

**Nelson Soccer Association
Board Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2025 | 6:03 PM | NDCU Board Room**

In Attendance: Marlisa, Aileen, Stefan, Roger, Emma, Alain, Justin, Cindy, Larissa, Brett, Sarah, Amanda

Regrets: Cheryl Ann

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda: Aileen, seconded by Marlisa.
- Amendment to correct the date to May 5th approved by Roger and Emma.
- **Addition to Agenda:** Fundraising initiatives and proposals were added under New Business. Approved by consensus.

3. Approval of April Minutes

- Motion to approve April minutes: Aileen, seconded by Marlisa.

4. Old Business

a. Gaming Grant Update / Artist Proposal Update

a.i. The Gaming Grant application process is well underway.

- Patricia Smuga has been hired as a grant consultant on an hourly basis.
- Patricia is confident NSA can secure increased funding this year, which is welcome news as operational costs have risen significantly.

a.ii. An artist asked for permission to sell toques at the NSA office and concession.

- The board agreed that NSA cannot support initiatives that benefit individual players financially.
- However, NSA is open to accepting 100% of the proceeds from any product sales.

5. Committee Reports

a. Chair – Stefan

a.i. Executive Director Leave

- NSA's Executive Director has taken a leave of absence.
- The board acknowledged the need for formal HR policies to guide procedures during employee leaves.

a.ii. Human Resources Responsibilities

- There is a growing need for a comprehensive employee manual and established policies covering hiring, leaves, and workplace structure.

a.iii. Interim Operational Changes

- Hayden will take the lead on fields and facilities and assist Amanda with the Terry Walgren Memorial Tournament.
- He will also continue supporting House League operations and temporarily assume some ED responsibilities.
- Upon Brett's return, Hayden will report to the Technical Director.
- Brett will assist with creating structure and supporting Admin and FFM operations based on his experience managing football clubs and teams.
- Iain Harvey has stepped in to manage referee scheduling and has been highly supportive during this transitional period.

b. Finance – Roger

- Finances remain unchanged from the previous month.
- Motion to move two-thirds of the operating cash from the chequing account to savings: Moved by Aileen, seconded by Justin. Motion carried.

c. Rep Program – Amanda

- Planning for the Terry Walgren Memorial Tournament (TWMT) is proceeding smoothly.
- Kidsport has requested to host an information tent during the event, which was approved.
- NSA approved the use of Whitecaps Club Seats at the tournament.

d. Technical Director – Brett

b.i. Programming Update

- House and Rec programs are thriving, thanks in large part to youth coaches like Taya and the IMPACT volunteers.
- "Soccer Saturday" has been a major success and could not have happened without the dedication of these young coaches.

- The Icebreaker tournament was successful for older age groups, but development-age teams may require structural adjustments for more competitive tournament play.
- Summer Academy and camp registration numbers are looking strong.
- Brett will be hosting a parent information session in the coming weeks to discuss the fall/winter academy as well as the college pathway program.
- NSA is excited to host **BMO Girls Play On** June 28–30, with special guests Mike Salmon (BC Soccer Goalkeeping Coach) and Lisa White (Player Identification Coordinator).
- Hosting these provincial-level opportunities in Nelson is a significant achievement for a rural community.
- A new logo has been chosen for the in-house academy, now called **Kootenay United Football Academy**. Brett will begin researching branded apparel.

6. New Business

a. Fundraising & Sponsorship Discussions

- Brett proposed a **Burger & Beer Night** fundraiser during the Champions League at Finley's Pub to raise funds for a new, updated camera. Finley's has experience hosting these types of events.
- A **Goalkeeper Sponsorship Proposal** was submitted to the Rep Committee.
 - The idea was well received, as **sponsored goalkeeper kits are not currently provided** by NSA.
 - While outfield players receive sponsored jerseys, goalkeepers are currently outfitted with low-quality shirts and gloves.
 - The Fundraising/Sponsorship and Rep Committees will follow up with NSA's current Rep sponsor to explore this proposal further.

7. In-Camera Session

- Entered: 7:03 PM
- Exited: 7:51 PM

8. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Alain
- **Next Meeting:** June 2, 2025 | 6:00 PM | NDCU Board Room