

## MBYLL Board Meeting Minutes

October 2009

Attendees: Tom S., Bob T., Kevin M., Chris R., Paul Z. and Stu B.; Guests – Mark Kastrud & Joe Shannon from the Cannons – missing Bob R. and Gus B.

**Next board meeting is November 16<sup>th</sup> immediately following the competition committee meeting which starts at 7 PM. Chris R. can you check with the Newton Marriott to see they can accommodate 25 people for us? Regional Directors – please forward rule changes discussed @ regional mtgs to me for distribution.**

There was good discussion as to how MBYLL and the Cannons could more effectively leverage our relationship to broaden the support for the Cannons among the MBYLL as well as the MBYLL receiving some recognition in the lacrosse community for what we stand for. Numerous ideas were floated that would benefit the MBYLL constituents and Mark will get back with suggestions and details to see where we take this. MBYLL will determine what seats and how many we will buy as a league and distribute to our member towns, at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Kevin M. & Paul Z. both created communication pieces that describe MBYLL's philosophy and Paul Z. made a motion (2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris R.) to vote on one of the 2 communication pieces that deals with the MBYLL philosophy and our thoughts on other leagues outside of the MBYLL. The vote was 5-1 in favor of the piece Paul Z. crafted (see attached) and there was an additional note that Chris R. would condense the message down to bullet points and run this by the board for final approval. The piece Paul created is to be sent to Town Directors and the condensed version will be on the website. Tom and Chris will come up with the wording regarding the issue of allowing towns to put in just one team in the league when they have multiple teams at that age level (the Norwell situation). This will be approved by the board as well.

A brief discussion regarding the updated survey results ensued and there are a number of initiatives already underway that are appropriate responses to the many issues raised in the results. The final survey had 189 respondents. Thanks much to Chris for the work on this. We will begin discussions on how to word additional questions for a survey that is anticipated to go out in early 2010.

Gus has committed to get the website link out to the board as soon as possible and then up and running soon. **Gus please respond back with the anticipated date for the link – there is concern on the board about the timing due to focus of towns on this issue.**

U9 – At the next regional meetings, each region will vote up or down to accept the rules for U9. Each town should express their preference to play on a short field (7 v 7 or 8 v 8) or on a full field. It may be possible to accommodate both types of field choice, but scheduling issues exist. **Bob T. ran a meeting with a committee (thank you Bob) and Bob, could you send an electronic copy of what you came up with to the board?**

There will be a stipulation that towns that enter U9 teams should have an AO ref for each team, if not, then they will have to assume a fully certified ref will do the games at the full rate (\$67.50). Bob T. will talk to Bollinger about the necessity of having a certified ref in order to keep the insurance valid.

Referee discussion (From Chris R.):

Yesterday evening, the MBYLL Board agreed to initiate a pilot U9 program. A major reason for this decision is that in parallel we will encourage towns to recruit Associate Officials and get them trained. The AOs will focus on U9 games and on serving as an optional second referees for U15 games. The pay for AOs will be \$35 per game. Selected representatives from EMLOA, notably you three and others you may recruit, will help us run two AO training clinics this winter, one

southwest of Boston and one northwest.

Coaches submitting U9 teams to the League will be strongly encouraged but not quite mandated to submit at least one AO candidate along with each U9 team. Some of the training/testing may be done online via USLax. If a hosting coach does not have an AO to do a U9 game, he or she can avail a regular coach and schedule this referee via the regular process used for all MBYLL teams. In this case, the coach will pay the full fare, currently \$67.50. The cost of attending the training clinic will be such that the clinic will pay for itself in one game, i.e., approximately \$30.

Over the next few weeks leading up to the November MBYLL Board Meeting, we will discuss and put in place additional resources such as regional referee coordinators reporting to Michael Williamson as Chief Coordinator, as in past years. This step will include agreeing on payments for these coordinators.

Thank you for the Board Meeting yesterday evening. I thought it was cogent, with points argued well and received well. We covered a lot of issues that have vast ramifications.

We are holding at \$67.50 for the game fee for conventional EMLOA-MBYLL referees next season. The motion to keep the fees was put forth by Kevin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob and was unanimously accepted.

We are also instituting an AO program focused on providing referees for U9 games and second, optional referees for U15 games.

Jimmy, Darrell & Michael Williamson are on board with the AO program, including the scheduling matters we discussed. More on this issue to come.

Finally – below is the age & eligibility wording, if you ignore the waiver language, this is about as simple as we can make it – thoughts?

### **Age and Eligibility**

Teams will be based on grade level 1st, providing that current age eligibility requirements are met. Grade levels are defined as follows: U 15 8th and 7th grades; U 13 6th and 5th grades; U 11 4th and 3rd grades

Waivers for age eligible players to play down can be requested following MBYLL's waiver process.

U11 - Born on or after 1/1/99

U13 - Born on or after 1/1/97

I) Waiver required if age eligibility is not met.

U15 (Born on or after 1/1/96)

Waiver Requirements:

I) Must be age eligible.

II) Must have NO high school program at town or school they attend.

III) Any 9th grader who meets all the above requirements MUST apply for a waiver to be eligible to play. Waivers for 9th graders are only for programs in their First, Second or Third years.

All waiver requests must include accurate details regarding date of birth, height, weight and level of experience. They must be submitted by 1/23/2010 to the regional competition committees.

If I have missed anything, please let me know.