

WSLA Spring HS Membership Council Meeting | TOPS library | 06.05.2012 | 7:00PM

Meeting called to order by President Jason Hennig at 7:10pm.

Minutes from January 24, 2012 meeting were approved.

Introductions all around.

2012 Season review: Jason reviewed goals from Fall 2011 league meeting and November 2011 Special Membership Meeting. Jason asked for feedback from anyone who hasn't already submitted. Discussion ensued.

Member comments touched on a variety of comments including:

How do we help programs without feeder programs or with coaches without a lacrosse background.

Use out of season to start generating interest at youth level and getting coaches together to learn from each other.

Need to improve on umpire coverage for games. Per Jeffrey Grose (WWLUA) there were 57 umpires who started the process to become an umpire at the beginning of the season, but didn't complete the training or take the test.

Other feedback included improving the playoff structure and how teams make the playoffs. Take away play in game and playing on weekend for playoffs. Jason hopes to have a proposal for a new playoff structure by Fall 2012 meeting.

Jason also received a lot of feedback on this year's awards meeting and that we need to improve greatly on what happened at this year's meeting. Going to try and improve the process to capture good criteria to select and evaluate for All-state nominees.

JV C league started off with good intentions, but when it came to logistics and travel, it didn't happen. Jason has a proposal in regards to the 2013 season for Eastern WA teams. Issaquah JV coach would like to see more competition at the JV level – she doesn't mind traveling farther in order to play more competitive teams.

Lauren (Issaquah) commented that the regional approach was really good for teams budget and less travel. Talia (Kennedy) - would like to see the Varsity schedule come out first and then the JV schedule, in order to help with back to back games and daylight, etc. Vancouver – because of the new structure, their team was very happy to be able to be a part of playoffs.

Regional team update: Katie Carroll (asst coach) reported on their trip – traveled with 20 girls, had a great time. It was great to bring a team from WA state that was competitive with East coast teams. Katie encouraged coaches to nominate players who they felt deserved to be on the team. Played in Mohawk (division 5) which is higher than other states in our region. Tony D'Alessio was head coach.

Finance report (Beth Lancaster): Reviewed latest Financial statement (as of April 2012— May statements aren't in). Application for 501c3 is moving along – hoping to have that in by July 15.

Out of season (Sue Haviland): Six people were on the committee – 61 people responded to their survey (approx. half HS/half youth.) Sue reviewed the document that was distributed electronically to the league on 5/16/12 (see link:

<http://files.LeagueAthletics.com/Images/Club/9650/WSLA%20Off%20Season%20Opportunities%20and%20Rules.pdf>)

She reviewed the proposed wording for the Out of Season coaching rule and discussion ensued with some feedback. Some concerns about “conditioning” as all felt that an adult should always be present. Consensus and board recommendation is to stick with our current out of season rules and perhaps continue this discussion for the future for Fall 2012 and Winter 2013. We'll continue to promote and communicate all opportunities to league members – we already have many opportunities listed on the WSLA HS website.

WWLUA – Umpire Initiative (Tsering Short): She reviewed and reminded all to complete an Umpire Request form for all non-league games – see WSLA or WWLUA websites. WWLUA is having a recruiting event this weekend at the Youth Jamboree. Recruiting is top priority for WWLUA. The one thing that they are learning is that we need to encourage current players to become our future officials. WWLUA is asking all coaches to complete a survey (available on our website under Mtg Documents.)

2013 Season preview – Dates

- 23-Feb – Pre-Season Clinic
- 25-Feb – Season Start : 10 week total regular season, 2 weeks for playoffs
- 9-Mar – Jamboree – Umpire Rating
- 11-Mar – Games Start: 8 weeks total to hold 12 games per team, less spring break
- 1-May – Regular Season Ends: All conference games must be complete
- 6/7-May – First Round of Playoffs
- 9/10-May – Second Round of Playoffs
- 14-May – Semi Finals
- 18-May – Championship Day
- 25/26-May – National Tournament

Level of play – teams need to determine what level is right for their program soon. We may adjust conferences depending upon where teams want to be placed.

Revise playoff process – final proposal will be presented at Oct 2012 league meeting.

Revise league award process – need a method to recognize outstanding play throughout the season so that league awards are based upon season long facts and not a single night discussion.

JV tournament – board is recommending that we postpone this tournament for 2013 due to lack of participation and umpires that was somewhat disappointing this year.

JV provisional teams -- There was a disappointing lack of participation on the part of Westside teams to participate in the Eastside JV-C tournaments. Board wants to invite Gonzaga, Three Rivers and Wenatchee JV to join the league as provisional teams with a limited schedule (6 games, 4 home, 2 away.) Jason asked JV programs to consider traveling to outlying areas.

2013 Schedule Process: Brian Hultz (league scheduler) and Jason met with the WHSBLA president and agreed to build our schedule at the same time as the boys so that we're not "competing" for field space. Recommendation is that each program that has a boys' team work with them to determine days that each will host home games vs. away. Scheduling questionnaire will be up on WSLA site around Oct 1. All teams must complete by Nov 1. Boys and girls schedulers will build schedules, work together to resolve conflicts, present to respective boards and WWLUA, and then present schedule to teams by Dec 1.

Handbook update: Will happen this summer, effort led by Kate Roper. Presented to teams in Fall 2012, membership will review and approve in June 2013. 2012-13 season per the existing handbook, similar to 2012.

Other matters: Trying to expand USL-League athletics website, any teams wanting to use that please connect with board. Summer/Fall opportunities are on the website, as well as local summer tournaments. Local summer play dates:
October 19: USL-WA hosting a mens collegiate game Maryland vs. Denver at Starfire.

Volunteer recognition: Many thanks to the teams that helped out with the jamboree: Roosevelt, Nathan Hale, Ballard, Garfield, Lakeside and Bainbridge, plus Lakeside for meeting rooms,

Election of 2012-13 Officers:

President: Jason Hennig
Vice President: Lyn Porterfield
Treasurer: Beth Lancaster
Secretary: Sara Towner
Immediate past president: Bruce Reid

Varsity division representatives:

Alki conference: Jillian Gant
Nisqually conference: Open
North Sound conference: Kate Roper
Peninsula conference: Tami Tomila
Snoqualmie conference: TBD

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm by President Jason Hennig.