

SVWSL Annual General Meeting • Valley Cup Tournament Report • July 10, 2015

Tournament General

This is a major fundraiser for the league and it directly reduces the amount of fees teams pay every year, which trickles down to a savings for every player in the league. We had 38 teams and 7 divisions.

Referees

We heard very favorable comments about the referees and in particular several younger referees (we shared these comments with Mark Lloret). For five years we have been providing referees with a lunch voucher for the day they officiate, which they continue to appreciate. Each referee is paid \$30 per game they officiate, and we use a two-person system for all games excepting the championship games. For the championship games, we use a three-person system (each referee compensation is \$30). We did not increase the compensation to the referees this year but we will review for 2016, which could translate to an increase in the tournament fees.

Tournament Incentives

We continued with an advance registration deadline of January 31 providing a free t-shirt to the team manager. The application was the only item due on January 31, with payment due in February. There were 10 teams who took advantage of this promotional deadline. Rosters were due in March for all teams.

We will offer the same promotional deadline for the 2016 tournament. 2016 tournament information will be available on the website in November.

Assessing Teams – Division Placement

It is typical that some teams will express dissatisfaction with placement. The Committee's goal is to group teams with other similar teams in terms of level of play, etc. We base this placement on a number of factors: prior tournament play, league play, division request, etc. Our philosophy is to assess the team application with integrity and honesty and presume it is submitted under the same conditions.

This year there was one team's placement that resulted in a very unfavorable experience. The team manager submitted a thoughtful letter to the committee to ensure that we take steps to improve procedures in the future. In particular, the committee agreed to be sensitive to older teams' requests for a particular division and connect with them personally if a change is being considered or made.

Room for Improvement

The Valley Cup Committee strives to provide the best possible experience for teams and their players. Sometimes there is room for improvement and this year we identified several areas and have agreed to implement the following:

- Establish a cloud-based system to share documents for the committee's review.
- Create a shared electronic communication system so multiple committee members can respond to inquiries, provide information, etc., on a timely basis.
- Recruit more volunteers with specific responsibilities to share the administration of the tournament.
- Publish more information on the SVWSL website and in a more timely fashion.

New Ideas

We have experienced fewer teams in the O40 and O50 divisions. The committee will be giving thought to changing these divisions slightly to O45 and O55 or O60. If you have ideas about divisions or recruiting teams, please email the committee at valleycupsac@gmail.com.

Net Proceeds

We are pleased to report that the Valley Cup Tournament yielded a net profit of nearly \$6,200. We appreciate the managers who organize teams in support of this tournament, which provides a significant cost benefit to every player in our league.

Volunteers

If you have interest in participating on the Valley Cup Committee and volunteering during the tournament, please email valleycupsac@gmail.com. Specifically, we would like volunteers for the Committee so the Committee reflects/represents all the divisions.