

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION
Minutes of June 1, 2016 Board Meeting

Members present: V. Smith, B. Fortier, K. Snider, I. O'Hearn, K. Lucchesi
Via conference call: H. Valentine, C. Leshar, G. Hill, R. Hawley.
Absent: R. Amell

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM

1626 Championship Critique

A preliminary revenue report of the state championships was presented and potential options to increase attendance throughout the day were addressed. There was much discussion about the impact of moving the championships to a date other than Memorial Day weekend and that option will be addressed at future meetings.

For the 2017 season, a "Championships" committee, chaired by a WHSBLA board member, shall be formed to get more people involved and disperse the work load. It was noted that many more volunteers are needed for the day and a volunteer chairperson on the committee could focus on that need.

With the ability to accept credit card payments, Vern suggested the idea of giving a slight discount if tickets are purchased a day or so prior to the event. This could be done online after the teams are announced and could significantly decrease the line at the gate and increase tickets sold.

All expense reimbursements as well as a \$1,000.00 stipend for organizing the event shall be paid to Brooke Hartley within the week.

Vern was informed that a new artwork coordinator will be needed for the 2017 program.

1627 2016 Season Critique

There was discussion of what went well for the 2016 season and what changes should be made for the future:

The wording on the player transfer process needs to be clearer in the handbook and include specific and firm cut off dates.

In regards to the All-Conference selection process, there were complaints by coaches about the process and this should be looked at further. Although it is not a perfect process, it is about as fair as it can be within the league structure.

The All-American and Academic All-American selection process needs to be looked at as it is a daunting task for coaches to carefully review the large number of applications. It was suggested that the board reach out to Chris Bergin about returning the task of selecting the Academic All-Americans to a committee as it was in the past.

There was much discussion about how to help struggling teams. It was suggested that a meeting be held with such programs to help determine needs and ways to meet them. Kris plans to have such a meeting with the Metro public school programs later this month.

It was suggested that the league go back to a DI/DII model based on competitiveness as in previous years. League structure will be revisited at a future meeting and via email discussion. Brandon will forward to the board a potential structure for review.

Issues raised during the season concerning the aggressive play by the Gonzaga Prep team and lack of referee control were discussed. After many discussions and video review of game film, it was determined that Rob Hawley will have an in-depth conversation with the GP head coach to address these concerns so as to get it under control before this type of behavior continues to spread.

There was much discussion as to whether or not Bellevue should be sanctioned for the use of two players who were ineligible at the start of the game against Issaquah yet were allowed to play on a later date in the continuation of the same game (postponed for weather).

MOTION: It was moved by C.L. and seconded by G.H. to sanction Bellevue with a one game suspension of the head coach at the start of the 2017 season. In favor 7. Opposed 0. B. F. recused. Motion carried.

Vern shared a letter forwarded to the board by the Eastside Catholic AD. It was reported that several cars marked as Eastside Catholic (stickers, etc.) were vandalized in the parking lot during or following the championship game. Very poor behavior by Bellevue fans was also reported in the letter as well as an incident regarding a Bellevue coach. It was reported that the Bellevue AD is investigating the matter and the WHSBLA board will also continue to monitor and follow up.

1628 Tax Report from CPA

Vern will meet with the CPA in the next week to pay any back taxes owed. This summer, the league will work to gain non-profit status.

1629 1099 Forms

It was asked what can be done to improve the process of getting out the 1099 forms. With it now known that this can be done through Arbiter, Kathi will contact Arbiter to make sure the 1099 forms are processed directly.

1630 Survey Monkey Use

Vern suggested that the board may use Survey Monkey for board votes and surveys seeking feedback from the membership. There was discussion as to how that will work and it was agreed that this could help with the process to keep accurate records of votes and feedback.

1631 WIAA Sanctioning Update

Vern gave an update on the status of moving toward WIAA sanctioning. It was originally reported that it was not necessary to have the girls league (WSLA) on board before moving forward. It was later confirmed that with Title 9, WIAA sanctioning would be very difficult to obtain without also bringing on a girls' sport. The question was raised as to whether or not the WHSBLA continues to seek sanctioning without the support of WSLA. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of WIAA sanctioning and which is best to promote and grow the sport.

Vern will ask Andy, from the WIAA, if they have a girls sport seeking to be brought in that would help. He also suggested sending out a poll to the WHSBLA membership about further pursuing WIAA sanctioning.

1632 Compliance Files

The submission of the Compliance File at the start of the season is a heavy burden on board members who are also at the start of getting their season underway. Tabled until the fall meeting is discussion about how to better receive and check the program Compliance Files.

1633 Proposed Bylaws Change

With the move of the "February Coaches Meeting" to the last weekend in January, it was proposed that the bylaws be amended to allow for this in the future.

Vern suggested that an additional change to the bylaws be that board members are not also members of WALOA due to a potential conflict of interest regarding negotiations. Discussion followed as to clarifying the level of WALOA involvement (i.e. board member) so as not to exclude individuals who are also referees and therefore WALOA members.

There are other changes that Vern will write up to propose to the membership for adoption.

1634 2017 Handbook Updates

Chris requested that Cheney High School be added to the boundary document as part of the Lewis and Clark program. Brandon suggested that we hold off until the board has a thorough discussion of the status of conglomerate programs. Brandon will circulate information for board discussion through email within the week.

Other areas that need updating in the handbook: Both "co-head" coaches must attend the mandatory coaches meeting, and; Player/Coach suspensions shall be served for the next game on the schedule at the time the infraction occurred.

1635 Conference Re-alignment

Brandon gave a preview of what he will send out for discussion with a DI/DII format. Discussion followed and will continue throughout the summer.

1636 NFHS Head Dimension Rules

It was reported that players may still purchase the high school heads but next year they will be illegal as the league will be going to the NFHS (college legal) heads. WWSBLA will put out an announcement reminding all of this ruling.

1637 September Board Meeting

Board members were asked to check their schedules for a longer board meeting in September. It was later confirmed that the longer board meeting will be held on September 18th at Henry's home.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM

Kathi Lucchesi
Executive Secretary