

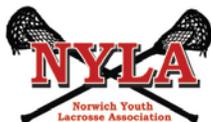
## Norwich Youth Lacrosse Association

Board Meeting Agenda

6:30 PM, Tuesday

November 02, 2016

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of October 10, 2016 minutes
3. Treasury Report
  - a. 2017 Budget Review
4. Old Business
  - a. Apparel Update
    - i. Online Vendor
    - ii. X-Mas Sale
  - b. NECLAX update
    - i. New Age Grouping
    - ii. Code of Conduct Policy
  - c. 2017 Fundraising - Overview
    - i. Fundraising Events
      1. Blackwolves sky-box – Ballestrini January 28<sup>th</sup>, Dave B will have tickets in a few weeks
      2. Blackwolves promotion - Poore
        - a. Eric F is curious if we want to solidify a date. Because of last year's totals (>100) we would have qualified for Fan Tunnel & pre-game toss.
      3. Billy Wilsons – Poore April 24<sup>th</sup> (tentative)
        - a. Non-Alcoholic Drinks
        - b. PAL November 7
      4. Tag Sale – Caron (TBD)
      5. Shoot-a-thon – M. Poore to submit flyer
        - a. This would replace Tag Sale
    - ii. Other Fundraising Efforts
      1. Corporate Sponsors – Poore / C. Gravelin
      2. Jersey Mikes
        - a. Donate and possibly assist with distributing subs. We sell and keep all proceeds
        - b. Possible Sunday @ NFA event
  - d. Grants
    - i. US Lacrosse BRIDGE Grant **Denied**
    - ii. More Grants due Jan 1 from CT Lax and US Lax
  - e. Winter Clinic (Jan 29<sup>th</sup> to
    - i. Action: Hang Banner - Poore
    - ii. Action: Flyers? - Friedrich
    - iii. Action: T-shirts give-away, find sponsor (All)
  - f. Spring Fields Update
    - i. Teachers
      1. Lower – Practice and Games
      2. Upper – Practice Only
    - ii. Preston Veterans Field – Preston
      1. Secured for Spring Season, need to determine use
    - iii. Lisbon Meadows – Lisbon - TBD
    - iv. Red McKeon Park – Baltic, available but concern about parking (Practice?)
5. New Business
  - a. Year Plan Review
  - b. Bylaws Review
  - c. Nominations for open board positions
6. Other Business
7. Schedule next meeting
  - a. November 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:30-8:00 @ NFD (All Meetings are scheduled at NFD with July 5<sup>th</sup> being last)
8. Adjournment



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Example of Letter to Parents about age groupings provided by NECLAX

Parents,

US Lacrosse has recently modified the age brackets for youth lacrosse. Although the new brackets are not to officially take effect until next year, it is beneficial for our league to adapt early for the following reasons:

1. The current age breakdown has 4 groups: U9, U11, U13, and U15. These brackets roughly are Grade 2-3, Grade 4-5, Grade 6-7, and Grade 8-9. Our local public high school system begins in Grade 9 and we do not allow HS players to play at the youth level. This has resulted in under-rostered teams at the U15 level which was managed by moving older U13 players up. This simply creates a downstream impact on the other teams. Additionally, there is a safety consideration regarding moving U13 player up to the U15 level. Fielding 4 full divisions has been a struggle for many town programs.

2. Before US Lacrosse adapted to an age based designation, all of the programs currently in New England Coastal Lacrosse (NECLAX) used a grade based designation with the following divisions: Bantam (grade 3-4), Junior (grade 5-6), and Senior (grade 7-8). For the reasons described above this provided for more uniform and complete Sr level teams. This is a bracket designation that our programs are used to and frankly, is better suited to the numbers of players that many of our towns have.

Thus, for the upcoming seasons, NECLAX programs will be using the following divisions: U10 (Grade 3-4), U12 (Grade 5-6), U14 (Grade 7-8) to comply with the newly recommended US Lacrosse designations. Many towns will still have an Instructional grouping to include younger players (this varies by town, but can include K-2).

As we have always done in the past, if there are more players at any given level, towns may have 2 teams at a given level. **Under NO circumstance are these teams to be based on ability or tryouts, they may only be based on age/grade** (e.g. a town may have 2 Senior teams, but they must be as close to a Grade 7 team and a Grade 8 team, as can possibly be managed given the roster). Roster exceptions can be made on a case by case basis to account for specific players due to safety considerations (this is usually only applicable at the Sr level). These instances are determined at the team level with input from coaches in consultation with the town President.

Should you have any questions regarding the team divisions, roster breakdowns, or rationale for the change this coming season, please contact your local town President.