

SkVYSA Select Committee Proposal

In February 2007, a motion was made to the SkVYSA Board by Steve Savoie which is summarized as follows...

During the 2007 Select season, SkVYSA clubs outside of Skagit Storm will be permitted to form and register Select teams up to the District Gold level. Furthermore, during the 2007 year, a committee will be formed to discuss and present to the SkVYSA Board a long standing proposal for the future of Select soccer in SkVYSA. After the 2007 season, no new Select teams will be formed in the SkVYSA clubs outside of the Skagit Storm until an agreed upon proposal is presented.

After a number of meetings and lengthy discussion, the committee has reached the following proposed solution. In summary, the proposal involves renaming and restructuring the Skagit Storm, defining coach selection/ordering, combining tryouts, qualifications to attend LPT's and participate at the Premier Level, grandfather teams and finally the implementation timeline.

While this is a proposal, it should be understood that the items defined below are all key to the agreement of the representatives of the respective clubs. It is expected that the conditions below will be adhered to during implementation. Considering the perceived precarious history between the Storm and other SkVYSA clubs, deviating from the conditions below will be damaging to the foundational trust on which this effort is built upon. With this in mind, the conditions of the proposal are as follows.

Renaming the "Skagit Storm"

It has been submitted that the current name of "Skagit Storm" does not accurately represent the geographic diversity by which the club is comprised. Therefore, the name of the newly restructured Select club will be changed to meet the following criteria.

The name will not contain the names of the current Select organizations.

The name would not contain "Skagit"

The name would be agreed upon by vote of the SkVYSA Board to include each of the Clubs therein.

The name must be determined and agreed upon before March 1, 2008

Restructuring the "Skagit Storm"

In order to more appropriately represent the player pool contributions and interests of the SkVYSA clubs which it is comprised of, the newly named Select club will include the following changes.

Each Club in SkVYSA would be granted an "at large" Board position.

Each team would have a seat on the Board, just as all Storm teams have already with the exception of grandfathered team as defined below.

Coach Selection and Ordering

As per the current procedure, a Coach Selection committee will be formed to ensure that the quality of coaches in the new Select organization is retained. It is expected that a person who expresses an interest in coaching a Select team would be allowed to do so with the exception of those that are unable to obtain Risk Management clearance, or are otherwise unqualified to do so. The following conditions apply to this committee.

Subjective and Objective Criteria will be documented to ensure that the committee is making structured decisions. This will allow coaches to understand the criteria to which they will be measured.

Where possible, parent and player feedback will be collected and included as part of the assessment. The absence of this data will not preclude a coach from submitting their application.

The details of the coach selection and ordering will not be disclosed. Essentially, this would mean that the coach selection committee will not be asked to share the reasons as to how coaches were compared against each other.

For the purposes of ordering, only a "top level" team will be identified. In situations where a returning Premier team is involved, the highest level team will retain the "top level" status.

Select Coaches

Coaches will be required to submit a resume, coaching philosophy and budgets prior to tryouts. This information will be made available publicly prior to tryouts to ensure that the parents/players are enabled to make an informed decision.

Combined Tryouts

In order to allow the greatest opportunity for players to be matched up with a team/coach of their selection as well as a team that appropriately matches their skill level, the committee determined that a combined tryout would be required. Considering the proposal to move Select teams under a single club, it is only fitting that the new Select club conduct a tryout. The "combined" nature of the tryouts would be to include grandfathered teams if they wish to participate in LPT's. The following conditions apply:

Tryouts will be held in at least two locations (Stanwood and Whittmarsh) per age division and gender. This is a requirement in order to accommodate players from various areas. A process must be in place that would allow a player to select a team[s] that they would be willing to play for. The information that coaches are required to provide before tryouts should be made publicly available so that players and parents choose the appropriate match. A player should be able to select one or more coaches during the tryout process. Coaches will have the opportunity to select from the players which have opted to play on their team with the understanding that the coach is not required to pick a particular player.

A neutral party will be used to contact players for optional placement. This would be done in the event that a player would have to make the choice between two teams. By doing so, the potential for a player being coerced by a coach to commit to a team would be mitigated.

After the tryouts, the evaluation scores will be compiled and the top 18 players for a given gender and age division will be contacted with an opportunity regardless of coach selection to participate on the top level team, the neutral party will be used to contact players that have not chosen to play for the identified top level team.

In the event that a team is formed after the tryouts, they will be limited to District only play and will not be able to participate in LPT's.

U11 teams for 2008 will be required to attend the combined tryout and will immediately be placed under the new select organization. Club name, jersey colors and other administrative structure to be determined in time for the fall season. A committee will be formed to select all U11 coaches for the 2008 season. All member clubs will be invited to participate in the coach selection process.

For 2009 season, the select committee will hash the details for the coach selection process.

Player selection and contact

Policy will be established for coach/player interaction for selection communication. Items to be detailed would be the timeline in which a player has to make the decision and how the contact would be made. The exact procedure will be established prior to tryouts.

Practice Location

Coaches will determine practice location with the expectation that it should be centrally located based on the rostered players. The coaches intended practice location should be included in the information shared publicly prior to tryouts.

LPT's/Premier

As part of the new club, all teams will be allowed the opportunity to attend LPT's and to participate as a Premier level team based on their own merits.

The club will not limit the number of teams that wish to attend LPT's. The State imposed limitation provides the ceiling, not the association.

If there is a conflict, there will be criteria put in place to identify the best team. Options would include a play off.

Grandfathered teams will be allowed to participate in both LPT's and Premier as long as they attend the combined tryouts.

Grandfathered Teams

As a show of good faith the new Select club will allow for existing teams as of the 2007 season to continue to operate separately and under the organizational structure of the local club. The following conditions apply.

Teams in place for the 2007 season will be allowed to continue registered under their local club.

Grandfathered teams will be allowed to stay in their current status as long as 50% of the players roster on the 2007 team continue to return for each consecutive year. Players that take a year off will be removed from the qualifying returning player list.

Grandfathered teams have the option to opt out of tryout process, however they will not be allowed to participate in LPT's. This implies that the grandfathered teams would be allowed to conduct independent tryouts

Cost conditions

In order to provide an opportunity for the greatest number of players the new club will develop a cost structure that will accommodate the financially diverse population served. The following conditions also apply.

Teams will have the option to select from a range of uniforms for cost consideration. The bottom end of the range would be TShirts with the club logo. Additionally, teams will be able to independently determine whether they will utilize optional equipment such as sweats.

Teams will have the option to withdraw from services such as the use of playing fields and training options. The club will negotiate training terms for 2009 and beyond that will accommodate this need.

Teams that decide to use additional training and services will do so at their own cost.

New Teams for the year 2008

In the inaugural 2008 season, the following conditions will apply.

New U11 teams for 2008 will be formed under the new club.

New teams (outside of U11) can be formed for the 2008 season outside of the new club. However, these teams will not be included in the grandfathering conditions above and will be folded into the new club effective 2009.

Uniforms

A uniform/coloring selection committee will be formed simultaneous to the 'naming committee' to identify the color scheme that will be used for uniform selection. A key deliverable from this committee will be to research and identify a range of uniforms (t-shirts to full uniform sets) of which a team will be able to select from.