

NSYLA Board Meeting Minutes

Feb 8, 2012

Attendees: Bob Flynn, Scott King, Don Axline, Ric Carreras, Danny Whitt, Rich Luongo, Mary Trimboli, Morgan Hall, Tom Purcell, John Logan, Peter Larsen, Chris Arcona, Eileen Cremin, Fred Mueller, Marty Healey, Jim Hegarty

Finances

Account balance is ~30,000 with all coaches and players now registered with US Lacrosse and insured. The new Guidebook for Youth Lacrosse (for all) and Rule Book (for coaches) have been issued.

Registration

12 teams are registered for the MBYLL League (3 at each age group), plus 2 Select teams.

Additions to wait-list since last board meeting in November: 4 for U13, 1 for U11, 2 for U9

Discussed teams sizes and proposal to accept into program those kids on the wait list.

Attending board members unanimously agreed to take all players on wait-list as of today, provided these players reside in the towns of Northborough or Southborough. Furthermore, registration is closed as of Feb today (2 wait-listed players from towns other than N-S will not be accepted into the U13 program, bringing the total number of U13 players to 70).

Total players: U9 = 38, U11 = 65, U13 = 70

P. Larsen suggested leaving registration open after "official" closure date in Fall to accrue additional players on wait list, then make decision regarding wait-listed players only one time (future protocol).

For future reference: Inquiries from Hudson should be directed to Marlborough program.

Coaches Training

League is seeking to certify coaches. Requisites are completion of Positive Coaching Alliance and US Lacrosse Level 1 (on-line, see links in Coaches Area of NSYLA website).

If on-line courses are completed before the coaches training session, coach's card will be embossed to indicate certification.

Coaches clinic will take place at Algonquin Regional HS and will be led by US Lacrosse representative. There is a \$20 charge for this training program at Algonquin.

Additionally M. Hall, R. Luongo, P. Larsen to discuss and decide date for Coaches Clinic just for our program to get in sync with ARHS plays, priorities and methods.

Field and Schedules

B. Flynn will obtain confirmation of field reservations (135 fields, St. Mark's cage, etc)

M. Hall has requested use of Clark Field at Saint Mark's and is awaiting response.

First outdoor practice is scheduled for March 31. Request by T. Purcell to reserve St. Mark's as backup site for potentially cold late March early morning.

U15 schedule for March practices at Forekicks is posted on website. B. Flynn will verify schedule for St. Mark's cage and post it, as well.

Referees Training

Keegan Gillis and Paul Nardone passed associate official's entrance test with highest scores and will be accepted to the program.

Attending board members agreed that all applicants who passed the test will be reimbursed the \$80 fee associated with the test.

Equipment

J. Hegarty compiled inventory of equipment and will send a list to B. Flynn.

Ball replenishment: NSYLA buys ~900 lacrosse balls each year (~\$1500 cost in 2012). Discussed countermeasures to unnecessary expenditure for balls. Suggestions include:

- Players not to bring their own balls to practice – any ball in a bag therefore belongs to the league. Players must be told not to take any balls belonging to the team.
- End all practices with a drill in which each player has his own ball, then collect balls immediately after
- End every practice with a "ball hunt"
- Limit number of balls in use at any practice

A possible opportunity to buy balls at lower cost by purchasing them directly from manufacturers in China and Taiwan was discussed. J. Hegarty is investigating this option.

A third goal for U9 will be ordered.

Netting at ends of 911 Field as a safety measure is being pursued with town of Southborough (to retain balls in playing area thereby protecting spectators at end of field, and to eliminate need for players to enter woods in search of balls).

MBSYLL Update (Select program)

Player evaluation form is being prepared. Evaluations will be done by independent persons and will be compiled by B. Flynn for purposes of player selection and equally skilled teams creation. Coaches for select teams will be chosen **after** teams are formed. Selection process rules are posted on the NSYLA web site <http://www.nsyala.org/Page.asp?n=48547&snid=jMnk%5D6E3%5E&org=nsyala.org>

Players must attend 2 of 3 weekly practices and attend town league game to be eligible to play at weekly select game. U13 and U15 coaches must take attendance at practices.

First Select game is Friday, April 13

New Business

Board voted to participate in "island game" this season (game to be organized on Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket, with transportation support from the league)

S. King suggested having players practice in their game jerseys for easier identification for the first two weeks as they are graded.

D. Whitt will assist B. Flynn with roster preparation.

Our players will be given a small helmet sticker with letters "EG" written within a heart in memory of Eric Green. Scholarship in memory of Eric Green to be established. J. Logan is developing the scholarship.

New shooting shirt and crazy shorts are designed and available on the website. Coaches will be given a shooting shirt this year.

Discussed need to actively manage jersey numbers. Duplicate jersey numbers can result when players borrow jerseys from older siblings, friends, etc. Procedure to manage such practices to avoid jersey number duplication TBD.

Players are to wear game shorts for games. Coaches should enforce wearing of proper uniforms during games.

NSYLA needs volunteers to line fields. F. Mueller will line fields initially, but does not expect to continue through the season. The Board thanks him for 10 years of service. Time commitment for field lining is ~3hrs to set up a field once per season, and ~30 minutes to maintain the field each week, or as needed. Cleaning of painting machine after each use is required (latex paint is used to line fields). B. Flynn requested that each board member ask 1 or 2 persons for their interest in lining fields. We need at least 2 persons for this job. Consider parents who do not wish to coach, but would like to contribute to the league. Lining the field ourselves saves the program significant money each season.

Minnechaug Regional HS near Springfield invited NSYLA to play at their school on the same Saturday as Algonquin game. Interest in fielding a few teams was expressed. B. Flynn will contact Minnechaug administrator to indicate our interest.

B. Flynn proposed showing the movie *Crooked Arrows* in a local theater as a fund raiser for NSYLA. Details to be communicated.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM