

ECFC Member comments for SYSA Board of Commissioners

7 Comments

From members who indicated a preference for and "ABSTAIN" Vote in regard to the Seattle United Proposal Package

As a parent of an Emerald City player I have to let you know that prior to this coming up - I never had any idea that there was, or is an Emerald City affiliation with SYSA. I have always thought that Emerald City operated as an independent entity and as a result I don't understand how this affects my player or the program. This all seems VERY politically motivated and much more about personality conflicts within two separate organizations than it does about creating or maintaining a successful program for the kids. Whatever happens our kids are going to end up with a program to play in. How come you can't come together to work this out so it isn't so 'icky' feeling? The whole thing stinks to me on both sides.

I actually am new to Emerald City so I don't feel totally confident in voting one way or other, but I really don't like the idea of spending whatever it takes to block Seattle United. I would really hate to think that my fees are going to lawyers and not to player development. I also think it would be great to have everything under one name/entity to cut back on confusion.

The buzz words coming from SYSA and ECFC include: 1. Transparency- Neither SYSA or ECFC have been transparent with this transition. SYSA has presented this as a wonderful opportunity to "simplify the process of select soccer in Seattle" Now we find out that the ECFC will "no longer exist". This is news to me, does not seem transparent and was not communicated to the greater good. In reading the bylaws, the current statement indicates ECFC as the club to organize "premier and select teams". (it looks like you are just changing the title) Why is SYSA not forcing ECFC to expand this idea? A few years ago under the direction of Neil Callahan ECFC started expanding to three teams at each age level, with the intention of increasing local teams under the direction of ECFC as "one entity" What happened to this idea? 2. For the kids- It sounded good at first. The kids who are stronger will be pushed to the top of the pyramid. Families who want to stay in the neighborhood can. Now the process seems to have pitted lawyers against lawyers and has overshadowed the kid focus. The more I hear the more I feel it is adult egos pushing their own personal agendas(whatever that may be). I don't care if the ECFC name gets changed or not. What I do care is the ECFC is able to field teams that can compete at the state premier level? (i don't feel they currently are).

The pros and cons remain unclear tho I've heard good arguments for both sides of this argument. I don't have a firm opinion.

We are new to select soccer and I don't feel I can vote on such a complex issue.

Our family has received almost no information from SYSA regarding the Seattle United transition. I must assume that this is true for other ECFC families and for SYSA members in general. What little information we have received has come through ECFC and not directly from SYSA. From my perspective, SYSA has done an extremely poor job of explaining why this transition is necessary. I do not appreciate the "big brother" mentality exhibited by SYSA, i.e. "trust us, we know what's best, you don't need to know the details". I honestly believe that if it weren't for the activists within ECFC we would not know there was a transition in progress. Is this how Seattle United will operate? I am very apprehensive about future communication from the Seattle United entity when SYSA appears unable to communicate with it's membership at this time.

This is my [player] 's first year with the club and he's playing Uxx; so I don't see any of these changes affecting him.