



Richmond Youth Soccer Association

Conflict of Interest

Directors of Richmond Youth Soccer Association (RYSA) are bound to act honestly, in good faith, and in the best interests of the RYSA. Consistent with such standards of conduct, 'Conflict of Interest' and the appearance of 'Conflict of Interest' are to be avoided where possible and acted upon openly and appropriately when encountered.

A 'Conflict of Interest' is a situation in which a Director of the RYSA, in relation to a matter coming before the RYSA, has a private or personal interest, sufficient to influence or to appear to influence the objective, and open-minded, loyal exercise of his or her function as a Director. The circumstance giving rise to the 'Conflict of Interest' need not be those of the individual Director, but may be the interest of a person having close family ties to Director, or a friend, business associate, or colleague of the Director.

There are basically two situations giving rise to a 'Conflict of Interest'.

1. financial interest, and
2. a Director who through an officer or director position, or on account of some other significant involvement, in another corporation or organization has an obligation of loyalty that conflicts or appears to conflict with his or her required loyalty to the RYSA.

Each Director is under an obligation to avoid, whenever reasonably possible, a 'Conflict of Interest'. However, 'Conflict of Interest' may nevertheless arise. In such situations, the Director is required to declare the 'Conflict of Interest', and refrain from voting on the issue in question. He or she is also required by these guidelines to absent himself or herself from the meeting at any time there is discussion of the matter giving rise to the conflict. In circumstances of 'Conflict of Interest', besides declaring the conflict and absenting himself or herself from the meeting and not voting on the issue, a Director will be expected not to lobby or otherwise participate in the decision-making process.

It is important to place these disclosures on the public record, consequently the Minutes of the Meeting must record same. Restricting the disclosure or the dissemination of information about possible conflicts or potential conflicts is contrary to the spirit and intent of such disclosures. In striving to become transparent in our day-to-day affairs, the Board as whole and individual directors must be willing to place themselves under greater scrutiny.

A director cannot take payment for work performed or service provided to the RYSA or to a related organization (e.g. club, district or league). This does not preclude a director from volunteer work or being reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in that volunteer work (e.g. club coach getting travel expenses, volunteer work with the District or BCSA, etc).

A Director can not work for, with, or on behalf of an organization in direct competition or conflict with an RYSA program event, or initiative; or who serves on a board of directors or technical advisory board whose goals compete with or are in conflict with RYSA; or who may potentially use organization information for private gain, either financially or competitively; or participates directly or with relatives to act as soccer service suppliers to RYSA or other soccer clubs in BC; or in any other way stands to gain or cause a family member, domestic partner or friend to materially gain either financially or competitively from their activities or decision making. Soccer service providers would include professional coaches, employees of commercial soccer schools, or sellers of specific soccer paraphernalia.

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