



PRESS RELEASE

Washington Youth Soccer Regional Club Subcommittee

The Regional Club Subcommittee of Washington Youth Soccer is pleased to announce the formal ratification of the roles, responsibilities and operating procedures of the committee and league.

In March of this year club Presidents from the Player Development League voted to proceed with integrating the PDL into the Washington Youth Soccer's Seamless Soccer System, starting with the formation of the Regional Club Subcommittee. This is a subcommittee of the Soccer Oversight Committee of the Washington Youth Soccer Governing Board. The PDL-Leadership Committee's members were selected by the members to take similar positions on the subcommittee and begin work on defining the operating procedures for the committee and league. Washington Youth Soccer appointed board member Tom Ament and Technical Director Gary White as members of the subcommittee.

The Regional Club Subcommittee has held over 15 hours of meetings and conference calls since March 30, 2010. As part of the initial work, Timothy Sekerak, President Blackhills FC was selected by the group to Chair the meetings. Tom Ament, Washington Youth Soccer Board Member was selected by the group as Co-Chair, and the subcommittee's third delegate to the Soccer Oversight Committee is Tom Bialek, Coaching Director Eastside FC. Other members of the committee are:

Bernie James, Crossfire Premier	Greg Ion, Washington Premier FC
Dave Schumacher, FC Alliance	Rob Walker, Federal Way United
Todd Johnson, Greater Renton FC	John Stanley, Northwest Nationals SC
David Hughes, Vancouver United/Columbia Timbers	Gary White, Washington Youth Soccer Technical Director

Several organizational documents have been developed in the course of these meetings:

- **Regional Club Subcommittee Roles and Responsibilities.** The roles and responsibilities of this subcommittee of Washington Youth Soccer are covered in this document. It includes a description of the RCS's purpose, structure and operating procedures. Also you will find a detailed description of its responsibilities for club charters, league operations, and soccer calendar management across the whole range of soccer activities at the regional level. This has been approved by the Soccer Oversight Committee.
- **Regional Club Charter.** The charter document identifies the nature of the commitment between Washington Youth Soccer, an Association and a chartered club to work together to serve the highest level of development and play. It contains three fundamental elements describing the commitments of Washington Youth Soccer, commitments of the Association, and commitments of the club in both technical and organizational terms. It also incorporates a

Regional Club Code of Conduct. The charter has been approved by the Soccer Oversight Committee.

- **Regional Club Application.** The application process will consist of an evaluation of the club's practices and performance in key areas that are considered fundamental to driving a quality, club-based developmental experience. This review will be performed by coaching and administrative leaders from Washington Youth Soccer and the chartered Regional Clubs. The application document is complete, and the application process and criteria will be rolled out within the next two weeks in order for applications to be accepted and reviewed.
- **Regional Club League Operating Rules.** Describes the operating rules for the Regional Club League.

Over the next two months, the PDL clubs that have been grandfathered as the founding Regional Clubs will execute their charters with Washington Youth Soccer and their associations.

Additionally, the Regional Club Subcommittee has voted to move forward with the launch of the Regional Club League for the 2010-2011 seasonal year. Details of this first phase of implementation are still being completed, although changes from the PDL to the RCL are expected to be minimal in the first year, focusing on moving under the Regional Club Subcommittee and administrative support from Washington Youth Soccer. In particular, team placement and team eligibility will not change for the current PDL clubs/ teams for the 2010/2011 seasonal year. As the Select/Developmental Subcommittee moves into operation and the groups work together to improve the overall Washington Youth Soccer league system, additional changes will be phased in.

The launch of the Regional Club Subcommittee is the culmination of nine months of intense work by members of the Washington Youth Soccer Governing Board, the Washington Youth Soccer staff, our member associations, and the leaders of the PDL clubs. The PDL Leadership Committee has been instrumental in our ability to move forward with this critical element of Seamless Soccer and the Washington Youth Soccer strategic plan.

Questions can be directed to Tim Sekerak at timsekerak@hotmail.com and Tom Ament at tom_ament@msn.com of the Regional Club Subcommittee.