



Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association

Mailing Address: Box #4554, Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 2V6

Fields Address: 1490A Wilkie Rd., Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 4Y1

www.wlysa.com | admin@wlysa.com

Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting

Thursday October 23, 2025 - 7:00PM MR.MIKES Steakhouse

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Credentials Report
3. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting
4. Business Arising
5. Officers' Reports
6. Election of Officers and Directors
7. New Business
8. Adjournment



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Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association Annual General Meeting

October 23, 2024 – 7:00PM

Esler Soccer Clubhouse

Meeting Called to Order: 7:03 PM

Roll Call:

Members: Hana Hein, Pepper Silvester (Director), Jen Gebert (Director), Tom Gebauer, Adrianna Smith, Amber Hoessl

Staff: Veronica Vivier, Alexis Walch

Other Attendees: Silvia Seibert-Dubray (Director), Brian Hansen (Director)

Credentials Report

Volunteer directors that were present introduced themselves with their respective positions on the Board of Directors.

Angie Johnson, and Christine Seinen have chosen to resign from the Board of Directors.

Approval of 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Motion: The WLYSA Board of Directors approves the 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes as presented.

Moved: Silvia Seibert-Dubray

Seconded: Jen Gebert

CARRIED

Business Arising

1. Concession: the board and members recognized that the Esler Soccer Field concession has been missed by many parents and players. The work to organize, and host was also recognized, and a request to discuss solutions in the future was brought forward.

2. Outhouses and Accessibility: two new outhouses were built on the property in 2024. Members recognized the need for more signage to help parents and players distinguish the structures as outhouses.
3. Succession Planning: Members and Directors recognized the need to begin succession planning for key roles within the Board of Directors, and staff – most importantly for the Field's Committee and Summer employee.
4. Volunteer hours: Directors and Members discussed potentially expanding the Board of Directors reach with more specific volunteer positions, as well as growing the overall volunteer capacity within the organization.

Director Reports

WLYSA Directors reviewed their year end reports with the members present.

Technical Director, Veronica, and Administrative Coordinator, Alexis, reviewed their year end reports with the Board of Directors and members present.

Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

No amendments were brought forward for the Constitution and Bylaws.

Amendments to the Rules and Regulations

No amendments were brought forward for the Rules and Regulations.

Election of Officers and Directors

In the interest of maintaining consistency in the Board of Directors for the WLYSA, five 2-year director positions are available for election each year. As two directors resigned mid two-year term, and one space remained available from the 2023 elections, there are an additional three 1-year director positions available for election this year.

First call for nominations to fill 2-year Director positions on the WLYSA Board of Directors.

Silvia Seibert-Dubray nominated Pepper Silvester, Hana Hein, Tom Gebauer, and Jen Gebert for a two year position on the board.

Pepper Silvester Accepted the nomination.

Hana Hein accepted the nomination.

Tom Gebauer declined the nomination.

Jen Gebert accepted the nomination.

Second call for nominations to fill 2-year Director positions on the WLYSA Board of Directors.

Brian Hansen nominated Gerald Pinchbeck.

Gerald was not in attendance, but accepted his nomination via text, and had previously confirmed that he would accept if nominated.

Third call for nominations to fill 2-year Director positions on the WLYSA Board of Directors.
No other nominations were given.

First call for nominations to fill 1-year Director positions on the WLSYA Board of Directors.

Silvia Seibert-Dubray nominated Erin Dell, and Crystal Turatus.

Erin Dell accepted via text.

Crystal Turatus will be emailed for confirmation following meeting; however she did previously communicate that she would accept a nomination.

Second call for nominations to fill 1-year Director positions on the WLSYA Board of Directors.

Third call for nominations to fill 1-year Director positions on the WLSYA Board of Directors.

No other nominations were given.

That concludes the AGM Election of Officers and Directors. 2 positions remain open at the time of the meeting, one 2-year Director position, and one 1 -year Director position.

New Business

1. CYSA Membership fees: New for 2025, the Cariboo Youth Soccer Association will be charging per player membership fees. District boards have been asked to discuss, and decide a fee range they would be comfortable adding to their membership.

Date for 2025 AGM: Thursday October 23, 2025

Meeting Adjourned: 8:52 PM

Motion for Adjournment: Brian Hansen

WLYSA Director's Report

Name: Pepper Silvester

Portfolio: President

Reporting Dates: October 2024/2025

Supporting Club Activities

What have you worked on or participated in? How have you spent time supporting the club since the last Board meeting?

Oct – Fall outdoor

- Indoor in Quesnel

Nov – Clean up Fields for winter

- Indoor in Quesnel

Dec – Indoor finishes up mid Dec.

- Attended Training in PG

Jan and Feb.

- Attended Coach Training in PG
- Prep for Spring
- Indoor in Wms Lk

March – Final Prep for Spring Season and Travel Teams

- Travel team practices begin (finding space)

April – Quesnel Goldpan

- Spring Season begins

May and June – Spring Season

- Travel team games (Slurpee, PGYSA...)
- CSA Games

July and Aug – Summer Season

- Clean up from Spring Season
- Prep for Fall Season

Sept and Oct – Fall Season

- Fundraising

- AGM
- Fall Outdoor
- Quesnel Indoor

ALWAYS:

- Attend Monthly meetings
- Cheque signing
- Planning upcoming events and future play opportunities
- Regular contact with Admin to ensure necessary tasks are being completed
- Maintain budget with Treasurer
- Maintain plans with Secretary
- Converse with VP to support board and volunteers in current activities and plans

Key Outcomes or Highlights

Successes, progress, or wins to note?

- * Athlete Participation continues to grow
- * Construction of new coaching code of conduct
- * Club efforts in transparency and marketing of WLYSA and goals
- * Mion family appreciation to youth soccer for his accomplishments
- * Relationships being built and maintained with other Northern Clubs

Challenges or Concerns

Anything that got in the way or needs attention?

- We struggled with some coaching and parental issues this season, but have put a system into play to help prevent future such issues.
- Finances
- TD resignation
- Need to train up more Referees
- Fill positions on the executive.

- More volunteers (Always)
- Better ways to share player time with school teams
- Sr girls house teams

What are your next action items?

What's on your schedule for the next month?

- Play in Quesnel continues
- Fall Outdoor continues
- Clean up at the clubhouse and fields
- Fundraiser, Music Trivia

Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association Vice President Report – October 15, 2025

This marks my fourth year as Vice President, and I continue to gain valuable insights into supporting the success of our soccer program. Our association is committed to providing an enriching environment for youth to develop their soccer skills and learn valuable life lessons.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated coaches. Their consistent commitment and excellent leadership, both on and off the field, are instrumental to our program's success. This year, we had 79 coach/co-coach volunteers for our U3 to U10 age groups. Your dedication is truly appreciated.

I devoted considerable time to supporting our Rep soccer program. I have gained a greater understanding of the commitments required by players, parents, coaches, and managers. With the new Rep Team process being implemented, I am confident that we can provide a program where both coaches, players, and parents alike understand that soccer aims to commit to the personal growth both physically and emotionally as well as working hard to be a positive team player. Understanding how one performs on the field, where one's strengths are and where one needs to grow is a skill that cannot be taught too early in life.

My fourth year as Mini Coordinator was much smoother. I began preparing earlier, and with three-quarters of our coaches returning, we were able to continue offering the consistent curriculum for our youth. Once again, we had 6 wonderful youth coaches. I can see how much the kids they coached admire them and enjoyed coming to practice to spend time learning with each of them. I am grateful for all of them and hope they continue being amazing role models for kids in the future. We continue to use the Canadian Soccer Curriculum, which provides consistency for players. Coaches have reported that it helps them provide meaning practices that are also fun. The coaches were appreciative to not have to research and plant drills/skills for the players. Our numbers were up again from the previous year and especially thrilling to me was the strong enrollment for the and U4, U5, U6 and U7/8 programs. Retaining kids at this age will help build a lifetime passion not only for soccer but for sports and a healthier way of life. This year fall season saw many of these kids back to play even more soccer.

Changing the registration deadline made it easier to balance teams for the start of the season. Vacancies were filled with an additional 20 players, creating a smoother process than in previous years.

The success of youth soccer in Williams Lake depends on the contributions of hardworking executive members. However, to ensure continued operation of quality program, we are in need of additional support. Ideally, we would like to have 10 Directors instead of the current 6. The workload includes coordinating regular Spring league play for kids from U5 to U16. It also includes Rep coordination and support, as well as Fall soccer. Help is needed in all aspects of the association, and soccer knowledge is not required.

Currently, we have over 730 youth playing which is wonderful but as an executive we are not sure we can continue to do it with only 6 Directors and 1 staff, our Administrative Coordinator.

My term is up this year however, I would be willing to stay on, but I can also move over should someone like to take on the amazing role of being the Vice President.

Silvia Seibert-Dubray

WLYSA Vice President and Mini Coordinator (2021-2025)

WLYSA Director's Report

Name: Brian Hansen

Portfolio: Treasurer

Reporting Dates: Oct 1, 2024 – Sept 30, 2025

Supporting Club Activities

Most activities were focused on gaining a better understanding of our budget and the inputs that go into it as well as the process on how we manage to help achieve our objectives

Key Outcomes or Highlights

Based on how the year progressed, it is clear the budget inputs are reasonable based on our experience during the year. Big thank you to Alexis for all the work digging into the budget background

Challenges or Concerns

Finances are key to an organization's success and we need to keep focused on this moving forward

We have had significant cost pressures over the last few years and we need to ensure we stay ahead of this

Tracking of rep funds and this is an item we should review in the coming year as it somewhat distorts our budget and cash outlook

What are your next action items?

Development of new budget

Securing any grants that will help our overall costs

WLYSA Director's Report- 2025 AGM

Name: Jennifer Gebert

Portfolio: Secretary

Supporting Club Activities

- Have taken minutes and attended 8 of the last 11 board meetings, and have tried to organize meetings in terms of agenda item requests, coordination, etc.
- Reviewed and contributed to the new Board meeting process along with Brian, the originator of the process.
- Participated/attended Spring work bee
- Along with Pepper carried out the WLYSA Admin's Performance Review
- With Pepper, as representatives of the Board helped manage an HR interview/inquiry.
- Reviewed some of the in-development Codes of Conduct, Rep Travelling Team Coach application questions
- Helped pass out pizza during SoccerFest
- Manned the table during Stamps games for in-person registrations, along with Pepper and our children
- Attended with the U15 Rep girls team for a "give back" day to blow up balls and prepare team bags for the coming spring season.
- Was available to help with the U4 coaching as needed during the Spring season.
- Managed the U15 Girls' Rep Team

Key Outcomes or Highlights

- Every time there's interaction with youth and soccer, my bucket is filled
- I've learned a lot from other board members and our admin- meeting process, Robert's Rules of Order, awareness around scheduling, how much it takes to run a not-for-profit, budget management.
- Relationships through WLYSA have been fulfilling—relationships run the association and are a key to its success

Challenges or Concerns

- Some of the classic challenges around managing a team were present this year- player and parent commitment, communication with parents, participation, financial accountability.
- Learning the best way to keep minutes for a not-for-profit
- Not wanting to spend more time on the computer to carry out "Secretary" tasks

Year End Report 2025 – Fields

This year was the best we have had in a long time with very few issues to deal with. The biggest issues we had were:

- **Mower clutch**
We had to get a new clutch for the mower off amazon this spring and it didn't make it the full year so now we are running direct drive with a pulley on the shaft until a genuine Toro clutch arrives.
- **Broken Water Lines – Lake Ex**
These weren't expensive repairs but we continue to experience breaks in the water lines on Lake Ex. This may be due to ground expansion and contraction between spring and summer but we are not sure. This year we turned the water off on Lake Ex early to conserve water and shortly after we had two breaks.
- **Clubhouse**
We had one waterline break again this spring at startup from frost damage. I will work with Burgess this year when we blow out the lines and see if we can solve this recurring issue.

The Wins

- **Weather**
The cooler weather through spring and early summer really helped us keep the grass in good condition on all fields
- **Scotia Field**
With the reduced schedule on this field coupled with good spring weather and some extra fertilizer, this field has greatly improved and may be our best field next year
- **Budget**
We were over budget on a few items such as line paint and sprinkler heads but overall, our year end should be very close to budget

Capital Items

- For the \$10,000 we receive annually we purchased:
 - a screw compressor which will replace both our old ones and it has larger capacity and will be noticeably quieter
 - chain link fencing six feet in height for the side of Lake Ex that faces Hodgson road. This we can install next summer after youth is done on this field.

Next Year

At the start of next year, we should focus our efforts on making the place look more organized and presentable, primarily painting and cleanup of sticks and debris outside the field area. With a few work bees and summer students, we should be able to do this.

Grants for many of our projects will be important in the upcoming year. Projects include:

- Facility signage
- Fence replacement on the entrance, Scotia fields as well as the practice pitch
- Shade trees
- Bleacher replacement
- Replace decking
- Mower replacement – currently on third engine

Costs for these projects is estimated at approx. \$200k.

Indoor Turf Facility

The City and CRD are in favor of completing a feasibility study and while this is long process, this is a very important first step to get the dialogue moving forward.

Our working group with the other associations will be busy in the coming months but this effort needs to take priority to ensure it keeps moving.

Brian Hansen – Fields Director/Indoor Facility Coordinator

Kms – 9,308

Hours -627

Referee Coordinator / Head Referee's Report

This was my first year as a member of the Executive. I grew up playing soccer with this league at both the House and Rep levels, and am proud to have the opportunity to give back and keep the game going for the next generation of players.

As Head Referee / Referee Coordinator, my job was to organize referees for league matches, provide ongoing support and training, and referee matches where possible.

This year, we had a good turnout for referees, with several in their first year and many other referees returning to the league. A huge thank you to Megan, Emerson, Owen, Mya, Levi, Lily, Edyn, Izzy, Bryar, Mion, Xander, Olen, Pepper, Sean, and Duncan for stepping in to keep the league going!

We had few instances this season where parents and coaches had to step up to officiate. The age groups most impacted by this were U6/7 (scheduling conflicts) and U11-13 (most of our youth referees also play at this level). This is an area I hope to improve on by finding ways to retain our referees, particularly as they reach older age groups.

We were able to run our Home Matches for the Cariboo Youth Soccer League and July Competitive Games entirely with referees from Williams Lake this year. Several of our referees were able to experience officiating matches at a higher level of competition than normal, and also gain valuable experience.

As we continue to grow the game, we hope parents and players will be able to step in and make the game possible by training to become referees. We hope to have the BC Soccer approved programs available for this upcoming season. Our league cannot run without referees, who make sure that our games are run fairly so kids can focus on having fun – we'd love to have new referees eager to join!

Gerald Pinchbeck

2024/2025 WLYSA Administration Report

Alexis Walch

October 15, 2025

Winter Season

For the 2025 Winter Indoor Season, we were able to reserve gym times at TRU and SD27 Elementary Schools. This year we continued to try offering a split male and female players for all age groups but ended with: U6-U7 Co-ed, U8-U10 Boys, U8-U10 Co-ed, U11-U13 Boys, U11-U13 Girls, and U14-U16 Co-ed. A few of the groups had the opportunity to attend games in Quesnel throughout their season and this may be possible again in 2026.

These sessions have not been easy to organize with volunteers in recent years, and should be reviewed on how to move forward for the 2026 winter indoor season.

Spring Season

The 2025 spring season maintained approximately the same number of players from the 2024 spring season. Below is a breakdown of players in their birthyears for 2025 registrations. This is the first year that Rep registrations were entirely separate from the Spring Season registrations.

Following low registrations and attendance for the U16-U18 girls age groups, WLYSA approached the group and provided 4 options for parents/players to vote on for the season. Players/parents voted to maintain the schedule they had originally registered for. However, in the end numbers were too low and WLYSA did return partial funds for a lack of a season. WLYSA will not host a 17-18 year old house league group in 2026. U16 – U18 year olds are welcome to join the Men's and Ladies Associations.

Similarly, U14-U15 girls were given a partial refund with a change in schedule to one game per week for the final 4 weeks. This was determined by a vote with parents/players after parent's indicated that attendance was low and causing issues with game play.

For the 2025 year, we again pushed more advertisement towards early and regular registration in an attempt to lower the late registration rates, and complete team assignments

Birth Year	2025			
	Male	M - REP	Female	F - Rep
2004				
2005				
2006				
2007	-		6	6
2008	-		8	8
2009	10		2	12
2010	6	4	5	9
2011	13	5	15	12
2012	26	9	17	12
2013	22	8	23	13
2014	25	10	22	10
2015	35	4	24	3
2016	35	6	34	10
2017	43		23	
2018	36		27	
2019	35		29	
2020	35		32	
2021	31		27	
2022	24		16	
2023				
Totals	376	46	310	95
Total Yearly	686			
	Spring Registration - 730 Total			

earlier. We did manage to lower the rate from 18% in 2023 to 14% in 2024 and to 10% in 2025. We closed registrations again this year as teams were full at the end of late registrations. A waitlist was started with a few players being added for senior games. Teams were at max or close to max capacity for all age groups. The registration structure will be reviewed for 2026 to make it easier to separate Rep and House registrations, and make team assignments easier for volunteers.

Thank you to all the volunteers who stepped forward to coach/co-coach teams this year!

Summer Events

WLYSA welcomed back the European Football School in coordination with the Cariboo Youth Soccer Association.

Fall Seasons

The fall season is currently taking place for U6 – U16 age groups. Registration numbers have remained steady from previous years. This year again we have an U11-U18 age group completing a season at the Quesnel Indoor Soccer Facility.

Additional Notes

Over the next year, fundraising will continue to be at the forefront for WLYSA or the Board of Directors will be tasked to adjust registration fees to maintain youth soccer. Current Cash Raffle fundraising efforts have not been as successful as hoped. Additional fundraising efforts will be happening in November with hopes more success.

WLYSA will be switching entirely from RAMP to TeamSnap over the next couple of months. The website and email may be effected as the switch takes place.

With no current Technical Director, I will continue to assist with the Competitive

Thank you to everyone who dedicated their time this year to making soccer a success in the Williams Lake area!

Alexis Walch
WLYSA Administrative Coordinator