamentals U6-U8 Coaches** – 1 day course

**Learning to Train U10-U12 Coaches** – 2 day course

**Soccer for Life U14-U18 Coaches** – 2 day course

### CRC Information

Glenn stressed the necessity of a CRC when working with kids and asked anyone considering coaching or managing or being a bench person, etc. to get a CRC ASAP. A CRC can be obtained any day of the week at the local Police Station; two pieces of identification with one being a photo ID are required. If your birthdate coincides with a known criminal, an enhanced CRC with fingerprints will be required. As of August 2014, the technology for the electronic submission of fingerprints is available in Canada which means that the wait for an enhanced CRC should decrease to approximately two weeks. If you require an enhanced CRC, ask for the form letter from the Athabasca Soccer Association which allows the enhanced criminal record check fees to be waived. Tri-County accepts the validity of a CRC for three years. Tri-County keeps a record of all CRCs and if anyone does not have one, they will not be allowed to participate in any kind of coaching (Head Coach, Asst Coach, Manager, Bench Person) for their team. Either email your CRC or drop them off to Glenn and he will scan it, and send electronic copies to TriCounty.

Glenn will give out coaching packages at the coaches meeting he will hold before the beginning of the soccer season.

### U8 Development

Glenn finished by saying we want to change the U8 program to better transition them into U10 soccer. We are still developing the criteria, but U8 teams will play with bigger nets on bigger fields this year.

### 3.0 Elections

Elections – Board member regular term of office governed by Bylaw 9 amendment:

**President:** election year is odd year – **Russ Strathdee** continues in position

**Vice President:** election year is even year – position up for election/**Shelly Younker** continues in position

**Secretary:** election year is odd year – **Shelli Stocki** continues in position

**Treasurer:** election year is even year – position up for election/**Karen Seal** continues in position

**Registrar:** election year is even year – position up for election /**Lorrill Waschuk** continues in position

**Coaching Director:** election year is odd year – **Glenn Martin** continues in position

**Communications Director:** election year is even year – position up for election/**Evan Wagner** new to this position

**Referee Scheduler** – election year is odd year – position up for election due to resignation/**Quentin Syryda** new to position

**Field Scheduler** – election year is odd year – **Albert Assaf** continues in position

**Equipment Manager** – election year is even year – position up for election/**Matt Purdy** new to position

**Equipment Manager** – election year is odd year – **Dave Liddell** continues in position

**Tournament Chair** – not governed by bylaws – position up for election/**Cindi Logelin** continues in position

### 4.0 Registrations 2016

Registrar, Lorrill Waschuk, expanded on the new website and online registration. The new website is taking longer than planned to build, but it will be a big improvement with all information you could want available with a click (links to TriCounty schedules, coaching videos, etc.). Feedback is welcome – please send to Lorrill.

All registrations for the 2016 outdoor season must be made online. You will be able to pay using a credit card or a cheque (mail in), or possibly something like Pay Pal (still working that out). For the jersey deposit a cheque, will need to be mailed in. Registration will be open on February 10, 2016. U4-U8 can register until April 21. U10 and up should register by predeclaration date of March 6 so we have an idea of the number of teams in each age group; final deadlines for U10-U18 will be March 15.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.**