

WSLA Board Meeting | Lakeside Upper School | 12.7.2014 | 9:30am

In Attendance: Kate Roper, Todd Nyquist,, Sara Towner, Cathie Frizalone, Lyn Porterfield, Lyndsey Gillis, Craig Wickstrom, Sekou Spencer, Alice Abbott, Suzanne Replinger, Robin Moore, Jason Hennig, Mike Smith

Via Skype: Penny Moss, Jami Woodruff

Excused: Tami Tommila, Mark Hahn

DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH: financial report, committee breakdown

November 2, 2014 board meeting minutes approved as corrected.

Financial Report: Everything is on target. See attached.

Committee Assignments: The board's committee assignments were passed out with a 2015 meeting outline. See attached.

The meeting moved into Executive Session 9:48

The meeting moved out of Executive Session 9:55

Parent emails and board responsibilities: The board's objective is to support programs statewide. It is not the board's responsibility to investigate. Issues are dealt with within the regional program/board, unless it is a league issue. Proper parent protocols for concerns will be communicated at the January league meeting.

Strategic Plan Updates: The strategic planning group needs to finalize and determine goals for 2015 to present at the January meeting.

ACTION: All committees should update the Google Doc spreadsheet by December 15.

USL Convention Grants: The board spread out the grant funds between all six applicants. Three recipients are repeat receivers from last year and three are new grant receivers.

ACTION: The board may decide to communicate protocol for repeat receivers to spread the opportunity to new attendees of the convention.

PCA grant/other training for 2015 season - scorer/timer, coaches' level 1, etc.: USL splits the funding with WSLA for parent workshops/training. The training will happen prior to March 15th. The board is proposing that one representative from each program be present in order to provide pertinent information to each program. Lyn will coordinate date/location.

2015 Season Updates

HS Registration: 29 JV teams and 33 Varsity teams are registered for 2015. Discussion ensued about the format of JV scheduling within larger conferences to streamline travel and promote healthy competition.

Rating Jams: HS rating jamborees are set. Youth jamboree locations are still a work in progress for the 14th and 15th of March.

Feb 7th League Meeting: will be run similar to last year's meetings (HS, youth, scorer/timer, new rules etc.)

Feb 21 Pre Season Clinic: New player clinic will take place at Ballard and at a location in the south (location TBD).

Private Schools – issues with feeder programs: Some of the private school programs are struggling (Forest Ridge not fielding teams at all this year, other privates are struggling with JV team numbers, etc) Kate has had some discussions about schools temporarily combining teams at the JV level – discussion ensued about reaching out to programs more consistently so that all know that is an option. General understanding of board is that this is a good thing and we want to ensure that girls that want to play have an option.

WWLUA meeting recap: Lyn, Sara and Suzanne met with the WWLUA chair Jeff Grose in November. Discussions on three main topics:

Unsafe fields: Three field locations deemed “unsafe” were highlighted as those that officials routinely try to avoid for safety reasons (all are dirt or grass with large holes and very uneven surfaces.) WWLUA understands that some teams have few choices in field assignment, and will of course continue to officiate at these fields, but did want to alert us that it can be difficult to find officials to work these. WSLA board discussion ensued .

ACTION: *Operations Committee to come up with acceptable field guidelines/policy to communicate out to all teams.*

Scheduling outlying HS games on Saturdays: WWLUA does not have local refs in the Wenatchee and Evergreen (Vancouver, WA) areas and has requested that we try to schedule their home games on Saturdays as often as possible as it's very hard to find refs willing to travel long distance on weekdays. Bellingham does have one local ref but it's also difficult to get refs to travel there – though easier than the other areas.

Three person officiating crews: This was not discussed during this meeting due to time constraints but WWLUA did also communicate that there are ten officials who are very experienced in working on three person crews. There were a number of Varsity games last season that would have benefitted from having a three person crew; WWLUA would very much like to start to work three person crews into the regular season schedule for high level games when the appropriate officials are available.

ACTION: Discuss at January board meeting.

Swashbuckler tournament: An organization is hosting a youth tournament in Feb 2015 prior to in-season. This is in our out of season time and is subject to our handbook rules on out of season contact and tournament teams. Lyn will call Swashbuckler and remind them about our out of season rules for youth. She will also post this on website for coaches.

2015 HS Championships – RFP update: Events Committee chair Robin Moore presented a summary of the two venue proposals submitted: Mercer Island and Eastside Catholic. Both RFPs are very comparable in terms of facilities, etc. Committee is recommending Eastside Catholic – board voted to accept their recommendation.

New Team Petitions/Waivers: Waivers submitted for Sydney Landeck (HS) and Isabella Metcalf (Youth). Metcalf approved. Landeck not approved. Todd (Rules Comm chair) will send them determination letters.

USL Updates: No rep present, nothing to report.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45am by Kate Roper.