

WSLA Spring Membership Council Meeting | TOPS library | 6.7.2011 | 7:00PM

Meeting called to order by President Bruce Reid at 7:10pm.

President's Report (Bruce Reid): Introductions. Sue Haviland is stepping down as league scheduler. Looking for a replacement. There is a stipend.

Financial Report (Jessanne Allen): Jessanne went over budget summary. Noted that due to league growth (particularly at the youth level) our budget has grown tremendously. Any questions please direct them to Jessanne. Bruce noted that Kate is projecting growth from 1500-3500+ kids at youth level, which of course will filter up to HS level. Board is looking at this in terms of governance and future

WWLUA Update (Tsering Short/Jeffrey Grose): Tsering continues as HS liaison. Jeffrey is incoming WWLUA Chair. Game coverage: 254 games officiated at HS level. They were disappointed with some of the coverage (cancellation of games, one ref games). Working on a strategic plan for recruiting and retention. Jeffrey also collected card data from game. Number of cards issued this year same as last year. Number of checks to head dropped by approx 15%, which is great as it was a point of emphasis for USL.

Tsering reminded coaches to complete the questionnaire that was emailed with meeting reminder and available at meeting – encouraged all to turn in at meeting. Thanks to all that have provided feedback during the season.

2011 Season review/ 2012 Season planning:

WWLUA/WSLA recruiting/retention task force: We will start this summer/early fall, looking for volunteers to help. (One coach from youth level, one coach from HS level, two board members.) End goal is to build up and retain a strong group of officials at the HS level. Connect with Bruce if you want to serve on this task force. Val Torrens (NK) volunteered.

WSLA Board met with WWLUA board members to debrief on season. Bruce requests all coaches to please let WSLA board know of specific comments on officials during the season. Do not connect directly with WWLUA; WSLA board will filter those comments to them. Do complete feedback forms (see WWLUA website) as needed.

Championship Day report (Claire Merrill): Claire reported that we had about 900 spectators – same as last year. She'd love to see that increase; asked coaches to think about getting entire teams to attend. All State game was a success; we'll continue into future. Games are still available on demand Comcast Demand ; photos available by Sue Larkin. Bruce explained that the board decided to contract Gametapes to tape both of our championship games at a cost of \$1400. In future we'd like to get a sponsor to pay for that. Many thanks to Claire for a great job of organizing this event.

PR/Media coverage: Bruce requested feedback on this coverage over the season. WSLA pays half as much as WHSBLA. If you have feedback on any of the coverage over the season please email Bruce. New this year the Stealth sponsored the Player of the Week awards.

Regional Team Report: Jason Hennig reported that team had a good time at the tournament. Thirteen clubs represented on regional team this year across D1/D2. He'll get a press release out to Mike asap. Any feedback please connect with Jason. Discussion

ensued as to how to increase numbers of girls that attend tryouts. There was an SAT test on the tryout day. Perhaps we could move the tryout date back?

2012 League Alignment & Structure: In 2010 WSLA board did a complete overhaul of handbook and by-laws, however the league continues to grow dramatically so we continue to look to future and changes that may need to happen. Board will be looking at league alignment over the summer. Discussion ensued about potential of moving to one varsity (with multiple/geographic? conferences) and one JV. Anyone that would like to work on this should email Bruce. This will entail HS and Youth leagues to bring feeder program info into the conversation.

2012 League Scheduling Plan: Board has discussed doing a preliminary schedule for next season now. Attempting to get info out to teams in the Fall to help with planning and projecting. Comments made about JV and the large number of cancellations. Look for questionnaires to be emailed to coaches/board reps soon.

2012 Handbook Rule Proposals & Revisions Feedback: If you have any changes that you'd like to propose please email the board.

Website Refresh Update: Vinca, Claire and Lyn will be working on changing the site over to a USL/League Athletics templated site.

Other matters:

Jason Hennig (Snohomish) announced Cascade Cup is July 29-31, 2011. Open to Youth through HS teams.

Sue Haviland (Overlake) commented on spirit of the rules of USL and how not all of our programs follow those in terms of out of season contact with players. (Rule is that teams do not practice as a team out of season.) Vinca Swanson (Roosevelt) suggested setting up a group to propose changes to the rulebook to clarify these areas.

Craig VanderHorn (Bellevue East) suggested refining/clarifying the rules so that it's really black and white and easier to self discipline.

Annual Election Proposal: Bruce proposed that we defer board elections to the Fall as we would like to work with an outside consultant over the summer to review and potentially change how we are governing ourselves based on future growth. This may change the structure of the board so we would like to postpone elections until any potential changes have been made.

Consensus of the group was that we could defer elections until the Fall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm by President Bruce Reid.