

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of October 6, 2012
General Membership Meeting

- 683: The meeting of the membership of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association was held on Saturday, October 6, 2012 at 10:00 AM at Bertona Hall, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington.

Board President/West Rep: Rob Hawley
Division I Rep: Brandon Fortier
Division II Rep: Philip Sidebottom
East Rep: Henry Valentine
North Rep: Peter White
Metro Rep: Ron Wright
At-Large: Ian O'Hearn
Board Executive Secretary: Kathi Lucchesi

Division I – Auburn Riverside, Bainbridge Island, Bellarmine, Bellevue, Bothell-Inglemoor, Curtis, Eastlake, Eastside Catholic, Emerald Ridge, Issaquah, Kamiak, King's Way, Lakeside, Lake Washington, Mercer Island, Sammamish-Newport, Skyline, Snohomish, Tahoma, Woodinville

Division II – Ballard, Blanchet, Burlington-Edison, Camas, Everett, Franklin, Friday Harbor, Garfield, Kennedy, Klahowya, Liberty, Lynden, Meadowdale, Monroe, Mt Si, Nathan Hale, North Kitsap, Overlake, Peninsula, Port Angeles, Providence, Redmond, Richland, Roosevelt, Seattle Prep, Sehome-Ferndale, Shorecrest, South Kitsap, Stadium, Stanwood, Union, Vashon, Wenatchee
Absent: Highline, Selah, O'Dea

- 684: Roll Call was taken and Rob welcomed the two new programs, Camas and O'Dea. With the addition of 2 provisional teams, there are now 56 programs in the league.
- 685: Jeff Mehr, from the Camas program, introduced fellow board members and gave a brief introduction about their new program. Being new to the league, the representatives from Camas respectfully asked the board and current members for guidance in starting their program.
- 686: Kathi announced that a copy of the current contact list is circulating and to please provide updated information.
- 687: Rob reminded the membership about the ground rules for speaking.

- Everyone can speak once on every topic. If someone wants to speak twice they must wait until everyone else has the opportunity to speak once.
- 688: Rob introduced the current board members indicating which region or division they represent and publicly thanked each of them for their tireless work on the board. Members were reminded to reach out to their respective representatives if they have any questions or concerns regarding the league.
- 689: Ron gave an update on the Memorandum of Understanding with WALOA. The fees this year will remain very close to those of the 2012 season. The only change will be in the system used to pay the referees. This change does not affect the members but should make for simpler transactions.
- 690: A question was asked from a member as to whether or not programs will get refunds for games where a referee does not show up. Brandon reported that an adjustment is made on the final invoice reflecting referee fees refunds for 'no shows' as well as any outstanding fees owed to the league. He reminded the members to pay attention to the schedule and make sure to report to the league when a referee does not show up to a game.
- 691: Ron announced that the youth referee training is held on January 27th and encouraged all clubs to reach out to their players to get as many trained referees as possible. This key meeting is the first of the season and will be followed by regional trainings at various locations.
- 692: Brandon reported that the WHSBLA has a new website and gave a demonstration on how to navigate the site. The www.whsbla.org address can still be used as it will forward. The goal is to have this new website contain all information necessary for the league, including the schedules, but it is not quite there yet. The board is still working out all of the possibilities.
- 693: To email board members, their individual email address will need to be used as the board@whsbla.org address is no longer available.
- 694: Brandon urged all members to visit their program's page on the website to check for accuracy and make any updates necessary.
- 695: Rob introduced the new WHSBLA policy that all coaches must have a national scope background check. The background check can be done automatically while renewing US Lacrosse membership. Rob explained how the process works and told members to print out the confirmation page once the check is completed and keep it in the coach's binder. This

- documentation will satisfy that portion of the binder check. There were some questions as to alternatives and whether or not a WSP check meets this requirement. WSP background checks will only cover crimes in the state. A national search must be done and by completing the NCSI search directly through US Lacrosse, it can be done at the reduced rate of \$20 per check. The Board will review possible logistics for allowing any school or district based national background checks to be allowed as an alternative.
- 696: Membership fees for the 2013 season are lowered to \$275 for varsity teams and \$175 for sub-varsity teams. Membership fees are due at the mandatory coaches meeting on February 2, 2013 and invoices will be sent out during the first two weeks of January. Programs were encouraged to send payment in before the deadline.
- 697: The initial game fees payment for the 2013 season is due on March 1, 2013. This payment includes all games scheduled at the start of the season. The game fees have yet to be finalized but are expected to remain approximately the same as 2012. Programs will receive a second invoice for any added games and game fee adjustments in June.
- 698: Kathi reminded members that if they have any issues meeting the payment deadlines, they need to get in touch with her early to come up with a payment plan. School programs that may take longer for payments (purchase orders, etc.) are examples of programs that may need a plan.
- 699: Henry addressed the Out of Season Q & A document that had recently been created and sent out to programs. The board fields a lot of questions about what is and is not legal and members were reminded to call their board representative if needing any clarifications.
- 700: Members were told to get petitions (player transfers, etc.) in early (by December) if they know of them. If there is need for an appeal to the membership following a ruling, experience shows that gathering the necessary numbers of members to hear the appeal is very difficult. Chances are greater if it can be done in conjunction with the February meeting. Rob explained the appeal process to members.
- 701: Brandon announced plans to have the schedule out by December 1st and asked everyone to make sure and double check the contact list for accurate information.
- 702: Addressing concerns from the girls' league (WSLA), all programs were asked to meet with their girls' team, if they have one, to discuss designating certain days of the week for girls or boys game days. This conversation is necessary if a program has both boys and girls programs

- that use the same field for games. Submit the days requested for the boys home games to Brandon for scheduling.
- 703: Members were reminded that if they have a JV or C team, to make sure they have the numbers to support them. If there are any questions as to whether or not they will have enough to field such a team, hold off on declaring and it can then be added later. It is easier to add to the schedule than to take away from it.
- 704: Members were reminded of the game limits: Each team can play a maximum of 20 games plus 1 jamboree. A jamboree is 3 shortened (40 minutes running time) games per day. If attending a two-day jamboree, the first day counts as the jamboree and the second day counts as 1 game toward the total of 20. Anything that is a contest with an opponent must be reported – including scrimmages. The only contest not needing to be reported is if it is kept within the program (i.e. Varsity vs. JV, etc.).
- 705: The question was asked of the deadline for adding games to the schedule. A game must be on the schedule before it is played. No games can be added once playoffs start.
- 706: Ian explained the change to using the high school designations as the team name assignments. Reasons included: media – press will not report scores for conglomerate teams; national ranking sites – will not allow 'regional' teams to be included. Teams may still use their same jerseys and name within the program but the high school team name will be the official name used by WHSBLA.
- 707: 2013 Season
Dead Period – August 1, 2012 thru February 24, 2013
- i. No coach may have any lacrosse coaching contact with his players, including incoming freshmen, during the Dead Period
 - ii. For details, see Handbook Sec.8.2.0
 - iii. First day of practice: Monday February 25, 2013
 - iv. Championship Day: Saturday, June 1, 2013 (Note that this is later than usual)
- 708: One member asked the board the procedures for reporting out of season coaching and the penalties for such a rule violation. Henry explained that if an offense is witnessed, it needs to be reported directly to the board. The board will then reach out to the potential offender and further investigate. Sanctions are assessed at the outcome.
- 709: It was asked whether or not such offenses and the resulting sanctions are broadcasted out to members. Decisions are 'broadcasted' to the membership in the form of being included in the meeting minutes.

- 710: Discussion followed about the Q & A for Out of Season coaching and clarifications were sought regarding specific scenarios. Members were again reminded to ask their board representatives if they have any questions as to whether or not there is potential for violating the rules.
- 711: Rob explained that the reason for the Out-of-Season rules is so that coaches cannot persuade players to play year-round. More discussion followed.
- 712: Questions were raised as to who is considered a coach. Specifically noted was witnessing dads coaching on the team sidelines during the season and then coaching during the off-season. Brandon explained that all coaches must be registered, certified and identified in the coach's packet in the binder.
- 713: For clarification, Brandon explained that a team manager is not to be in the coach's box. If in the box, they are considered a coach and must be certified and documented as such.
- 714: A member reported that there is blatant coaching out-of-season and felt that the board is aware of it. He wanted to know the repercussions, stating that it is clear what happens if you miss a meeting but not clear with this violation.
- 715: In answer to the questions above, members were again reminded of the process: 1) If you see a violation, let the board know; 2) The board investigates and levies sanctions accordingly; 3) There are a wide variety of situations so sanctions are not always the same. Each situation is handled case-by-case so there is not a set timetable.
- 716: One member asked the board if it were possible to have something defined in the handbook as far as ramifications for coaching violations.
- 717: A few season reminders: 1) It is mandatory to have a Sideline Manager for home games and is encouraged for the visiting team; 2) The Lystedt Law is in effect and information can be found on the website; 3) Remember to complete the referee evaluation forms – also found on the WHSBLA website.
- 718: It was announced that the Seatown Classic is coming up on Saturday, October 13th at Starfire Sports in Tukwila.
- 719: Kris Snider gave an update on the events of the Seatown Classic including an invite to attend team practices on Friday night, a clinic for coaches and the boys and girls' youth clinics. The Washington Chapter of

US Lacrosse has worked hard to bring out the University of Maryland and the University of Denver teams and hope to have a successful event that leads to more in the future.

- 720: Kris announced a call for speakers at the National Convention. If anyone is interested in submitting an application, please let Kris Snider know.
- 721: From the Sports Science and Safety Committee, it was announced that by 2014, all lacrosse balls must be NOCSAE approved. This came out of a serious incident from the King's Way program.
- 722: Chris Kelley from the Washington Stealth reported that the Stealth are looking to put together a panel of people to work together to determine the best ways to better serve the programs in Washington. If interested, let him know as they plan to convene in November.
- 723: On January 5th, the Stealth will host the US Women's National team. There will be clinics followed by a game. Grade school clinic time is 12:00-2:00 and high school clinic is 2:00-4:00. From 4:00-5:15 will be a pizza and autograph session.
- 724: Last year the Stealth donated back over \$16,000 to clubs through the various programs they offer.
- 725: There was time in the meeting for a Question and Answer period.

Question: Is there a process for recertifying helmets? There was discussion about how to address this but the conclusion was that there is no standard for recertification. Helmets can be reconditioned. Members were encouraged to contact Dick Lanham at Canfield and Associates for more information.

Question: Can the board revisit what constitutes a jamboree – specifically allowing a jamboree to be a game consisting of 25 minute running halves (rather than 20 minute running halves)? The reason for the request is that most jamborees are run with this format.

Concern: One member expressed concern that the board includes competitive coaches and there may be a conflict of interest. Discussion followed and concerns were raised. It was suggested by a member that if this is a concern, members should offer up a nomination for board elections.

- 726: With a vote up next on the agenda, Rob presented the rules for debate (using Roberts Rules of Order) which had been sent out prior to the

meeting. Rob gave the following explanation about the proposed amendment:

1) It came about from the member survey results with roughly 1/2 of the membership being interested in having 3 divisions and nearly 2/3 showing interest in a private school division; 2) On September 6th, all members received notice of the proposed amendment; 3) If the vote is affirmed by 2/3 of the membership, the 2013 season will have 3 divisions.

MOTION: Should the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association (WHSBLA) league alignment and Bylaws be changed to reflect a league organization of three divisions comprised of two public school divisions and one non-public school division (with the resulting addition of a Non-Public Division Member and a second At-Large Member to the Board)?

- 727: Before the debate started, questions were asked in regards to how the proposal came about. Members were again reminded that it came out in the survey but that this proposal had also been brought up a few years ago.
- 728: Following the debate, ballots were collected from the 40 eligible programs. With 21 votes in favor and 19 votes against, the proposed amendment did not obtain the necessary 2/3 vote of membership to pass.
- 729: Board elections were announced with the following positions and nominees on the ballots:
- Eastside Representative: Tye Schriever and Henry Valentine
Westside Representative: Matt Williams and Rob Hawley
North Representative: Peter White
Metro Representative: Ron Wright
- 730: The Board Election results were announced:
- Eastside Representative: Henry Valentine
Westside Representative: Rob Hawley
North Representative: Peter White
Metro Representative: Ron Wright
- 731: Mandatory coaches meeting – February 2, 2013 at Bertona Hall, Seattle Pacific University.
- 732: The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 PM.

At the conclusion of the General Membership Meeting, the executive board met to select a new board president. Ron Wright was selected as president of the board.

Kathi Lucchesi, Executive Secretary