



2024 Annual General Meeting



@MinnesotaWomensSoccerLeague

www.mwsl.org

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- National, Regional, & State Updates
- State of the League
- Board & Committees
- Board Elections
- Summer Registration
(Team and Player)
- Fees, Fines, Field Info,
and Schedules
- Game Day Information
- Fall League
- Winter League
- Tournaments
- Q and A

Introductions



Alyssa Rupp
Fireflies
5 years on Board



Karissa Richardson
3rd Half Champs
15+ years on Board



Diana Yang-Lee
Hornets
2 year on Board



Lauren Smith
MPLS Unity
2 year on Board



Julie Stolarski
3rd Half Champs
1 year on Board



Kim Edelman
Cougar Machete
15+ years on Board

Board and League Information



National, Regional, and State Updates

- United States Adult Soccer Association (USASA)
- USASA Region II
- Minnesota Soccer Association (MSA)



State of the League

2023 Accomplishments

- 2,207 total player registrations in 2023 (including Charity Tournament)
 - Up from 2022
- Charity Tournament benefited Kaitlyn's Kloset
- Second full year on Demosphere system

State of the League

2024 Important Updates

- Hoping to continue to grow in player numbers
- Working to find additional field resources
- Still serious referee shortage

Board and Committees

- The MWSL operates under a board and committees.
 - Six officers have specified roles and emails they monitor related to their position.
 - At-large members support the board as a whole and help where needed.
 - All members have voting powers and serve at least a one year term.
- Monthly board meetings
- Attendance and commitments are purposefully kept flexible as we are all volunteers.
- More than ever, we are looking for help as folks transition. Some areas of need relate to...
 - Secretary and Treasurer roles
 - At large members (social media, marketing and growth, outreach, web maintenance etc)

Board Positions

- Board positions include:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Field and Schedule Coordinator
 - Commissioner
 - At-large members
- Read about these positions [here](#)

Committees

- Marketing/Growth & Website Committees have existed historically
- Charity Tournament:
 - Soliciting teams and donations
 - Coordinating swag, food, logistics, and orders
 - Day-of volunteers
 - Several opportunities of varying involvement
 - Contact committee at info@mws1.org for more info

How to Get Involved

- Attend a board meeting
- Volunteer at the Charity Tournament or as part of the committee
- Join as a board member
- Assist with a very specific, one-time task
- Volunteering with the MWSL is what you make of it. We have tasks and on-going projects to fit nearly every level of time commitment and difficulty.
- Email info@mwsl.org if you're interested or have questions.

Board Elections

Position	Current/Out-Going/Acting	Running
President	Alyssa Rupp	Alyssa Rupp
Vice President	Diana Yang-Lee	Diana Yang-Lee
Treasurer	Julie Stolarski	Julie Stolarski
Secretary	Lauren Smith	?
Commissioner	Kim Edelman	Amy Colegrove
Fields & Schedule Coordinator	Karissa Richardson	Karissa Richardson
At-Large	Angie Larson, Bethany Paradee	Lindsay Arnett, Lauren Smith

Summer League Information



Summer Team Registration

Team Registration open March 9th - April 22nd

- 11v11 for Divisions 1- Rec
- 7v7 for Rec
- Full team registration fee of \$300 due upon registration
- If you are a returning team, but with a new name, notify MWSL
- This step is purely a team application. Managers and players still have to complete a player registration in a subsequent registration process.

Summer Team Registration

Team Registration open March 9th - April 22nd

- Make sure to register your team under the appropriate division **based on skill level, NOT the nights of play.**
 - The MWSL reserves the right to assign teams to a division
 - Unsure of which division your team fits? Read about them [here](#)
- Register your team by visiting www.mwsl.org and clicking on the registration link on the homepage. A [how-to](#) guide is available to help if you get stuck.
- Whomever registers the team will be considered the main team manager. All fees will be charged to this person.

Summer Player Registration

Player Registration open April 22nd - June 30th

- Once all team registrations has been approved, you'll receive a notification for players to begin registering around April 22nd.
 - Players are responsible for their own registration, DO NOT register for others.
 - New Demosphere feature: players will instantaneously appear on the app and with the player passes. They will not however show up instantaneously on the printed game-day roster. Please allow a few days for newly registered players to appear on game-day rosters.
- Players must pay the \$26 player registration fee and upload an acceptable photo for their player pass.
- Players **will not be permitted to play** without registering and providing a photo for their electronic player pass. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Summer Player Registration

Player Registration open April 22nd - June 30th

- Register as a player by visiting www.mwsl.org and clicking on the registration link on the homepage. A how-to guide is available to help if you get stuck.
 - Everyone needs to complete a registration, including any managers who do not actively play
 - Managers who aren't players, please register as a "Team Staff/Volunteer" only
 - Managers who double as players will register under two designations (see how-to doc)
- Players may register under more than one team. Any subsequent registrations will have a 100% discount applied for the player registration fee.
- DO NOT create separate accounts or create a new one if you've forgotten your login credentials. This creates havoc on the backend.

Looking for Players, Looking for a Team?

- The MWSL Facebook page and Facebook group are great places to find players for your team, or find a team looking for players.
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/100700165326/>
- The MWSL does not place players on teams.
- We are hoping to develop further resources that don't involve social media.

Fees and Fines

Up-front Fees

- Team Registration Fee: \$300
- Performance Bond: \$350 (increase from 2023)
 - Performance bond due...
 - May 1st for D2, D3, D4 and Rec
 - May 15th for D1
 - Failure to fulfill performance bond by deadline will result in a weekly late fee. You'll be notified when your account is charged.
 - If payment is not received by first game, the team will be removed from the schedule. Any games that take place during that time will be considered a forfeit in the standings.
 - Check with MWSL Treasurer to see if you've had money carry over from last summer
- Player Registration Fee: \$26

Fees and Fines

Referee Fees - paid at halftime of each game

- 2024 Fees
 - 3 Referees - \$258/game or \$129/team
 - 2 Referees - \$184/game or \$92/team
 - 1 Referee - \$110/game or \$55/team
 - 7v7 -1 Referee- \$66/game or \$33/team
- Managers should ALWAYS have cash or check on hand to pay referees. Venmo is an option if agreed upon, but it should not be your only option.

Fees and Fines

Field Fees - paid to league after first game

- If MWSL is scheduling your fields, 2024 Field Fees will be charged to your team manager's account (this only includes home games).
- Costs are equally divided amongst all teams
 - 2023 Field Fees for the year averaged \$585 per team
 - Projected 2024 cost - \$120 per game

Fees and Fines

Fines

- Refer to the Fees and Fines document on our website
- Team managers especially, please be familiar with these fines, especially for game forfeits
- Fines are deducted from your performance bond. If your performance bond is depleted, you will be notified and have 7 days to replenish it, otherwise future games will be cancelled.

Fields

Scheduling Fields

- MWSL will continue to schedule fields for teams unless you secure your own.
 - If the MWSL schedules your team a field, your team is responsible for the cost.
 - As soon as the schedule is completed, we send payment to the fields so your team is responsible for the cost regardless if you obtain other fields.
- Teams may indicate preferences for home fields by emailing fields@mwsl.org and we'll try to make accommodations where we can. No guarantees.
- Why let MWSL schedule your fields?
 - Many field coordinators are not open to working with teams
 - Reduces game modifications/changes for MWSL Field and Schedule Coordinator

Fields

Reserving Your Own Fields

- Email fields@mwsf.org by **April 8th** if you are scheduling your own fields as the schedule will be made soon after.
- When you find fields, also include the following details in your email:
 - Team name, date of game(s), field location and number (if applicable), and street address if the field is not currently used by the MWSL.
 - We need this info 2 weeks prior to your first game

Fields

MWSL Contracted Fields

- 2024 contracted fields
 - Victory Park
 - Johnny Cake Ridge Park East - Apple Valley
 - Coon Rapids
 - Mounds View School District
 - Please do not contact these fields directly
- Hoping to return to St. Thomas Academy

Fields

Field Locations

- MWSL requires fields to be within 35 miles from the Minnesota State Fairgrounds
 - Based on this address: 1265 North Snelling Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108
- Field size requirement
 - 110-120 yards (100-110 m) long
 - 70-80 yards (64-73 m) wide

Game Schedules

- Schedules will be available in **late April/early May** on our website and on your Demosphere app.
- The MWSL cannot promise we will provide home games for dates you reserve with your own fields ahead of the schedule being posted.
- Bye Weeks (subject to change):
 - All division: July 1-5 (4th of July) and July 15-19 (USA Cup)
- We may need to add additional byes due to field availability

Game Day Information

Weather

- Games will **only** be cancelled under the following circumstances:
 - Field manager closes the field
 - Referees, **at the field**, deem field conditions are unplayable or unsafe
 - We will post on social media and email teams as soon as we get word of a field closure. We will do our best to communicate this as soon as we hear, but please be patient.
- If a game is called off before making it to halftime because of weather, each team will have \$15 deducted from their performance bond.

Game Day Information

Weather

- New clarifications for 2024
 - Excessive heat: The MWSL does not cancel games for excessive heat. Teams can mutually agree to reschedule and/or take precautions.
 - Air quality: if AQI is 150 or higher in the region (using zip code 55108) on 3pm of gameday, the MWSL will cancel games.
- We'll do our best to communicate quickly via social media, email, and website when weather-related decisions have been made.
- Further details can be found in the [MWSL Weather Policy](#), including your options for rescheduling/postponement/forfeiting.

Game Day Information

Forfeits and Game Changes

- If you must forfeit a game, make changes to it's time or location, or reschedule, email fields@mwsf.org **and** info@mwsf.org ASAP.
 - **You** are responsible of notifying the other team manager of said change, not the league.
 - Team manager contact info is provided on the [Contact page](#) of our website
- Fees regarding forfeits:
 - Team forfeit/changes game/or reschedules between 48 hours and noon on game day – \$50
 - Team forfeit/changes game/or reschedules after noon on game day – \$50 + full referee fee
- All fines deducted from performance bonds. Do not pay fines at the field.

Game Day Information

Player Passes

- Player passes remain physical for 2024 and you must present a valid player pass to play
 - An appropriate photo must be used
 - Team managers are responsible for printing and distributing their players' passes.
 - We recommend laminating your passes and you can hand them out individually, especially if people want to sub.
 - A second form of ID (such as a driver's license) is not needed on gameday.
 - A [how-to guide](#) is available on our website
- We continue to request digital player pass functionality that each individual player can access.

Game Day Information

Rosters

- Only official rosters printed via the MWSL website will be accepted.
- Each team must present a roster to the referee on gameday.
- Anyone has access to print game day rosters, [how-to](#) guide here.
- For both 11v11 and 7v7 games, you may have a **maximum of 6 write-ins** (written in by hand at the field) on your roster. All players must have a valid MWSL pass.
 - Players can register for more than one team (as long as they are digitally printed on the roster, they would not count as a write-in).

Game Day Information

Roster population won't happen instantaneously, player passes will!

- As normal, a board member has to take multiple steps to get a player to appear on a printed gameday roster. Please be patient, they can always be written in for the short term.
 - We try to do this at least **every Sunday night** before a new week of games. We cannot guarantee roster appearance after that.
- New for 2024: Player passes and one's appearance in the app will happen as soon as they register.

Game Day Information

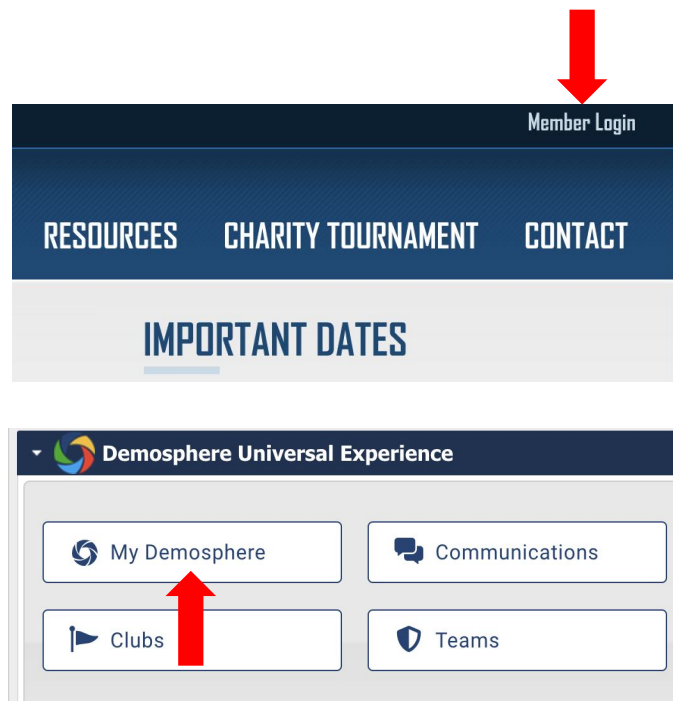
Field Lights

- Most field lights are automatic and do not require teams to turn them on and off.
 - Victory Park in New Hope: lights are automatic but if issues arise, contact Justin
- MWSL-contracted fields that have light directives:
 - Coon Rapids: teams need to turn the lights off after use by using the lock box
 - Hazelwood: teams need to turn the lights off after use by using the lock box
- Refer to [how-to](#) guide on lights for contact info
- If the lack of light prevents a game from taking place or interrupts one in progress, the league will respond on a case-by-case basis.

Game Day Information

Demosphere Mobile App

- Everyone can download this app and utilize as you wish. Its features include...
 - Game schedule
 - Attendance for each game on the calendar
 - Send messages to team and individuals
- Learn more about its capabilities [here](#)
- A desktop version of the team platform exists by logging into mwsf.org and then clicking “My Demosphere”



Game Day Information

Jewelry

- **ABSOLUTELY NO JEWELRY, NO EXCEPTIONS.** This is a FIFA regulation.
 - This includes sports watches, covering sports watches with a sweat band or tucking it in other clothing
 - Covering jewelry with tape is not acceptable
 - 'Permanent' jewelry is also not acceptable
- Please do not argue with referees about it. They have every right to ask you to leave the field of play until it comes out/off. Refusal to do this can result in a card for unsporting behavior and mention of jewelry in a game report will result in a team fine.
- Consistency in enforcement begins with the players on the field.

Game Day Information

Injury Claims

- If you get injured during a game, make sure the referee makes note in their game report (even if you think you won't need medical care).
- Report your injury to the league by filling out [this form](#) within 90 days
- We've created a page on our website with all the help guides and information needed to [Report Injuries](#)
- Any questions regarding injuries should be directed toward our commissioner, at commissioner@mwsl.org

Game Day Information

What are home teams responsible for on gameday?

- Home teams are responsible for the following...
 - Corner flags
 - [Goal anchors](#) (in the event a field doesn't already have them in place)
 - Game ball
 - Changing jersey color if it conflicts with the opposing team
- A [Summer Guide for Team Managers](#) lives on our website to help direct new managers or refresh returning ones.

Sportsmanship and Player Conduct

- MWSL is an **amateur** league
 - Goal is to have fun
 - Want our players to stay safe
 - Look out for your teammates, your opponents, and your referees.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior **is not** tolerated
 - Red Cards in MWSL may mean multiple game suspensions (i.e.- violent conduct or referee dissent).
- Rules and Regulations are in place for a reason
 - Player and member insurance
 - Player and referee safety

Additional Information



Fall League

- Runs September - October 2024
- Takes place at Hazlewood Park in Maplewood
 - Wednesday nights (11v11 Competitive): 6:30 and 8:30pm start times
 - Tuesday nights (7v7 Rec): 7:00, 8:00, and 9:00pm start times (previously Thursday nights)

Winter League

- Winter 2024/2025 is dependent on field availability
 - Tuesday nights
 - WSP Dome & Conway in Maplewood (other options being explored)
 - 7:00pm, 8:00pm & 9:00pm (maybe 10:00 pm)
- More information to come via MWSL website and social media platforms
- 3 divisions

Tournaments

Ancient Rangers Tournament

- Women's over 30 tournament
- September 9-10th (4 games over Saturday and Sunday)
- 11v11 & 8v8, outdoor games at the National Sports Center
 - 7v7 started in 2019; well received. More teams would = better split of Rec/Comp
- Cost around \$35 per player depending on roster size

Tournaments

Charity Tournament

- May 18th, 2024
- West St. Paul Sports Dome
- \$400 team registration fee
- 7v7, with competitive, semi-competitive, and rec divisions, 3 game minimum, 15-20 minute halves
- \$5 player registration fee
- Silent auction, player swag, swag store, food truck, and fun!
- Benefits [Hope Chest for Breast Cancer](#)
- Space per division is limited
- Visit mwsf.org/charity-tournament for more info.

Beneficiary	Donation
2011 MOCA	\$3,420
2012 Tubman	\$5,687
2013 Women's Advocate	\$6,700
2014 MOCA	\$8,275
2015 Cornerstone	\$7,016
2016 Alliance Housing Inc.	\$8,501
2017 Operation Glass Slipper	\$14,441
2018 Girls Circle H.E.A.R.T	\$8,342
2019 Like A Girl	\$6,500
2020 & 2021	No tourney
2022 MWSL	\$4,000
2023 Kaitlyn's Kloset	\$7,724

USASA AED Program

- USASA is providing all members the ability to purchase an AED at a discounted rate, with an additional \$250 rebate.
- Fill out a form with proof of purchase to get the rebate.
- For more information and the form to fill out, visit www.usadultsoccer.com/aed.



Q and A

We'll do our best to answer your questions!



Thank You for Coming!



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