

WSLA Spring HS Membership Council Meeting | Starfire | 6.4.2013 | 7:00PM

Meeting called to order by WSLA President Jason Hennig at 7:08pm

Introductions

See meeting presentation:

<http://files.leagueathletics.com/Images/Club/9650/WSLA%20League%20Meeting%206.4.13.pdf>

2013 Season Recap

- 33 Varsity teams; 16 team Varsity playoff
 - o Mercer Island, Puyallup, Lakeside, Klahowya and Lake Sammamish were conference champions
 - o Congratulations to State Champion Lakeside

- 23 JV teams

- Umpires 2 vs. 3 field crew
 - o Moved from 3 umpires to 2 umpires for playoffs and championships this season. Wanted to keep it consistent for players.
 - o Goal is to get to 3
 - o 2 male umpires on field; 1 female umpire on bench – WWLUA board members were given a list of umpires for the championship and the best two available umpires were two males

- Opportunities for Improvement
 - o Team skill disparity
 - Grow youth feeder programs
 - Coach training opportunities

- Better umpire game coverage
 - o Minimize cancels and one umpire situations
 - o Recruitment Plan – help is needed to recruit new umpires
 - o Manage outlying game coverage and conflict of interest
 - o Send feedback to chair@wwlua.org
 - o Jason provided feedback from WWLUA President Jeff Grose

- Improve playoff structure
 - o Review playoff team selection criteria
 - Gave opportunity to teams who didn't expect to be in playoffs, but left off teams that should have also been in playoffs
 - o Should forfeits be worth 2 league points? (some teams benefits from points because of this)

- Improve league award process

- Continue to expand play for Eastern WA teams
- Moved from Sportability to WSLA League Athletics website
- Link to Arbiter for umpire assignment was problematic (especially for youth games)
 - o Collect feedback regarding Arbiter; how many coaches used mobile site vs. desktop site
- Scheduling process – lessons learned (Brian provided feedback on scheduling)
 - o Agreed upon days of the week for boys games and girls game within programs; this was very helpful
 - o Varsity schedule came out mid-December; JV schedule came out mid-January
 - o Problematic for teams that traveled far (example Wenatchee) that had to play double headers when other teams didn't play double headers
- Program Survey
 - o Coach expectation and compensation, Field type and costs, Player registration fees
- Head Coach Survey
 - o 2013 Team Experience, Umpires, Sportsmanship, Schedule, League Awards, Playoffs, Ideas for Improvement; Website
- Surveys will be emailed out the first week of June and results will be shared at October league meeting

Regional Team Update

- U19 Team – Mohawk Division Champions
 - o National Tournament May 25/26 in Philadelphia
 - o Team Record 4-0-1
 - o Coaches Tami Tommila and Jamie Asaka
 - o Took 20 players from the state
- U15 Team
 - o National Championships July 23-25 in Lake Buena Vista, FL.
 - o Coach Liz Shields

Financial Report

- See Handout
- Jamie Asaka suggested that we should have more funds allocated for scholarships; Kate Roper discussed that we are working with the IRS to be able to profit from merchandise sales

2014 Dates

- Discussed impact of earlier Memorial Day
- Jason presented Option A (WIAA Compliant) and Option B (Early Start by 1 Week)
- Jason will post to the website
- If you have an idea/feedback and provide to Jason

2014 Season Preview Discussion

- Review Playoff Process
- Review League Award Process
- Presented 2014 Season Schedule Timeline
- Championship Game – rotate between conference hosting and chairing

Other Items

- Expand League Athletics Website use to have coach, player and parent emails to distribute information
- USL State Chapter Survey
 - o Seatown Classic Fall 2013 to include two women's college teams.
- Summer Clinics posted on WSLAX.org
- Summer/Fall Teams
- Summer Tournaments Available

Volunteer Recognition

Handbook Revision

- Committee rewrote the WSLA handbook
- Open comment period ended in February
- Photo Release addition
 - o Discussed “opt out” photo release
- WSLA board has reviewed and recommends the Membership vote to approve the revised handbook
- Youth Membership has approved the revised handbook
- Discussed that this handbook is a “living document”

Motion to approve handbook – Approved by League Membership

Discussion ensued regarding the league structure and how the league is moving forward since the change to Varsity/JV flat structure.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27pm

