

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of November 2, 2014 Board Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 5:12 PM – at Issaquah High School

Attending: B. Fortier, H. Valentine, G. Hill, K. Snider, R. Hawley, I. O’Hearn, and K. Lucchesi.
P. White, V. Smith and C. Leshner in attendance via Conference Call.

1488 J. Gerke Petition

The board received a letter of petition from player, Joe Gerke, asking to play for White River, the newly formed team out of the Auburn Riverside (Lake Tapps Lacrosse Club) split. Joe is a freshman that attends Orting High School. Following the split, Orting High School was reassigned to the new Bethel program.

MOTION: It was moved by H. Valentine and seconded by I. O’Hearn to deny the petition from J. Gerke seeking to play for White River. In favor: 9 Opposed: 0. Motion carried - petition denied.

1489 Richland Request to Assign Walla Walla Players

The board received a letter from the Richland program asking about where a player from Walla Walla should be assigned. Per current boundary documents, Walla Walla High School is not assigned to a program. There was much discussion which included the size of schools, location, travel time and the league’s policies regarding conglomerate programs. It was determined that given the current programs in the area, individual players must petition the board to play for a specific team as Walla Walla is not assigned to one program nor can it be at this time. Chris L. will reach out to the Richland board to explain the process.

1490 King’s Way Name

The WHSBLA board had previously informed the King’s Way board that they must choose a public school program to be affiliated with and so named or choose to be a private school program and follow existing league policy for such. The King’s Way board requested that they be allowed to keep the King’s Way name as they ease into becoming a public school program. They asked to be granted one more year with their current name and status. After discussion and review of the 2014 roster, the WHSBLA board determined that the King’s Way program shall now be named “Columbia River” unless another public school is chosen by them. Ian O. will contact King’s Way to discuss this decision.

1491 Request to Reassign Blaine to Sehome-Bellingham Program

A letter of request from the Lynden board was received seeking to reassign Blaine High School players from Lynden to Sehome-Bellingham. A drive that is shorter in time, positive for growth in the area and no objection from the Sehome-Bellingham program were all reasons given and discussed for this boundary move.

MOTION: It was moved by R. Hawley and seconded by B. Fortier to accept the Lynden proposal to reassign Blaine High School to the Sehome-Bellingham program. In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstained: P. White. Motion carried.

1492 Inglemoor Update

With the split of the Bothell-Inglemoor program, there was concern about the status of the Inglemoor team. I. O'Hearn has been in touch with members of the board and program and gave an update. It was reported that the Inglemoor group is meeting to gain support and to work toward making the split a success for their program. In case of the possibility of refusing to form a team at Inglemoor, the board discussed suggestions of possible sanctions or other consequences. With the Inglemoor group meeting in the next week, a decision on such consequences was tabled until necessary. I. O'Hearn will reach out to the Inglemoor group to find out the current status of the program.

1493 Classification of Programs – DI and DII

After receiving consensus from members at the General Membership Meeting the board was again tasked with making decisions as to the classification (DI or DII) of each program for the 2015 season. These designations continue to currently be based on what is deemed best for the league as a whole given factors including size of program, existing feeder programs, size of school in which drawing players, previous year's roster info and/or previous year's success.

Focus was given most specifically to new programs, existing programs affected by a program split and programs in which concerns have been heard in regards to this topic.

It was unanimously agreed upon that all new programs will be classified as Division II for the 2015 season in order to best promote longevity of the program.

New Programs, Classified as Division II for 2015 - Archbishop Murphy, Bethel, Bonney Lake, Garfield, Inglemoor, Juanita, Sumner and White River

It was further agreed upon that already existing programs dramatically affected by a split this past off-season will also be classified as Division II in order to allow for a period of time to rebuild solely around the single schools they now represent.

Classified as Division II for 2015 - Auburn Riverside, Bothell and Lake Washington

Additionally, based on the amount of programs now classified as Division II, discussion was had in effort to better balance the amount of programs classified as Division I. It was determined that for the 2015 season four programs meet criteria to be classified as Division I.

Classified as Division I for 2015 - O'Dea, Seattle Academy, Shorecrest and Stanwood

1494 Remainder of Agenda Tabled

Due to the lengthy discussion of the previous item, the remainder of the agenda was tabled to be addressed at an intermittent board meeting on November 16, 2014.

Remaining agenda items include:
Conference Schedules
DI and DII Playoff Brackets
2015 Budget and Registration Fees
Championships

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Kathi Lucchesi, Executive Secretary/Treasurer