

**WAUNAKEE AREA YOUTH LACROSSE
OCTOBER 3, 2011 BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

High School LMTC, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Tom Liebe, Lynnell Lowney, Mike Luebke, Mark Luhring, Scott Meske, Mike Nelson, Petra Schroeder, Anne Marie Templin

1) Lessons Learned from 2011 Season

A) Tournament Teams: As of last year tournament cost are no longer included in team fees. This makes it feasible to consider whether the teams could be put together based on skill as only tournament participants now pay tournament fees. It was proposed that we keep the existing process for the 3/4 level (4th grade players having the first option to play), but use coach recommendations for the 5/6 and 7/8 levels. Players will be asked early in the season if they are interested in playing in the Sun Prairie shoot out (and will be available to play). Later in the season, the coaches will select the roster High school coaches may be asked to help with recommendations to provide "unbiased eyes." This should be clearly communicated to players and parents at the start of the season.

B) Facilities: Prairie School did not have a place to store rage cages, and this was a significant inconvenience for 7/8 coaches who had to store them at their homes and transport them back and forth. Perhaps the club could purchase a small shed for lacrosse equipment. This issue and other facilities issues should be discussed in more depth at a future meeting.

C) MALA issues: Scott suggested sending a club letter letting MALA know that we had concerns about several logistical issues last year. Those issues include referee assignments (ensuring that referees are available for all scheduled games), referee age restrictions (which limits the number of refs available), the overly complicated referee payment scheme, and the quality of fields used for youth games.

2) Schedule for 2012 Season

As in previous years the registration site will open on January 1st. The high school club will hold a clinic on March 18th, and youth practices will start the following week. We will hold a kick-off event in late February; Mark will see if the Prairie gymnasium will be available for this event on Tuesday, February 21st.

3) Fees

We will keep the registration fees at the same level as last year: \$125, not including US Lacrosse membership fee or tournament fees, and \$100 for the second registrant from the same family.

4) Budget

Lynelle presented a budget summary (attached), which was discussed briefly. A more detailed discussion will be held at the November meeting.

5) Apparel

No new jerseys will be purchased this year.

The youth club will not arrange for a spirit wear sale, but will participate in the high school spirit wear sale. Anne Marie will ensure that the entire mailing list (high school, youth, boys and girls) are included in messages regarding the sale.

Mark proposed buying pinnies for players to keep, so the club doesn't have to track down pinnies at the end of each season; this will be discussed at the November budget meeting.

6) Report from High School LAX Meeting

Anne Marie reported that the high school varsity players will offer a camp similar to the Warrior Pride Football camp. It will be held after the Sun Prairie tournament, June 20th - 22nd, from 1-4:00 p.m.

There will no silent auction or dinner this year.

High school expects to have one varsity and two JV teams this year.

7) Coaching

Names of potential coaches for all levels of boys youth teams were suggested. Tom will contact these individuals regarding an organizational meeting in December. He will contact the new potential 3/4 coaches soon to explain the November Fastbreak training opportunity (described below) as well.

8) Fastbreak Event

Barb Hoeft is coordinating a Fastbreak Lacrosse event to be held in Waunakee on November 12th and 13th. This is primarily aimed at providing training for coaches and officials. Attendance is expected from around the midwest. Mini clinics will also be offered for players (both beginner and advanced levels) on Saturday for approximately \$10 per player. In addition, a demonstration of traditional Native American lacrosse will be held on Saturday late in the afternoon. More details on

this event will be posted on the Waunakee LAX website on October 12th. When complete information is available, our club should send out two email messages: one directed to coaches telling them specifically about the opportunities for coaches training, and a second message directed to players and their parents to help clarify opportunities available for them. Jayne Kind will be looking for host families to put up some of the visiting coaches/trainers on Friday and Saturday evenings.

9) Succession planning

Tom suggested that we hold elections for the positions of President, VP (president elect), Treasurer, Secretary and Coaching Director. He will compose an email message to all club members on the mailing list, asking them to submit nominations (self nominations are allowed) and providing a web link to the position descriptions developed a few years ago. He will work with Mark to set up on-line voting before the end of December. Term limits should be discussed further; we could limit elected positions to 2 years (with potential one time renewal.)

Other positions can be appointed by president and are open to volunteers:

- MALA reps to attend MALA meetings on the first Wed. of each month at 7:00
- Web coordinator (preferably a parent of a 4th grader this year, so s/he would have some experience with the club, but would be able to stick with the job for a few years)
- Apparel coordinator
- Registrar
- Head volunteer coordinator (to coordinate team managers)

10) Miscellaneous

Wisconsin Lacrosse Federation is considering mandating the age splits recently recommended by US Lacrosse:

- U9 (approx. 2nd and 3rd graders, based on age as of August 30th)
- U11 (4-5 grades)
- U13 (6-7 grades)
- U15 (8th grade and high school freshman)

Scott believes this should be optional, and not mandated. However our club should discuss the implications, particularly as some HS freshman may not have a chance to play for HS team in the current arrangement, and therefore have no options in that year. In addition, Sun Prairie may be considering using this format for their tournament. Our team should continue to discuss this new format, be prepared to put together tournament teams along these age splits, but should otherwise wait to see what MALA decides.