

President's Report – 2023 Annual General Meeting

This past year, our Club had very significant Milestones and I am thrilled to share these milestones with our membership. There were challenges and uncertainty brought in by the implementation of the Zone Boundaries by SYSI, but those challenges are what drives us to work even harder for the betterment of our Club. The dedication and hard work of our Board of Directors and Staff is the reason we are at this standing today.

1. Full Time Staff:

- Having 2 full-time staff in our Club proves to be very beneficial with both our Technical and Administrative operations. With the leadership of our Technical Director and his hard work, we have provided our membership with the player development that they deserve. Alex, our administrative lead, has worked hard organizing the other operations of the club, registrations, tournaments, uniforms, etc. These are not simple tasks, and we salute both for their hard work.

2. Tournaments:

- From the first time I organized the first tournament after Covid, we had success in participation turnout. We had positive feedback from coaches and players from our participants and we made our tournament as exciting as it is. Not just running them but hosting them better than others. These tournaments have been a major fundraiser for us and these funds our special projects. At our last Aurora Open, we turned away more than 20 teams as we cannot accommodate them with the amount of field times available. With the outdoor Avalon Classic last June, again, we exceeded our expectations and have accommodated all our participants with more than 100 teams.

3. Player Registration:

- At the start of the 2022-2023 Indoor season, we have started to see an increase in player registration numbers. As we put Covid behind us, we can only assume that kids will come back and play again.
- This year's outdoor season was even better, as the number of teams we can build just keeps on adding.
- As the 2023-2024 indoor season just starting, again, another milestone as we surpassed our expectation on the number of players registered to our Club. Despite losing players due to Zone Boundary re-alignment and releasing players to play back to their former clubs, we are still the highest player represented Club in Saskatoon.

4. Financials:

- As I have promoted transparency with our Club operations and started presenting reviewed financial statements at the start of my tenure, I am glad to announce that the Club is now also up to date with our tax filing obligations.

5. Sponsorship:

- As we continue with our 4-year sponsorship agreement with Brighton Community by Dream Developments which gives the Club:
 - A \$5,000 per year in the next 4 years cash sponsorship for the Club that will be used for our player development.
 - Will facilitate the development of Brighton Core Park soccer field which will eventually Aurora's home field during the spring/summer season.
 - Pending funding from the City of Saskatoon, the park will have its own washroom area and a storage facility that the Club can use.
- These year, we are working with another corporate sponsor and we can only hope that our negotiations will be fruitful and will benefit our members.

6. Coach Education:

- Currently, under the leadership of our technical director Hassan, we have the following:
 - 5 Veteran staff coaches certification level ranging for C Diploma Certified to B Provincial Certified and B National Candidates and Training.

- o We also have 4 C Diploma trained and Huskies players on our staff coaches put their time in training our players.
- o To add to these, we also have young future coaching staff who are Fundamentals and Soccer for Life Certified as well as current or former Aurora Players.
- o In addition, we have 9 – certified volunteer coaches with certification level ranging from C-certified to B National Diploma Certified. We also have 60 volunteer coaches who were certified in our in-house grassroots coaching clinics.

2023-2024 Season President Outlook

1. Thank you all for placing your trust in me to lead our club for another term. As I can confidently share that the operations of our Club is now in good hands under our full time staff and directions of the Board, my focus will be the Club's short and long term goal.
2. Last year, I mentioned that we will introduce to our members a Player Development Handbook.
 - a. This handbook will serve as a curriculum for our coaches and players.
 - b. It will provide consistency across the board for player development within the Club.
 - c. It will be a living document that adjusts to changes as soccer regulations and guidelines change from time to time.
 - d. The handbook is now in its final stages and our target is to make it available and implemented in the 2024 Outdoor Season.
3. Part of our short-term goal is to provide our Club with a more permanent outdoor venue. This is the work in progress with Dream Developments and the City to designate Brighton Core Park to be outdoor venue for Aurora. We are working on re-shaping the field with a grass turf surface like Misaskwatomina Park and having washroom in the area. Dream is also facilitating Aurora with a storage space and can possibly be used as headquarters as well. Our target date for this in full is 2025.
4. Our long-term goal is to expand our dream for the Club to have access to an indoor field. We are currently working on a feasibility study on what it will take for us to achieve this in the year 2028. Back in 2020, there was an announcement on CBC news about a joint high school/civic center in the Brighton Area. With the assistance of our current board members whose visions do not just stop on playing the sport, we plan to tap into this notion and promote this civic center to have a Domed Soccer Facility where Aurora can have priority access to field times. But these ideas do not come cheaply, and the work of our Board alone is not enough to make this vision come to life. It takes the entire Club and its membership's support for the Club to make this a reality.

Thank you