

Meeting Date: January 7, 2015

Meeting Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting Location: Lufty Hall at Xavier High School (4710 North 5th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85012)

Minutes

1. Roll Call- Sign-In and Introductions (Sheet) Greg Ritter
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm (assumed)
2. Reading/Approval of November & December Meeting Minutes Greg Ritter
 - a. Minutes approved
3. President's Report Greg Ritter
 - a. Welcome to our new President
 - b. Suggestion to discuss the structure of the Executive Committee and Board Mark Nichols
 - i. Idea for a paid league commissioner
 1. Idea appeared to be supported by AGLA Board members
 2. Greg Ritter said he would consider the idea
 3. As we proceed in 2015 we will establish a committee to explore options
4. Old Business
5. New Business
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Southwest Round-Up
 - i. Invitations have all been mailed out
 - ii. 5 fields is the final number
 - iii. Contract with Avondale is being revised and finalized
 - iv. Hope is that all AZ teams will participate
 - v. Question regarding financial support of AGLA was left open
 - b. Rules/Grievance
 - i. Proposed changes were discussed (see end of minutes)
 - c. Coaches
 - i. All AGLA coaches will be required to be Level 1 certified
 - ii. There is an exception rule for specific extenuating circumstances
 - iii. The draft language was requested
 - d. Scheduling
 - i. Schedule will be out by this weekend
 - e. Registration
 - i. Coaches need to register immediately
 - ii. Parents must register their children for liability purposes
 - iii. There is a 01/31/2015 team representative and mandatory coaches meeting
 - iv. At Xavier 11 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 3 pm
7. Adjourn- 9:00 pm (assumed)
 - a. Motion Passed

AZGLA New Rules Recommendations

1. Recommendation that an executive committee member (other than the president) provides oversight for the grievance committee. Advantage: Distributes workload of executive committee.
2. Recommendation that the grievance committee be pre-selected (prior to the season). Advantage: Cuts down time to consideration of grievance.
3. Recommendation that rules be tied to sanctions. Advantage: Cuts down time to decision and provides possible offenders with up front sense of what actions might cost.
 - a. Minimum number of players for a regulation game is 9 players plus the goalie—absence of this amount leads to team forfeit.
 - b. 2 yellow cards is suspension of game for coach or player for the remainder of the game. They may participate in the next game. Advantage: provides incentive for coaches to teach a follow rules of the game.
 - c. If a player/coach receives a red card the team must serve a 4 minute penalty and the player may not return to coach, play, or dress for the next game. If a team receives 4 cards in one game the team will play shorthanded for the remainder of the game. They will lose an additional player each time a card is received.
 - d. Coaches' Conduct:
 - i. If a coach acts inappropriately on the field, the official shall verbally warn the coach. If poor conduct continues, the coach can receive a yellow card, and if it escalates further a red card. If a coach receives a red card he or she must leave the field for the remainder of the game. If it becomes necessary for an official to eject a coach (i.e. given a red card) from a game for any reason, the coach shall miss the next contest and will be placed on AGLA probation in accordance with the policies established by the AGLA. If any red cards are issued to a coach the official will contact the Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee.
 - ii. If a coach acts inappropriately off the field (before games, after games, and in surrounding facilities) away from official supervision, the witness should contact the executive committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee.
 - iii. Disciplinary Action: Depending on the extent of the violation a coach may miss the next contest. The coach could be placed on probation for the season (including the post-season). If the violation is severe or repetitive the coach will be prohibited from coaching for the remainder of the season (including the post-season).
4. Recommendation that varsity and JV players be better defined; Coaches will designate Varsity and Junior Varsity players prior to the beginning of the season. Junior or Senior players may not play at the JV level if they have two years or more of prior experience in the league. Advantage: allows for fair play.

12. Player Requirements (Current Language)

A. Grade level participation requirements:

Seventh or Eighth graders may play only on a JV team. If the JV Division is “modified checking”, then players meeting US Lacrosse U-13, U-15, U-17, and U-19 age requirements may play in that division. If the JV Division is “full checking”, then only players meeting US Lacrosse U-15, and U-17 age requirements may play in that division. If only a Varsity team exists, then the 7th or 8th grader can participate as a member of the practice team (this player is not issued a uniform and cannot compete in any manner against another team; this player will not be charged annual AGLA league dues) or the player can opt to play on the JV team nearest their home address, provided that team agrees to accept the player.

A JV player, who is not a 7th or 8th grader, may play in a Varsity game. The total number of games played per player cannot exceed the total number of games their Varsity team will play in a season excluding Play- Off/Championship games.

12 Player Requirements (Changed Language)

A. Participation

Seventh or Eighth graders may play only on a JV team. If the JV Division is “modified checking”, then players meeting US Lacrosse U-13, U-15, U-17, and U-19 age requirements may play in that division. If the JV Division is “full checking”, then only players meeting US Lacrosse U-15, and U-17 age requirements may play in that division. If only a Varsity team exists, then the 7th or 8th grader can participate as a member of the practice team (this player is not issued a uniform and cannot compete in any manner against another team; this player will not be charged annual AGLA league dues) or the player can opt to play on the JV team nearest their home address, provided that team agrees to accept the player.

- Rosters

Definitions:

1. Team rosters - Each program will submit a varsity and JV roster to the AGLA one week prior to the beginning of game play. Players on the team roster will be considered varsity players and not be allowed to play in any junior varsity games. Team can petition the EC to move a varsity player to the JV team in the case of mitigating circumstances (injuries, illness, etc). new players can be added to the roster but must be done so 24 hours prior to the game they play in.
2. Game Day Rosters – Rosters submitted to the other coach and score keepers prior to the game. Players playing in the game must be on this roster.

JV players that are not 7 or 8th graders can play in a varsity game. These players must be on the game day roster and cannot play in a JV and varsity game on the same day. There is no limit to the number of varsity games a JV player can play.

ARTICLE XII: DISCIPLINE

Section 1: **Grievance Statements.** Any person or team alleging that he, she, or it has been aggrieved in any matter within the jurisdiction of AGLA may, within four days of the occurrence of the incident or of obtaining knowledge of the incident on which such alleged grievance is based, submit to the ~~President of the AGLA~~ **Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee** a written grievance statement. This statement shall specify the person or team responsible for the alleged grievance, the nature of the grievance, and the relief desired. An extension of the time to file, ~~to form a grievance panel, or provide the grievance panel~~ **additional time to review and investigate the grievance** statement may be granted by the ~~Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee~~ **President** in his/her sole discretion. In the event the ~~Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee~~ **President** is a party to a grievance, the President shall fulfill these ~~the President's~~ responsibilities as described herein. If the fore mentioned members are both parties to the grievance ~~then 1st Vice President and President are both parties to the grievance,~~ **it shall be considered by the 1st Vice President.**

Grievance Committee Selection: ~~Additionally, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Grievance Committee as provided for in Section 2 of this Article.~~ **Grievance Committee members shall be selected in advance of the season and will serve as a pool of available members to be contacted to consider a submitted grievance. The Executive Committee will vote in these members prior to the beginning, but the Executive Committee reserves the right to select new members for the committee as needed.**

Reporting: In the event the ~~Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee, the~~ **President** and/or ~~the~~ **1st Vice President** are removed from the process, the Grievance Committee shall report directly to the Executive Committee, not ~~including the fore mentioned Executive Committee Members~~ **not the President.**

Section 2: **Referral to a Grievance Committee:** The ~~Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee~~ **President** (subject to Section 1 of this Article) shall commence a proceeding by appointing, within three days of receiving the statement of grievance, a Grievance Committee of at least three persons to whom the matter shall be referred.

Section 3: **Preliminary Action by Grievance Committee:** If the Grievance Committee determines that no reasonable grounds exist for a grievance, it shall within three days make a written decision stating the grounds for its decision and shall deliver copies to the ~~Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee~~ **who will send a copy of the decision to the** ~~President~~ and the person alleging the grievance.

Section 4: **Delivery of the State of Grievance – Right to Reply:** If the Grievance Committee determines that there are reasonable grounds for such grievance, it shall deliver a copy of the statement of such grievance to the person or Team allegedly responsible for such grievance. Such person or organization shall have seven days in which to reply. An extension of the time to file such statement may be granted by the Grievance Committee in its sole discretion. The reply shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Grievance Committee at the address specified by it and to the party alleging the grievance.

Section 5: ~~(Not sure if we need this or not ...thoughts?)~~ **Mediation by Grievance Committee – Setting Time and Place for Hearing:** The Grievance Committee shall then attempt to settle the grievance by mediation. If the attempt to mediate is unsuccessful, the Grievance Committee shall set a place, date, and time for the hearing that is reasonably convenient for all parties. The cost of mediation, if any, shall be borne equally by the parties.

- Section 6. Hearing by Grievance Committee – Findings and Decisions: At the hearing, each party and the Grievance Committee shall be entitled to call witnesses, whose testimony may be taken under oath as determined by the Grievance Committee, produce evidence, and submit memoranda supporting his/her position, and shall be entitled to be represented by counsel. Stenographic minutes may be taken, the cost of which shall be borne equally by the party alleging the grievance and the party alleged to have committed the grievance, and otherwise, as assessed by the Grievance Committee. Within five days after the conclusion of the hearing, any party wishing to do so may deliver a further written statement to the Grievance Committee. The Grievance Committee shall then make written findings of fact which shall be final, and make a written decision which shall include grounds for the decision and recommended relief or disciplinary action, if any. It shall deliver a copy of its findings of fact and decision to the President and each party.
- Section 7. Disciplinary Action: In the event that relief or disciplinary action is recommended by the Grievance Committee, the President shall make copies of the written findings and decision of the Grievance Committee and distribute them to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall either affirm, amend, or remand the recommended relief or disciplinary action to the Grievance Committee for further consideration, and shall make a written decision which shall state the grounds for the decision. Copies of its decision shall be delivered to both parties and the Grievance Committee. In the event that relief or disciplinary action is to be taken, copies of the findings of fact and decision of the Grievance Committee and the decision of the Executive Committee will be distributed to all members of the Board of Directors and other parties affected by the relief or disciplinary action. Decision of the Grievance Committee will be treated as Executive Committee decisions by the Board of Directors.

Forfeit: If a team cannot attend a game, it must give the other team 72 hour notice, or it will be

considered a forfeit. If a team forfeits, they are responsible for field costs and referee fees regardless

of whether or not they were the designated "home" team. The minimum number of players for a

regulation game is 9 players including a goalie.

Card Rules for 2015:

Yellow Cards: Any player or coach receiving two yellow cards in a single game will be suspended from the rest of the game. They may participate in the next game.

Red Cards: If a player/coach receives a red card the team must serve a 4 minute penalty and the player may not return to m coach, play, or dress for the next game. If a team receives 4 cards in one game the team will play shorthanded for the remainder of the game. They will lose an additional player each time a card is received.

Coaches' Conduct: If a coach acts inappropriately on the field, the official shall verbally warn the coach. If poor conduct continues, the coach can receive a yellow card, and if it escalates further a red card. If a coach receives a red card he or she must leave the field for the remainder of the game.

If a coach is ejected and no other (pre-designated) coach school is available, the contest shall be forfeited. If it becomes necessary for an official to eject a coach from a game for any reason, the coach shall miss the next contest and will be placed on AGLA probation in accordance with the policies established by the AGLA.

If any red cards are issued to a coach the umpire will contact the Executive Committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee.

Coaches' conduct rules pertains not only their actions on the field during the game but before, after, and in the surrounding facilities. If the coach acts inappropriately before, after, and in the surrounding facilities (away from official supervision), the witness should contact the executive committee member overseeing the Grievance Committee.

Disciplinary Action: Depending on the extent of the violation a coach may miss the next contest. The coach could be placed on probation for the season (including the post-season). If the violation is severe or repetitive the coach will be prohibited from coaching for the remainder of the season (including the post-season).

15. Season Scheduling

G. The AGLA will consist of two high school divisions, Varsity and Junior Varsity. Coaches will designate Varsity and Junior Varsity players prior to the beginning of the season. Junior or Senior players may not play at the JV level if they have two years or more of prior experience in the league. The Varsity division will be full checking. The Junior Varsity (JV) division will be full checking, provided all players meet US Lacrosse age requirements for the U-15 level as of August 31 in the year preceding competition. If all JV division players do not meet the U-15 age requirements as of August 31 in the year preceding competition, the AGLA board will vote to determine if the JV Division will be full checking or modified checking. For the JV Division to be played as modified checking, an affirmative vote of not less than 51% of the Board of Directors sitting in a properly constituted, Regular Meeting will be required.