

Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association

February 4, 2012 Membership Meeting Minutes

1. At 10:12 AM the General Membership Meeting was brought to order by Rob Hawley.
 - a. Rob provided a general introduction to the meeting that included a reminder to coaches if they have not already turned in their team coach's packet and fees to please do so before leaving today.
 - b. A contact list was passed around, coaches were encouraged to ensure that their contact details were accurate and if not, to update them accordingly.
 - c. US Lacrosse surveys were handed out and the coaches were asked to complete the surveys before they leave today.
 - d. Ground rules for the meeting were discussed:
 - i. When speaking on a topic, please state your name and organization that you represent at the beginning of the statement.
 - ii. Everyone may speak 1 time on each topic.
 - iii. If someone wants to speak a 2nd time on a topic, must wait until everyone else has had the opportunity to speak a first time.
2. Roll Call was conducted by Ron Wright
3. Changes to programs and new programs were discussed by Rob Hawley:
 - a. A reminder that there are 3 programs still looking for head coaches, so if you know anyone interested to help out with those programs that would be great. Those programs are:
 - i. Edmonds
 - ii. Overlake
 - iii. Everett
 - b. Announcement that Union will not be playing in 2012
 - c. Rob asked new members and coaches and to stand and introduce themselves.
 - i. Kennedy – Kitchel Daniells
 - ii. Monroe – Owen Corddry
 - iii. Mukilteo – Mike Harlow
 - iv. South Kitsap – Brady Blue
 - v. Redmond – Bob Roble
 - vi. Seattle Prep – Rich Schwartz
 - vii. Stanwood – Mark Bocek
 - viii. Wenatchee – Dave Holland
 - ix. Nathan Hale – Kris Snider
 - x. Blanchet – Riley Gervais and Jake Director
4. Brandon discussed deadlines and Important reminders for the season
 - a. First deadline today Feb. 4, 2012. All completed packets and membership fees due
 - i. Includes: Signed Acknowledgement Form; Signed Program Certification; Program Info and Coach's Certification Document; Membership Fees (\$300 for varsity, \$200 for each additional non-varsity team).

- ii. If your packet was given back to you, it was because something was missing or incomplete. It is your responsibility to get that packet back to Kathi ASAP. It is not her responsibility to track you down to get the information.
- b. Next deadline is March 1, 2012
 - i. Official's Game Fees, you should have received in invoice in the mail; return a check with the invoice.
 - ii. Question (Unknown) – If there are changes in the season and say for example a team backs out, will we get a refund?
 - 1. Brandon replied that we are doing a 2 step process by sending invoices at the beginning of the season, then at the end of the season a new invoice will be sent based on adjustments made during the season either asking for additional money or to process a refund.
 - iii. Rob Hawley advised the coaches that the Officials contract is being signed in the coming days as that has been finalized.
 - iv. Rob also highlighted an issue that came up and asked if your programs District requires a Contract Services Agreement to be signed in order to pay officials to let the board know so that we can assist with getting that completed.
 - v. Question (Unknown) – The problem that his program is running into is that their school will not pay for services that have not yet been rendered so they cannot make officials payment in advance.
 - vi. Brandon replied that as long as prior arrangements have been made with Kathi before hand this will not be an issue.
- c. Next deadline Official Program rosters should be emailed to Kathi by March 12, 2012
 - i. Brandon will be emailing a template that programs should use to complete this information to ensure that it is in a common format and necessary information.
 - ii. This should include anyone in your program at any level. If you add players after the due date, it is your responsibility to send Kathi the information for the new player(s) to your roster.
- d. Next deadline, prior to your first game you must have your Varsity Roster posted on Sportability before you step onto the field. The bottom line is that no one should be playing in a Varsity level game unless they appear on your posted Varsity Roster.
- e. Other Important Dates:
 - i. First day of practice – Monday, February 27, 2011
 - ii. Playoffs Begin – Friday, May 11, 2012 (DII), Tuesday May 15, 2012 (DI)
 - iii. All-American selection Meeting – Sunday, May 13, 2012
 - 1. If you are scheduling or rescheduling games; please take into consideration the above dates so that your games do not interfere with playoff dates or other dates on the schedule.
 - iv. WHSBLA CHAMPIONSHIPS – Saturday, May 26, 2012
 - v. Out of Season begins – August 1, 2012
- f. Game and Practice Reminders were reviewed:
 - i. Every individual player must have 10 practices before they can compete. You cannot count multiple practices on the same day; you may not count practices that occur on Sundays.

- ii. A practice is defined as doing something physically and something Lacrosse specific for an extended period of time.
 - 1. Question (unknown) – What happens with injured players if they are at practice?
 - 2. Brandon replied that you cannot count that as a practice for the injured player.
- iii. A reminder for games and jamborees, you are allowed to have 20 games on your schedule plus one jamboree. If you choose to participate in a second Jamboree (defined as one day with up to 3 shortened games) this will count towards your game calendar (limited to 20)
- iv. Question (Unknown) – What is the rule for players who are involved in other sports that carry over past the start of Lacrosse?
 - 1. Brandon replied that if you have someone involved in winter sports that goes past the start of the Lacrosse season, you are allowed to deduct up to ½ of the practices up to a maximum of 5 practices.
- v. Question (Unknown) – What is the rule for players that play in Varsity and JV games?
 - 1. Brandon replied that the rule is 4 quarters per day. A player is allowed to play only 4 quarters in one day for either Varsity or JV level play. If the players steps on to the field at all during a quarter, it is counted as a full quarter. The purpose and spirit of this rule is that a player should not be playing both teams full time.
 - 2. Followup Question (Unknown) – How does overtime affect the 4 quarter rule.
 - 3. Brandon replied that overtime is seen as an extension of the 4th quarter.
- vi. Question (Unknown) – For clarification, the 20 game limit is for the team, not an individual player.
- vii. Brandon confirmed that is the case, the 20 game limit is for the team, not the individual player.
- viii. All teams are required to be maintaining a binder, there is a list of what needs to be in the binder but essentially the requirements are:
 - 1. Proof of liability insurance; there are 3 main ways that this can be accomplished:
 - a. If all of your players are registered through US Lacrosse you can contact Bolinger and they will send you a certificate. You must also have a roster of all players and their US Lacrosse numbers with valid expiration dates for each player.
 - b. A letter from the school stating proof of insurance for the proper coverage
 - c. A letter from a 3rd party insurance company stating proof of insurance for the program and a roster of each player with their personal insurance numbers
 - 2. Linstead Law which is a blanket statement that the program is aware of the law and abiding by it; in addition a hardcopy of the law signed by each player and their parent that they have reviewed it and understand

- it. This must be updated each year so ensure that these forms are current.
3. WSP background checks that shows that each coach and any working with the kids have successfully completed a WSP background check. You can use other services outside of WSP but you need to show proof that it was successfully done.
 4. Player Code of Conduct submitted showing your school or clubs Code of Conduct that players must be following.
 5. US Lacrosse, all Head Coaches must be members the binder should have a copy of the card or email confirming membership.
 6. CPR Certificate and First Aide Certificate for all coaches, photocopies of the cards will be sufficient.
- ix. An update was given that the board has added new grade requirements with the adoption of Policy 6.8. Brandon reviewed the policy (detailed below).

In order to maintain athletic eligibility during the current semester/trimester, the student shall maintain passing grades or the minimum grade standards as determined by the school district if more restrictive, in a minimum of:

3 classes in a 4 period class schedule or equivalent credits

4 classes in a 5 period class schedule or equivalent credits

5 classes in a 6 period class schedule or equivalent credits

6 classes in a 7 period class schedule or equivalent credits

7 classes in an 8 period class schedule or equivalent credits

Programs shall establish a grade monitoring system to ascertain the student's passing status in the minimum of required classes.

- x. Question (Unknown) – What is the best way to ensure that students meet the grade requirements if we are not part of the school?
- xi. Brandon replied with a suggestion to ask each player to bring in proof of grades like a report card and mid quarter check or something similar to prove their eligibility. The program should also be able to demonstrate that they are tracking this information as well.
- xii. Question (Unknown) – If you have a student that has finished all of their credits do they still have to maintain this?
- xiii. Brandon replied that the student still must be enrolled in school. If they have already graduated then they are done and they cannot be playing.
- xiv. Question (Unknown) – I have a student that is at an alternative school. Are they still eligible and need to provide grades.
- xv. Brandon and Rob replied that they are eligible and do need to provide grades. Further, home schooled students and Running Start students are also eligible and need to provide proof of grades as well.

5. Ron Wright presented a summary of the rule changes and points of emphasis for 2012. A PowerPoint presentation was used which will be posted on the WHSBLA website for coaches to access later. Ron also directed coaches to the US Lacrosse website where a rules video has been posted which is very helpful. A summary of the rule changes discussed is as follows:

- a. **Rule 1-2-1 Penalty will not be enforced:** If, because of a logo or any other reason, the home team's field is without a clearly marked centerline, possession of the ball goes to the visiting team to begin the contest.
- b. **Rule 1-7-3** All hollow crosse handles must have their open end covered with a plastic or rubber end cap manufactured for a lacrosse stick.
 - i. Stick to be removed from the game until corrected.
- c. **Rule 4-3-3:** Face Off - The crosses and gloves shall rest on the ground along the center line parallel to each other, up to, but not touching, the center line.
- d. **Rule 4.5.10** Airborne player – The location of an airborne player is the same as at the time such player was last in contact with the field or an extension of the field.
- e. **Rule 4-7-1:** If at any point the ball becomes stuck in the front or back of the crosse, there shall be an immediate whistle and the ball awarded to the opposing team. This rule applies when a player loses his crosse and the ball remains in or under the head of the crosse.
- f. **Rule 4-11-3:** A team is not considered offside if a team with too few players at either end of the field has not gained an advantage because the player(s) in question are off the field of play.
- g. **Rule 4-27-3:** Injured player. An injured player shall be replaced but can substitute back into the game ***after the next dead ball following the resumption of play.***
- h. **Rule 5-4** NEW Checks involving the head/neck.
 - i. Can't initiate contact to the head or neck
 1. With a cross check
 2. Or any part of the body or stick
 - ii. Follow through also a violation
 - iii. Non-releasable penalty
- i. **Rule 4-15-1** regarding advancing the ball into the goal area was expanded to describe three situations. A team shall bring the ball into the goal area within 10 seconds
 - i. after crossing the center line with possession,
 - ii. after initially gaining possession in the offensive half of the field, or
 - iii. after regaining possession in the offensive half of the field following a defensive possession.

This change eliminates the need for players to continually "get a touch" in the goal area every 10 seconds.

- j. **Rule 4-34,** "Get it in/Keep it in" command for officials to use in two situations involving offensive possession. When the ball is outside the goal area, the official verbally announces "get it in," forcing the team in possession to advance the ball into the goal area within 10 seconds and keep it in.

Under two minutes remaining in the game when the game is not tied considered stalling

- k. **Rule 6-10-2** to state that the warning will be made when, in the judgment of the officials, a team in possession of the ball is keeping the ball from play by not attacking the goal. The phrase “in the judgment of the officials” was used to replace the former term “obvious.”

It is the responsibility of the offense to attack the goal if outside the attack box.

- l. **Rule 5-11:** Any player who accumulates five minutes of personal fouls shall be disqualified from the game.

A player who accumulates five minutes of personal fouls has fouled out of the game but has not been ejected.

Reminder. **Rule 6-12-1c** A player, substitute, coach, non-playing member of a team or anyone officially connected with the team shall be ejected for a second non-releasable, unsportsmanlike foul.

- i. Comment (Unknown) – Concerned that this rule is going to be problematic
 - ii. Question (Unknown) – What about in home related penalties?
 - iii. Ron Answered that this rule is tied to the specific player and in home penalties do not apply.
 - iv. Question (Unknown) – Who enforces this rule?
 - v. Ron replied that the times and scorekeepers work for the referees they should be tracking penalties and are trained to do so.
 - vi. Ron also reminded the coaches that if a coach knowingly puts a player back in that has violated this rule it is considered un-sportsman like conduct.
- m. **Rule 7-1-1d:** A player who is serving penalty time shall wait until possession is gained during a faceoff before entering the field through the table area even when his penalty time has expired.
- n. **WHSBLA Handbook 10.1.3:** The HOME team is required to provide an adult to serve as the designated “Sideline Manager” to assist with crowd control issues for the duration of the contest. This person must be introduced to the officials prior to the start of the contest. In order to remain mobile, this person may not be part of the table crew (scorekeeper, clock operator, penalty timer, horn operator, etc.). The visiting team is encouraged to designate a "Sideline Manager" of their own and if so, should be introduced to the officials as well.
 - i. Question (Unknown) – Isn't this a liability issue and will insurance cover this?
 - ii. Ron answered that he is not sure but that this role is considered a volunteer just as any of the other volunteers that assist with other roles like field setup, etc.
 - iii. Question / Clarification (Unknown) – Is adult defined as anyone over 18 years of age.
 - iv. Ron replied, yes that is the definition of adult.
 - v. Ron reminded the coaches that there should be no non-participants on the box side of the field; obviously for stadium style seating and stands this does not apply.

- vi. Currently, there is no penalty for not providing a sideline manager if one is not available or there are no volunteers.
6. Ron Wright announced that State Championships will be held again on Memorial Day weekend (May 26) and teams are encouraged to get a team picture early in the season for the program. Volunteers are needed as it takes approximately 100. Programs should contact Brooke Hartley at brookeonthebay@comcast.net
7. Kris Snider from the Washington Chapter of US Lacrosse provided an update to the coaches.
 - a. At the National level US Lacrosse went through a re-organization. It has been underway for more than one year now and resulted in several new committees and groups. National Interscholastic Lacrosse Coaches Association (NILCA) –used to be part of US Lacrosse but they have since been replaced and are no longer part of US Lacrosse.
 - b. At the state level there was recently a chapter meeting, the notes and PowerPoints from that meeting are on the US Lacrosse website if you are interested.
 - c. Grants are available so keep your eyes out for those programs. There are roughly 10 grants for our area.
 - d. On October 13th 2012 US Lacrosse is putting together an exhibition game and they are trying to field a women’s college exhibition game as well. US Lacrosse will need lots of help and support with this program so please try to keep your schedules clear and avoid scheduling off-season games during that time.
 - e. US Lacrosse sponsors many awards for High School players and coaches. Kris organizes the process to get player details for nomination and selection and there are critical dates to make sure that the process flows smoothly. Please watch for emails and pay close attention to the due dates to ensure that your players are properly nominated and can be part of the selection process.
 - f. For All American Awards, there is one selected for each 5 qualifying teams. You received a survey today that should be completed and turned in before you leave to help us determine the number of qualifying teams.
 - g. There is 1 Academic All American for every 10 qualifying teams.
 - h. The Bob Scott award is a new award that recognizes that one player that is the “ideal, perfect kid”.
 - i. There is a Senior All Star game scheduled in Orlando Florida sponsored by Champion. We expect to have the details in the next few weeks to begin that selection process.
 - j. Question (Skyline) – When the committees are looking at the Academic All American do you weigh Private school and Public Education differently?
 - k. Kris answered that there is no weighting formula or criteria used to compare the 2 differently.
 - l. Question (Jack - Bainbridge) – Would like to see that the WHSBLA be involved in the All American selection process. Seems that the coaches involved in the programs know these players better than US Lacrosse and can help with that selection process.
 - m. Rob Hawley commented that to keep things moving, the board would follow-up and coordinate the interest of the coaches and the new selection options.

8. Mike McQuaid, the PR Sports Info Director, spoke to the coaches about the importance of properly marketing lacrosse and the programs.
 - a. Handouts were given, a short form for each head coach at the varsity level only
 - b. Sports information handout was given as well
 - c. Mike provided recommendations for how to work well with his organization and ensure that teams get the most out of the program.
 - d. His organization is comprised of journalists that are focused on getting as much exposure as possible for lacrosse and your programs. They are designed to be a single point of contact for marketing and then they can distribute the details and content to the media avenues in the market.
 - e. Mike also provided samples of successful stories and articles that help lacrosse get more coverage and the type of information that makes for good stories.
 - f. This year they are adding social media to the platform like Twitter, Facebook, etc..
 - g. They are trying to streamline how they get scores for the games and published. They rely on the coaches to submit the information.
 - h. This years program is comprised of:
 - i. Game summaries
 - ii. Sunday – the week ahead summary
 - iii. Monday – Standings news release
 - iv. Tuesday – Leaders, boys and girls, defensive, goal keeper, etc.
 - v. Wednesday – Player of the week (offensive and defensive this year)
 - vi. Thursday – In the news updates and trending
 - i. In 2011 there were 981 lacrosse stories published in the state of Washington (180% growth rate from 2010)
 - j. Think about how you can reach out and connect at your local level and publications. As well as influential people that can help get exposure to the sport.
 - k. Identify a team contact to work with his team to provide scores and stats immediately after the game. Call the number provided or text the details in using the format provided. For the home team, please provide the details in Sportability by 10PM the night of the game.
 - l. New website this year is www.WashingtonHSLax.com

9. Open Question and Answers

- a. There were no questions from the coaches.
- b. A reminder to turn in the 2 surveys before leaving
- c. Brandon made a final announcement that Liberty JV games are available; if you are interested in playing them let Brandon know your interest.

10. Adjourned at 12:17 PM