

Minutes approved at Spring meeting on 6/5/12.

**WSLA Winter HS Coaches Council Meeting | TOPS library |
01.24.2012 | 7:00PM**

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

Minutes from October 11 and November 29, 2011 meetings were approved.

USL update (Bruce Reid and Chloe Dee): Coaches Convention this Saturday, still time to register onsite. Please complete the survey (link on WSLA website) regarding a potential college game to happen this Fall 2012. Athletic Trainer Grant deadline extended until January 30 – see the USL-WA website (www.uslax-wa.org/grants.html) Level 2 coaches clinic at Eastside Catholic on Feb 18.

WWLUA (Tsering Short): She has forms for requesting a mini rules clinic that they can do for teams that would like one. Any questions about officiating please contact Tsering as she is our HS league liaison. They've analyzed Umpire feedback forms; they're taking the top 2-3 points from surveys and incorporating them into their umpire training. Dates/times for new rules interpretation sessions, new umpire clinics, scorer/timer clinic are all on WWLUA website—please check those and make sure that your clubs are sending the appropriate people from your team.

Sports Information /PR (Mike McQuaid): Once again representing USL and the boys and girls leagues (HS). Mike passed out the Sports Information Handbook and a pre-season questionnaire to head coaches of each team. The key to him effectively disseminating info to the press is getting immediate game results after each game. Please take a moment to review the press handbook and ensure you're familiar with the process. Adding more social media to the mix this year—both Facebook and Twitter. See handbook for more info.

Financial report (Beth Lancaster): We are in the process of applying for 501c3 status. Fees are set at \$1200 per team this year (Varsity + JV). Jessanne Allen (bookkeeper) passed out invoices to teams that were present; others will be mailed. Refunds were given to D1 teams from last year based on playing 11 games rather than 12.

USL Insurance (Kate Roper): Jason and Kate participated in a conference call with USL execs and Bollinger Insurance. We are still recommending that programs make USL membership mandatory for all players—for this year it's not mandatory for the league but will probably be so in 2013. If your players are not members, there is a process to go through this year for coverage. We'll be distributing more info on this soon. There will be a form that each program needs to complete indicating whether or not they're 100% USL members or covered elsewhere. We'll post necessary links, etc on the website.

Pre-season clinics: Two days and two locations being offered this year. February 25 from 12:30-3pm at Ballard HS in Seattle, and February 26 two sessions will be offered at Bethel HS (Art Crate Stadium). Flier and registration forms available on the WSLA website.

HS Jamboree: Will happen on March 10 (Lakeside School and Lower Woodland 2 fields in Seattle) and March 11 (Bainbridge Island and Lower Woodland 2 field in Seattle.) Teams can sign up in person after the meeting with Claire Merrill. More information on the WSLA website.

Schedule: Varsity and JV schedules have been uploaded to Sportability. Any conflicts/issues please complete the online form asap – see website. Jason met with Rob Hawley from WHSBLA recently; they both agreed that both boys and girls leagues really need to do their schedules at the same time. Field directions—check the WSLA website to ensure your field directions are correct. Please notify Claire Merrill a1clairebear@comcast.net with any revisions. Each team can participate in four non-league events each season. If you are scheduling a non-league game, please report these to scheduler Brian Hultz bchultz@comcast.net. We'll have a link on the website – more to come.

Varsity season: 32 teams, 5 conferences playing in Varsity this year. Your conference games record will dictate if you make playoffs; your overall schedule will dictate seeding. Season starts March 12 (practices start Feb 27); most teams will have two games per week. Last in-season game is May 4; play-in game for 16th spot in playoff bracket will happen May 5 (during Youth jamboree). Championship on May 19. Coaches packets were distributed in January and are available on the website. First three forms from packet are due tonight; rosters and league dues will be due March 12.

JV Season: JV Championship jamboree will be May 12-13 at Harvey Airfield.

JV-C League: Jason introduced a C league outline – see WSLA website. Will be a series of jamborees involving Wenatchee, Three Rivers, Gonzaga clubs that host on March 24, April 14 and May 5 (tentative) respectively. We hope to incorporate a final JV-C jamboree into the JV jamboree on May 12-13.

Regional team: Memorial day weekend at Stonybrook NY (same as last year). Tentative date for tryouts is April 22. We'll be communicating info on coach applications, player nominations, and then tryouts. Youth and HS team tryouts will happen on same day (may be a two day tryout depending upon numbers/coaches, etc) WSLA will be securing group airfare and ground transportation in advance if possible. 9th graders may be eligible for the Youth level regional team—these rules just changed. That game is July 24-26 in Orlando, FL. Nominations due April 10.

Out of Season subcommittee (Sue Haviland): Committee has met and asked for feedback from head coaches. Many thanks to all programs that have done that so far. Sue will get that raw data to Jason to post on website. They'll be distributing some recommendations and will give lots of time for review and feedback before they propose some guidelines at June 2012 meeting.

By-law/handbook redraft subcommittee (Kate Roper): Jeff Grose has agreed to facilitate a handbook revision. This will happen Summer 2012. They'll be looking for feedback prior to that.

Other matters: One of the outcomes of Jason's meeting with Mike McQuaid and Rob Hawley was a proposal by them that we align ourselves more with the boys league, perhaps adopting the League Athletics website for all programs, etc. More information will be forthcoming.

Calendar event reminder for January/February:

January 28: USL-WA chapter Coaches convention at Eastside Catholic

February 4: WWLUA new and returning umpire training, new rules interpretation and scorer/timer clinic at Seattle Pacific University.

February 11: WWLUA New umpire and Scorer/Timers clinics at Overlake School in Redmond.

February 18: USL Coaches Level 2 certification clinic at Eastside Catholic.

February 25-26: Pre-season players clinics in Seattle (Ballard HS) and Bethel.

February 27: First day of practice

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm by President Jason Hennig.