

**Three Rivers Lacrosse
Board Meeting
Kennewick Library 5/11/2016 at 6:30**

1. Opening remarks - Lisa shared the team socks to be distributed at the end of the week.
2. Board Roll Call - Present were Lisa Havens, President; Taunya Andrews, Vice President; Shannon Sullivan, Secretary and Chad Wright, Member at Large. Absent were Phil Gallagher and Melanie Bachart.
3. Approval of last meeting minutes - March 9, 2016 minutes approved. Lisa Havens motioned to approve. Chad Wright seconded and all in favor.
4. Finances and Review of Expenses - Finances- \$41,683.36 total in checking. There are still pending expenses and income from the Shootout. The Club will also receive a check from the hotels reserved via the Visitors and Convention Bureau.
5. Shootout Review & Expenses - The approximate cost for referees - \$12,000.00 which has not been deducted from the Club account as of this date. There's were approximately \$22,000.00 in Shootout fees total. The estimated profit will be roughly \$8000.00. The Club is still awaiting more expenses to clear the account.

a. Select teams v. Recreational teams - Suggestions regarding the level of the of competition to include teams who are of similar skill levels.. Dan Gaspar reported he heard other teams thought there was a good mix of skill levels. Juanita and Northshore played very clean and were very good. It was mentioned that some teams state they are at a lower skill level however when they arrive they may be at a much higher level. This is difficult to determine as their coaches are responsible for providing information as to the skill level of their team.

Next year, the Club will consider having metals for the gold and silver brackets as this was an oversight this year.

Ron Havens shared that coaches start contacting the Club in November to attempt to secure the date and slots for their team. Ron Havens reported it is more of an invite and always filled very early as this is a well run event and very desirable as the weather generally is better in the Tri Cities than other areas.

b. Referees, injuries, referee coordinator for next year - The Club shared that as long as the referees are strong and consistent this will reduce injuries. The Club has attempted multiple times to have an ambulance on site however this has not been available. However, the Club has notified the Fire Chief in advance and they will make every effort to have an ambulance drive by regularly as available in case of emergency. The Club also has on site medical professionals in the First Aid booth the entire tournament.

c. T-shirts as the current vendor's contact has ended but can be renewed. The total sales \$13,703.40 and the Club received 25% of this amount totaling \$3425.85.

Pros - The current/past vendor has done well in the past.

Cons - The iron on has not lasted as long and they ran out of sizes this year.

Atomic is another option, they may match the amount given back to the club from this year's vendor. Atomic will screen print and can add additional options to have some ready more quickly. Lisa will get a bid from Atomic. The Club inquired about possibly offering pre-orders as well as purchasing on site.

Other vendors who were on site were charged \$120.00. This may need to be negotiated next year for a higher amount as it may have been a bit low in comparison to other events.

Photographer - Unlimited Photography was great and new but expensive and it would be nice to have a lesser expensive option i.e. A smaller sized photograph to be purchased.

Events Coordinator - Chris Hillyer recommended an events coordinator for the Club and is willing to help. He is also willing to help coach.

6. Donations High School/TCYL - Lisa Havens shared that 2 years ago the high school boys were split off which was a very difficult decision for the Club. The Club started with about \$3000.00 and an outstanding RedyIce bill of over \$4000.00. This was one of the most difficult decisions Three Rivers made. The Board wants to support lacrosse in the Tri Cities and give each high school program a large donation. Ultimately, Three Rivers is a feeder Club to our local high school teams and Three Rivers would like to give back to those who were caught in the transition. Lisa Havens suggested an equal monetary donation for Southridge and for Richland High Schools. Some of those high schoolers came back and coached for Three Rivers and did not want to leave Three Rivers. Others went on to play for their high school and some chose not to continue playing.

Bonnie Mitchell shared that Richland has been renting lights was \$650.00 every time Richland had an evening game.

Members asked about bringing the High school boys teams back to Three Rivers and it was explained that they cannot return due to WHSBLA restrictions and would be sanctioned.

Discussed the need for field space and in the future having a turf field with lights however this is approximately a million dollars. We need to continue to work with the city or a donor to help with field space and be able to have all the Tri Cities teams be able to have adequate field space to promote lacrosse in the Tri Cities.

7. Insurance for the Club board members and on the shed along with possible improvements to the shed - The board and the shed are still not insured. Joanna Wright agreed to get quotes for insurance on the shed. She said it isn't very much. Lisa Havens said the shed needs a new door. We have a lot of money tied up in equipment in the shed and we don't want to put the Club in a position to lose any equipment. The shed door must be closed as much as possible and ensure it remains fully locked and secure when not in use etc.

8. Bylaw revisions - Phil Gallagher is working on the revision of the bylaws. The board's roles should be clearly defined in the bylaws.

9. Ice Sales - Tracy Hanzelich is sending emails to parents who were unable to assist with the Shootout and asking for a commitment to volunteer. The volunteer sign ups must be completed through League Athletics to prevent individuals from volunteering who were not affiliated as a family or friend of a player and then not showing up however receiving free tickets for the Boat Races fraudulently. As a reminder, everyone who volunteers for the Waterfollies Ice Sales event must sign a waiver prior to volunteering.

10. Girls Three Rivers splitting from boys - Pros and Cons: Discussed if 3 Rivers had a board that was devoted solely to the girls teams, this may improve the opportunities for growth for the girls program. There was discussion about whether or not this would be beneficial for the girls teams. Some parents feel this would not strengthen either boys or girls as reported by Chris Davis' input from the girls parents. He doesn't feel that the girls teams have been at a disadvantage at all this year. The girls teams have grown. E Rivers has 3 girls teams now and more girls joining. Chris Davis' fear is that if we split the boys from the girls, we are duplicating efforts. Chris Davis thinks the girls team's board should stay under 3 Rivers in the same "umbrella."

Brandon Jackson stated the boys don't feel slighted either by keeping everyone under one board.

Dan Gaspar reported the biggest challenge is in the offseason as 3 Rivers is trying to grow interest in the sport in the offseason and it's only Brett Ekstrom and Dan Gaspar. Discussed the need for a separate coaching director for girls and boys. It was discussed that three years ago the high school boys got a large amount of attention. With the high school boys programs at the high school level, this falls in line with the mission statement of Three Rivers Lacrosse to promote youth lacrosse and feed into the high school programs.

Brett Ekstrom stated, "If its not broke don't fix it. The Club is running well now, leave it." Members discussed making every effort to have at least one representative for girls teams on the board. Also, appointing a coaching director for girls and a coaching director for boys and keeping the board for both together. It was discussed the Club has done good job getting promoting the girls to play on the girls teams instead of learning and playing with the boys as the rules are different. Brett Ekstrom shared he feels good about our coaching situation this year. His team

has a lot of volunteer coaches and he would like to start recruiting more coaches for next year immediately.

Chris Hillyer shared, "The reason why parents come to Three Rivers and stay is because of how Three Rivers has run their program. He doesn't want to lose what has already been accomplished.

Chad Wright shared, he doesn't want any team to feel like they are an "island." But teams must go through the board for continuity.

Jason Andrews reported, the girls program is growing. We need coaches. He was scared to death to coach. But board pays for training which has been very helpful. We need to pull in more parents to help coach and build confidence.

Dan Gaspar shared that within two years there will be a Pasco/Chiawana high school program. Dan Gaspar explained the "play for" rules. Players would continue to play for the club they are in i.e. Pasco kids who are currently playing for Richland. But new kids would have to play for the Pasco if they reside in Pasco. This will start the movement for kids to play with their hometown peers providing they stay in that same city as they progress to the high school level.

11. End of the year party June 10, 2016, 6:30 - 8:30 at the Richland Community Center. The players will receive a gift and certificate. At this time, the plan is for a t-shirt for the gift and recognize the sponsors on the back of the shirts. These may be worn during Ice Sales. The board encouraged each coach to talk about each player when giving the certificates.

Discussed having a Power point with pictures running continually in the background during the end of year party. It was mentioned that the community college assisted in putting together a collage for a slideshow in the past for a class project. This may be considered for next year since it is a bit late in the year for next month. Does anyone want to do a power point for the year end party. College kids have to do this kind of thing for a project.

12. Nominations for board members- Shannon Sullivan, Lisa Havens, Taunya Andrews and Melanie Bachart are leaving the board. Lisa Havens motioned to bring Tracy Hanzelich onto the board. Taunya Andrews seconded. All the membership was in favor.

Kadi Bence (not present) shared prior to this board meeting that she would like to be nominated for the board as a member at large and would like to be considered for treasurer. Lisa Havens nominated Kadi Bence, Taunya Havens seconded. All were in favor. Karrisa Otero-Hardgrove was nominated by Shannon Sullivan for a member at large and Tracy Hanzelich seconded. All were in favor. She is interested in the secretary position. Debbie Thomas was nominated for a member at large by Tracy Hanzelich. Shannon Sullivan seconded and all were in favor. Jennifer Gibson was also nominated by Tracy Hanzelich and seconded by Shannon Sullivan. All were in favor.

Brett Ekstrom suggested not filling all board positions tonight so we can fill at least one spot with another girl representative. The membership wanted to give the girls high school parents the opportunity to be nominated also. At this time, Tracy Hanzelich has a female player. Efforts to encourage other parents of the girls teams will be made.

As of this meeting, Tracy Hanzelich was placed on the board as she was previously nominated. All others listed above are nominations for a member at large portion at this time. The board is still accepting nominations.

Coaching Director— Currently, Dan Gaspar is the coaching director for boys and girls teams. It was recommended to have a coaching director for the boys teams and a separate coaching director for the girls teams. Chris Davis offered to be the girls coaching director. Chris Davis' daughter's last year will be next year. Chris Davis plans to coach at least one more year. Dan Gaspar is currently the boys coaching director. He is unsure as to his plans are for next season. He has a girl who plays for Three Rivers Lacrosse and his son will be moving on to the high school team. Brett Ekstrom supported Dan Dan Gaspar in remaining his role as a coaching director.

Brandon Jackson stated he would be interested in a coaching director position in the future as well as he is also interested in coaching.

Taunya Andrews made a motion for Chris Davis to be the girls coaching director. Tracy Hanzelich seconded and all were in favor.

The club will also need a Webmaster as Taunya Andrews will be resigning.

13. Advertisement KNDU/SWX - Thank you to all involved and a special thanks to Joanna and Chad Wright.

14. Teams traveling to Couer d' Alene and Spokane fest - Each team needs to bring a tent, cooler with water for players and the team logo flag(s).

15. Wiser Field contract - This has been Three Rivers home field for the past 5 years. The Club has the option to renew however the Club will be third in line for usage. Lisa Havens and Taunya Andrews spoke with an attorney about extending the contract however there is a cost of approximately \$340.00 for 30 minutes to speak with an attorney. Dan Gaspar recommended doing a cost benefit analysis. Lisa Havens and Taunya Andrews stated their fear is that Three Rivers lose the opportunity to play on Wiser Field. There is no guarantee right now that Three Rivers can use Badger Fields next year. A suggestion is to offer installing fencing for use of the fields for another 5 years. Discussed how much the the baseball teams pay for the usage of their fields at Badger. It was reported that the city is trying to make the baseball teams pay for renovations to their out buildings.

Lisa Havens shared that Three Rivers paid to put approximately \$35,000.00 worth of lights on Wisner about 6 years ago and we would hate for the Club to lose the lights for evening games.

16. Needs as a Club and lacrosse in general i.e. Fields - The money the city is talking about to do this would be prohibitive for the Club as the Club funds are limited. The cost would be about \$1500.00 to use the fields per year. And \$50.00 per field to stripe. One of the parents suggested that parents can write letters to the City and to the City Attorney. They also shared they can also go to city council meetings and share the needs of the community for more field space and that the city isn't providing enough fields to support the growth of lacrosse. This would be needed as the City attorney cannot do anything until the city has enough complaints and decides to put in more fields and/or allocate more money that direction. Chris Hillyer recommended looking at all parks in the area before the Club tries to lock in for 5 more years. Shannon Sullivan received an email yesterday inviting her to a meeting about needing input to develop 10 acres of under-developed land in the Southridge area. The meeting is Wednesday May 25, 2016 at 7pm at the Pavilion in Kennewick. Lisa Havens will pass on the email to the Club to invite others to attend.

17. Sponsors to thank - Babcock, Les Schwab, Red Lion (Richland and Pasco), Spring Hill Suites, Marriott by Courtyard, Hilton Garden Inn, Clover Island, Hampton Inn Kennewick, Best Western Kennewick, Atomic, Larsen Transfer, Monteith Insurance, Windemere, Group One, Joanna and Chad Wright.

18. Fundraising - Primary fundraiser is Ice Sales at the Waterfollies. This is a large opportunity for the Club. It requires many volunteers and the willingness to provide excellent customer services as always to the customers during the Waterfollies which includes law enforcement, First Aid, the pits, the tents, general public etc. This is a fun opportunity as well for the team and can promote lacrosse. It is encouraged to add more advertisement with Three Rivers feather flags possible signs etc on the refrigerated truck etc. The current board strongly recommends keeping the joining fees the same for next year and then each player purchases their own uniform. The cost to play for each team is reasonable compared to other Club sports in the area. There is an ongoing operating cost for Club such as the purchases of balls each year which are approximately \$1.00 per ball, replacement nets, insurance for fields, the costs for first aid during tournaments, referees, entry fees for tournaments, fees for fields, etc. The current board shared that it is better to focus on maintaining volunteers to help host the Shootout and participate in ice sales rather than several smaller fund raisers. The board also wanted to let everyone know that it is imperative that the Club follows the rules of the 501 3 (c) regarding the Club's non-profit status.

19. Other - Brett Ekstrom suggested the board add the formation of committees to the next board meetings agenda.

New Uniforms in 2017! They will be about \$65 a uniform. Players will buy their uniforms at the time of registration. Need to make sure uniforms are in before their first game. Open registration on November 1st and close it in time to get uniforms. Tracy Hanzelich motioned to let kids keep their current uniforms. Taunya Andrews seconded. All in favor.

Lisa Havens spoke with the TCYL Club and recommended we team to promote a joint clinic or camp. This could include the Parks and Recreation Departments and/or colleges.

Friday evenings during the summer the Club will host Chumash to bring in new players and keep current players with sticks in their hands and having fun.

Add to the next agenda, committee planners; directors, fundraising; coaches promoting parents coming to board meeting; etc. CWLL fees \$675 was increased to \$1125 minus referee fees. They increased it \$450. Minus the refs for the Selah game on Wiser. To be discussed and considered for a motion to pass.

20. Next board meeting- June 8, 2016 at 6:30 at the Kennewick Library in downtown Kennewick.

21. Lisa Havens made a motion to adjourn. Shannon Sullivan seconded and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.