

## President's Report 2024



**To the valued members of our club,**

There is much to celebrate and take pride in this past season of 2024. It is our fourth season of organic growth, and (once again) the largest ever turnout for tryouts. Growth of membership has been between 5-10% per year since the covid shut down. I use the phrase “organic growth” because, although we have modestly increased our social media presence, we have not actively recruited. The success of our coaches and players has been sufficient advertizing for many to join our club. This growth, I would suggest, is sustainable. It falls in the Goldilocks region of being neither too much nor too little. For the 2025 season, we project the largest ever membership.

Our success on the field this past summer keeps in line with previous years. We had four DRSL champions in their respective divisions: the U13 girls, the U14 boys, the U16 and U17 girls. Four of our teams competed at the iModel level, two of whom were promoted to the C1 level: the U15 boys and the U16 girls. In preparation for the upcoming iModel season, two of our iModel teams are competing in the provincial indoor league (PISL) this winter. For this we praise our coaches.

Our developmental philosophy remains the same. We seek to place our teams in the most appropriate league in order to optimize their development; neither too hard, nor too soft should the competition be. We prefer, when appropriate, for our youth teams to compete at the iModel level. We are aware, however, that the iModel is imperfect and not for every team. We hope to influence the league to improve the model in concert with other clubs, specifically to have the season end in September..

Off the field, we must celebrate successes as well. Our tournaments, the ETT program and our Summer Camp each have been profitable, which gives us a revenue stream independent of registration fees. This revenue has allowed us to invest and maintain the clubhouse. A new furnace was installed and the deck was built and furnished. We would like to thank our affiliate clubs, both the PYSC and the PMOSL, as well as SWISH Maintenance for

making significant contributions to the deck, as a shared community space. It is important, I believe, to understand that not one cent of player registration has funded these efforts. It has been funded by the hard work and cooperative efforts of the board running ETT, the tournament, and the Summer Camp, as well as the generous support of our affiliate clubs.

Our vision is that our clubhouse should become a social hub, so that there is increased connections and camaraderie surrounding our endeavours. As such, we will be licensing the clubhouse to host events and build community. This, we hope, will provide a modest revenue stream, but the true purpose is to become as much a social club as a soccer club.

And, by the way, we are no longer a mere “soccer association” but, in fact, we are and always were a “soccer club”. In our quest to meet the new standards for the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act (ONCA) we found out that *Peterborough City Soccer Club* was the name under which we are incorporated, and therefore is our legal name. As those of you who attended the Special General Meeting this summer know, this provincial act required us to rewrite our constitution to comply with the legislation by October. Legal fees were inevitably incurred. Thanks to all who attended our Special General meeting in the summer to pass this rewritten constitution.

We should not merely celebrate the season but reflect on the struggles and the challenges to come. There is still inflationary pressure which makes it hard to keep our registration fees as low as they are. ONCA requirements may also increase expenses. Referee and facility shortages must be managed. The absence of an indoor facility limits our club’s ambition. We are large enough to be in need of a facility, but too small to take on such a venture on our own. We will need to find a cooperative partner to make this a reality.

Still, we move forward, confident that the friendships we shall cement on the new deck will provide the impetus to improve, if only incrementally.

Dan Moore  
President PCSA  
2019-present