



# 2024-2025 FWSA ANNUAL OPERATING REPORT

MAY 22, 2025

*Prepared by Naomi Kim, Secretary*

## Summary of FWSA 2023-24 Board Activity

FWSA's registration numbers remained robust. For Fall 2024, 557 players registered. For Spring 2025, 623 players registered – an increase from last year.

The Board saw several changes. An Off-Season coordinator resigned post-election. The Board approved switching the GM Upper and Open DC's. The Board voted in Katherine Cisneros and Joann Shabelski for the non-voting Marketing/Communication special commissioner positions, as well as Sheila Norlin to serve as the interim Sub Team Coordinator for Spring 2025. An online primer on Board positions was created.

FWSA hosted the Pine Ridge Tournament on 11/23-24/2024 in partnership with BRAWS (Bringing Resources to Aid Women's Shelters). The Board approved creating under-37 and over-37 divisions. The upcoming Pine Ridge Tournament was moved to 6/21-22/2025 to increase attendance.

The Board initially approved raising the Spring 2025 registration fees. However, after completing the 2024 financial report, the board voted to keep the lower Fall 2024 registration fees for the Spring 2025 season because of the league's financial performance in 2024. The Board will continue to review specific registration and late fee requests for players with financial difficulty and/or extenuating situations on an individual basis.

The Board discussed ways to assist teams/divisions in need. GGM games merged, and GM and GGM players were split into 4x teams for Summer 2024. While the O40 Phat Badgers and O50 Second Wind teams disbanded in Fall 2024, a new O50 team formed in Spring 2025. The Board approved holding a pilot season of O55 pickup games. The O60 league received more game time.

The Sub Team continued to help teams with player shortages and shifted to LeagueApps. The Board approved the waiver of the Sub Pool Team Rule for games held on June 29, 2024 due to excessive heat. In Fall 2024, the Board approved one-season (or one-year) pilot Sub Pool Team Rule changes for GM and GGM.

FWSA and Soccer Academy hosted an adult soccer camp from July 22-25, 2024 -- 32x players registered, including 2x new FWSA recruits.

The Board approved changes to the February 2023 FWSA Rules effective Spring 2025, including: Rule 2, Registration; Rule 5, Teams and Divisions; Rule 7, Protests; Rule 9, Game Rules; and Proposed new Rule, Conduct.

The Board approved a \$200 gift card for FWSA's Academy training volunteer referee for each of the Spring and Fall 2024 seasons. The Board also approved an increase of the Team Rep discount.

Inclement weather and field shortages at Woodson impacted the FWSA game schedule, particularly Academy sessions and games held on Saturday's and Tuesday's. Spring 2025 games, cancelled due to inclement weather, will be re-scheduled by the end of June. Academy held sessions at FWSA's new field, Ken Lawrence Park in McLean. FWSA is trying to get Woodson back in our field rotation.

Despite multiple requests, Wakefield asserted that lights will not be replaced until 3x lights are out. The Board discussed ongoing issues with non-FWSA players at Pine Ridge.

FWSA offered reduced-price tickets to the Sept. 28 DC United game; nearly 40 people attended. The Board approved printing 500x FWSA koozies; 200x were distributed outside the stadium gates. The League started event planning for its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026. Videographer Caroline Distefano filmed FWSA/Our Soccer Academy's summer camp and will provide the video free for FWSA's use.