CONNYlacrosse

07 FEBRUARY 2012 MEETING of the CONNY BOARD of DIRECTORS

The CONNY Board of Directors (BoD) met on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 in the Board Room of the Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse of the Wakeman Boys & Girls Club in Bridgeport, Connecticut. A quorum being present, President Mac McDermott called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

# **A. ATTENDANCE**

# **Program/Position** **Name**

President Mac McDermott

VP-Competition Paul Farren

VP-Girls League Play Trish Weber

VP-Boys League Play Rich Greenwood

VP Training Steve Orban

Treasurer Betty Kelley

Secretary Jack Couch

Amity Steve Makowski

Bridgeport Don Wilson

Chappaqua Dave Baum

Doc’s NYC Lacrosse Matt Levine

Eastchester Joe Pash

Walter Michelski

Neill Kelly

Eli Fred Groen

Fairfield-Wakeman Drew Carothers

Wakeman parent Margot Pearce

Glastonbury David Walker

Guilford Paul Farren

Hamden Tom Geirin

Madison Dave Newton

New Milford Mac McDermott

**Program Name**

Norwalk Jim Lyons

Kathy Gouin

Mark Mastrianni

North Haven Paul Campanelli

Ridgefield Jim Philbin

Scarsdale Steve Lambert

Shelton Bob Clarke

Simsbury Mike Levin

Somer Steve Couture

Stratford Pat Corcoran

Trumbull Greg Bowen

Watertown Matt Sainsbury

Jen LaBella

West Haven Chrystal Fanelli

Kate Backman

Weston Josh Thornton

Westport Tom Lynch

Wilton Brian Colburn

Wolcott Mike Whitney

CWLOA Randy Bayliss

WCLOA Lewis Socci

Stamford LA Pete Hansen

Mike O’Connor

# **B. MINUTES**

1. **Minutes of December 5, 2011 Fall Meeting of the Board**Approval of these minutes as presented was moved, seconded, and carried (msc) unanimously.
2. **President’s and Executive Committee Report**  
   At its December Fall Meeting, the Board decided that, due to CONNY’s growth and increasingly dispersed geography, the full CONNY Board should meet less frequently and authorize the Executive Committee to conduct CONNY business on its behalf between full BoD meetings. Accordingly, President McDermott reported on the state of CONNY and actions taken on the Board’s behalf since December. He also described several pending issues:

* **Lacrosse for Wishes:** Mr. McDermott reported that CONNY had donated $2,000.00 as starter money for the Lacrosse for Wishes U11 summer travel team that plays to raise mone for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Players selected pay no registration fee, but they are asked to raise a sum for Make-a-Wish. All involved adults are volunteers, three summer events donated slots for the team to play, and virtually all required materials are donated. The team’s goal is to raise the average cost of granting one wish, $8,500.00. If this initiative is successful, the concept can be expanded to other age levels and exported across the country. Lacrosse for Wishes will have a booth at the CONNY Tournaments.
* **Stamford:** President McDermott reported that a large group was breaking away from the Stamford Youth Foundation, which is the designated CONNY member for Stamford. In the hope that this conflict can be resolved to the benefit of the lacrosse-playing children of Stamford, the Exec. Comm. has allowed both SYF and the Stamford Lacrosse Association (the new group) to list teams on CONNYlacrosse.org. However, only SYF games will count for CONNY Tournaments qualification and All Star eligibility, unless the issue is resolved before the May 15 team declaration deadline. CONNY officers have offered to participate in the negotiations.
* **9th Grader Petitions:** President McDermott reported that the Exec. Comm. had received several petitions for four 9th graders to play for Bridgeport. Because all the information needed to decide on these petitions was not at hand (changing status of lacrosse at Bridgeport’s high schools), opportunity to play in future years, etc.), Mr. McDermott asked that the Board delegate authority to decide on these petitions. Since approval of 9th grader petitions requires a 75% super majority, he suggested that as the standard for granting authority. The proposal to so authorize the Executive Committee was moved, seconded, and carried by more than the needed super majority.
* **Residency Petitions:** President McDermott reported that the Exec. Comm. had received several petitions for children to play for a program other than that in their town of residency. One of these petitions was of an extremely sensitive nature that demanded anonymity for the child involved. Mr. McDermott asked that the Board delegate authority to decide on these petitions. Approval of residency petitions requires only a simple 51% majority; the proposal to so authorize the Executive Committee was msc.
* **CONNY Tournaments:** Anticipating the Competition Committee report on the CONNY post season at Yale, President McDermott asked for a much broader volunteer ffort than in previous years. Yale has passed to CONNY responsibility for almost all functions they filled in previous years. That means a substantially increased workload for the CONNY volunteers. He invited anybody interested to contact him directly.

President McDermott had nothing else to report not covered elsewhere in these minutes.

1. **Treasurer’s Report—**Treasurer Betty Kelley recommended, and the Board msc unanimously, the following CONNY Dues for 2012, unchanged now for several years:

$275.00 Basic Membership: Covers the first two boys teams and first two girls teams a member program enters in CONNY Lightning, Junior, and Senior play.

$100.00 Fee for each additional Lightning, Junior, and Senior boys or girls team entered in CONNY play.  
(No fee is charged for Bantam teams.)

Send dues to the Treasurer by April 1, or before a program begins playing games. Games played before dues are paid will not count for CONNY Tournaments qualification and All Stars allocation. Send dues to:

Betty Kelley, Treasurer  
CONNY Lacrosse Association  
P.O. Box 4083  
Woodbridge, CT  06525

1. **Secretary's Report**—Mr. Couch reported on an initiative, tentatively called Travel Academy, which focuses on member programs’ under-squads and on house league level players who want a more competitive experience. The idea is for several contiguous or near contiguous member programs to form local “conferences” that will play their games at predetermined locations every weekend. These conferences are most adamantly not for Tier 1 caliber teams. The concept is being piloted this spring in lower Fairfield and bordering Westchester counties. If it works, it may provide a model for other areas in CONNY. Mr. Couch had nothing else to report not covered elsewhere in these minutes.
2. **CONNY Girls:** VP-Girls League Play Trish Weber and Randy Bayliss of CWLOA reported that CWLOA will conduct girls junior officials classroom training on February 29 at 6:30 pm in room 241 at Wilton High School. On field training will be March 15 at Brien McMahon HS for all new CWLOA officials and junior officials. A girls division meeting is set tentatively for February 23.
3. **CONNY Boys:** VP-Boys League Play Rich Greenwood reported that programs should begin entering games on CONNYlacrosse.org beginning February 8. He had nothing else to report not covered elsewhere in these minutes.
4. **Vendor Relations Committee Report—**This committee reported that ComLax is current on scheduled payments during this last year of our agreement, and that negotiations of the future relationship were on track.
5. **Competition Committee Report—**VP-Competition Paul Farren reported that negotiations with Yale are particularly difficult this year, with prices increasing substantially and services being cut. As mentioned by President McDermott, this will require more volunteer support from CONNY member programs to maintain the quality of the CONNY Tournaments for children and their parents.
6. **Training Committee Report—**VP-Training Steve Orban reminded members that there will be men’s and women’s US Lacrosse Level 1 Coaching Education Program clinics at the United Athletic Center in Stratford, CT on March 25.
7. **Girls Rules Committee Report—**VP-Girls League Play Trish Weber announced that for the CONNY Tournaments, the “mercy rule” would be invoked at a deficit of six goals, not four goals, and that there would be one time out per half.
8. **Boys Officials Committee Report—**Lew Socci of WCLOA advised member programs that there will be no competition for officials from high schools from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm on May 5 and June 2 due to SAT testing. On the other hand, he asked that programs not schedule games May 21 and 29 due to WCLOA activities and training.
9. **FUTURE MEETINGS**The next meeting of the CONNY Board will be the CONNY Tournaments final planning meeting on May 15, 2012, at a site to be determined.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**  
    The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM., and was followed by the annual Scheduling Scramble.

Respectfully submitted,   
Jack Couch, Secretary