

# Stanwood Lacrosse Board Meeting

MINUTES

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

CEDARHOME BAPTIST CHURCH,  
STANWOOD, WA

<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY:</b>	Ben H, President
<b>AT TIME:</b>	At 640PM
<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	(XX) Mike Woodruff, (XX) Jamie Woodruff, (XX ) Doug Chandler, (NO) Scott Bender, (XX )Ben Hagglund (xx) Eric Wietzke (xx)Shane Bookshnis

<b>MINUTES RECORDED BY:</b>	Douglas Chandler, Board Secretary
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➤ *TOPIC: ADRENALINE FUNDRAISERS*

➤ *DAVE WRIGHT, MATT STREIBY*

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	A presentation was made to the general membership about the possibility of using the Adrenaline fundraising company for fundraising. This could include general sales fundraisers, as well as a 'gear shop' (targeting spiritwear).	
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	None made.	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
n/a		

➤ *TOPIC: OFFICER'S REPORTS*

➤ *CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS*

<b>DISCUSSION</b>
<p><b>Eric Wietzke, At-Large:</b> Fundraising. He wants to pursue Adrenaline and/or some other fundraising plan. He proposes that a committee will be needed to take the lead on fundraising. He asked for members to contact him if they wished to help. Equipment: We need an equipment manager—focusing on balls, nets, etc., and to monitor fields. Would like to see this task shared across teams. Mike Woodruff suggested that perhaps the fundraising could be for a targeted goal, so that everyone will know what we are doing with the money--- perhaps to buy equipment, lower costs of registration and/or costs of tournament.</p> <p><b>Mike Woodruff, VP of Boys' Programs:</b> Last year, pretty successful. Saw growth across the program. 7/8 had two teams. HS had two teams. Skill development was substantial across the programs. Next year, he anticipates 2 teams at the HS, unless we have enough for 3 teams. We started k/2 team last year, and possibly could have more kids this year. HE wants to have the costs be lower, especially at the younger ages. Perhaps, rented gear, or other options. Coaches: The club is growing, but our coaching resources are not. Our 7/8 coach, (Andrew Price) has resigned. Mike wants to emphasize coach development. The key features for a good coach does not have to be knowledge of LAX. Rather, being able to deal with kids, be positive. We can teach the rest. If the adult has a coaching background—the philosophy of coaching, then we can work with that. Volunteers: For the past few years, we have asked repeatedly for help. The same people seem to be helping every year. We need to make involving more of the membership a priority. We will be pushing forward with the Team Manager role this season. They will help on many levels, coordinating communication, tasks such as field</p>

lining, fundraising, etc. This will allow the coaches to focus on coaching. The manager will coordinate many of the needs of the teams.

We will also be needing sideline managers to help with sideline decorum.

It was asked if we would be going to Division 1 (D1) at the HS level this year. Mike did not know—the annual HS Lax meeting is coming up. He reports that some clubs have been told to split up, but no one has been told YET that they have to go to D1.

**Jami Woodruff, VP of Girls' Programs:**

We fielded a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3/4 grade teams this past season. We also beat Mercer Island, which was a major accomplishment and a source of pride for the team. For next year, want to field: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade, and a 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade team. We have a coach for the HS level, but not a team yet. But, she reports that the growth potential is huge for the girls.

**Scott Bender, Treasurer: (via Ben H)**

We have approx. \$10,000 in accounts as of today. This is essentially our net amount at this point. The bank statements were made available for review. Anyone can ask at any time to see the bank statements.

**Ben H, President:**

We had more money at the end of the season than we anticipated. This was largely due to conservative registration projections—but we had several more players than we expected. Thus, we have more money to carryover to this season. We are in a healthy financial position.

This was also due to our budget philosophy, which is, in general, that the registration system should cover the cost to play.

Field Space: We are maximizing our local field use. We are going to have to try for some creative options, in order to make use of fields, without causing too much damage in any one field.

Uniforms: We will be using Eagle's Nest this year. The costs will be the same as last year. We have been talking with Eagles' Nest about a stronger relationship. Members can purchase SLAX spirit wear directly from their shop as well.

Camano AAA Storage donated free space for off season storage. This is a significant savings for us. They have even upgraded us to a slightly larger model. Thanks, Camano AAA!

SCJAA: We are still members of SCJAA. In looking at our affiliation, we found that it would cost \$400 to file 501(c)3 status, and would cost us approx. \$1000 more for insurance per year. We are staying with SCJAA.

**Doug Chandler, Secretary:**

It has been a very busy year. We have completed one season on our new League Athletics webhosting service. From the webmaster's perspective, it went very well. In particular, the cost savings was profound.... \$1000? It has been easier to use as far as web design and allowing a number of people to have access to the 'backdoor' for purposes of accessing info relevant to their position and needs. I think having the Facebook feeds is also of help, as anyone can post on the Stanwood lax Facebook page(s), which can be seen right on the home page of Stanwoodlacrosse.com.

**1: Registration:**

During the 2014 season, we had

Boys 2nd	14
Boys 3/4	19
Boys 5/6	25
Boys 7/8	32
Boys HS	34
<b>Total Boys</b>	<b>124</b>

Girls 2	9
girls 3/4	14
<b>Total Girls</b>	<b>23</b>

	<b>1</b>
	<b>4</b>
<b>Total Players</b>	<b>7</b>

For the 2015 Season, we have the following for Pre-registrations:

Boys K/2	2
Boys 3/4	5
Boys 5/6	13
Boys 7/8	11
Boys HS	17
<b>Total Boys</b>	<b>48</b>
Girls 2	2
Girls 3/4	0
Girls 5/6	4
Girls 7/8	2
Girls HS	3
<b>Total Girls:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Total Players:</b>	<b>59</b>

My hope is to have the registration open for the 2015 season by the end of October at the very latest. The remaining issues are: Getting the registration prices set, Determining the payment plans and methods, setting up the registration system, and then going live. The goal is to allow as long as possible for those needing/wishing to have a payment plan for registration fees.

2: Key Initiatives: Increasing input from membership, Improving safety overall, increasing our emphasis on prevention of safety problems, injury, and abuse, and more formally developing our coaching philosophy as a program. After hearing a number of parents' feedback over the course of the season, and since the season ended, it became apparent that there was a gap of some sort, between what the player and parent experience was and the awareness of the leadership. The board has had conversations about this issue, and started the following initiatives:

- 1) Improve the involvement of, and increasing the communication between the board and membership. We need to make sure that we are hearing what the parents and players are thinking and feeling about their Lacrosse experience. To do so, we have:
  - a. Sent out a parent survey. It has been 'live' for less than 72 hours, and now already received about 18 responses!
  - b. Increasing the opportunities for members to get information to the board, about their experience in a more immediate way. There will be a new feedback system set up on our website, which will allow anyone to submit the following feedback:
    - i. Complements
    - ii. Informal complaints, or information that a member feels that someone on the board should be aware of—(this will be the most flexible, in that the person submitting may indicate what they want to see happen with the information)
    - iii. Formal complaints or grievances.
  - c. Utilizing the team manager role, which will be new this year (focusing on improving organization and communication at the team level... this was formerly known as a Team Parent)
  - d. Formalizing our mission statement, philosophy, and policies/practices regarding Lacrosse in our club. This is being done at the board level, and in process.
- 2) Improving the overall safety: Field safety, player safety (concussions/injury) through training, communication and awareness. Prevention of child abuse is also a very important area of focus. We do not want to wait until there is an issue. We are acting proactively to ensure that the conditions are present which will best prevent abuse. For instance, it has been a perception of some players/parents that they shouldn't speak up about an issue on their team. We are going to make it extremely clear that this is NOT the case. While the level of player responsibility in solving an issue on their team may change depending on the age level of the players, at no time should anyone feel that they cannot speak up to their parents, coaches, or board members about any issue even remotely related to the health and safety of players.
- 3) Taking our Mission Statement/Philosophy, and putting into action

- a. at the coaching level: US Lacrosse has partnered with the Positive Coaching Alliance—which focuses on developing athletes through a positive character-building youth sports experience. Not only does the PCS approach help kids have a better experience, the approach also shows that teams perform better on the field.

We are going to pay for US Lacrosse membership for all coaches. We are also going to require that all coaches complete the initial training for coaches at US lacrosse, which includes PCA training. There are a number of additional pieces of the PCA approach—which supports players, and parents as well. I am recommending that we apply for a grant to help offset the costs of fully implementing the program in our club.

Of course, this is only a step in the process. We need to continue to work on this issue throughout the year—to support our kids to have the best possible experience. It won't be enough to just talk about it. We will need to continue to address it.

- b. At the player/parent level: We will be expecting that coaches will embody the philosophy of the PCA approach. We will make sure that players and parents have enough information about what they can expect as part of this approach, as well as how our club's philosophy is put into action. We want the parents to know what to expect on their child's team from the beginning of the season.

➤ **TOPIC: PARENT COMMENTS**



**DISCUSSION**

Heidi Delich: Wanted to know more about fundraising. The cookie dough sales were emphasized during the Adrenaline presentation. It was noted that there are several cookie dough sales very close to our season. She wanted to know about what options there were.

Heidi also mentioned that she wanted to take the Lacrosse experience to the elementary schools. Wants to be able to do presentations... it was suggested by Mike Woodruff that perhaps we could work with Sticks in Schools, which also includes a curriculum. It was noted that Mr. Campbell at Cedarhome (PE teacher) has a fairly long Lacrosse unit during PE.

Another parent asked about girls, and if they could play on the boys' team even if there was a girls' team at the age group. It was noted by the board that we did not have strict policy about that—however, the girls lax is so different than the boys, that when they get to the HS level, a girl may need to switch back to the girls' program, but the game is very different—and may put her at a disadvantage.

Ken Schroeder: Asked about the budget for next year, registration fees. (Probably very similar to last year). If we have 2 teams in an age group, what is the policy? Mike woodruff responded: It varies greatly around the league, which is part of the problem. Many teams at the younger ages split their teams, supposedly on an even level—focusing on the developmental/rec level of play. At the 5/6 ages, there is a large discrepancy between programs, with only one team in the league openly declaring an "A" (competitive) team. At the 7/8 level it is chaos. A high degree of variability. At the youth level, especially, we are trying to get players to be better. We want the better players to play with the newer players.

Tony Bennett: Fundraising: Should we look at other events too? A car wash perhaps? Also, we should have more name exposure. How can we do that?

Ben replied—we have signage to put out before the season, but the city rules are extremely challenging, which makes it hard to use signage to get our name out there more. Currently, though, we have 3 clinics scheduled for the fall, to encourage new players to check out LAX.

Mike Woodruff suggested a 'free' car wash—to get our name out there (advertising), and then can collect tips as fundraising. Everyone who gets a car wash gets a LAX flyer.

Heuers... Asked about signage to notify the community about when signups start? Ben: we do, and have flyers which we send out via email. He suggested that this may be a committee item/task.

Heidi Delich suggested that people "like" and "share" the posts on the Facebook page for Slax to spread our message through the social media.

Tony Bennett asked about advertising at Lakewood and aArlington.

Mike Woodruff: An issue was raised at the league level about inconsistent score keeping—he is hoping that the league will press for standards and more training.

➤ **TOPIC: BUDGET FOR 2015**

➤ **BEN H**

**DISCUSSION**

The budget is set such that the registration fees cover the cost to play, unless set otherwise. (i.e., the girls' teams have a smaller game number, is a fledgling program, etc., and we want to support them, so have voted to keep their fees lower).

There is no fundraising in the budget, per se.

There are a few restricted budget items (required to spend only on what it is donated for).

Scholarships: We funded 3 HS partial scholarships last year. Coach Joe funded \$500 for scholarships. What was not spent is held over, and restricted.

**CONCLUSIONS**

The final budget will be discussed and voted on in a coming board meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

n/a

**PERSON RESPONSIBLE**

**DEADLINE**

➤ **TOPIC: BYLAWS**

➤ **BEN H**

**DISCUSSION**

The bylaws cannot be changed until they have been posted for 30 days. Then, they are voted on by the membership who are present at the meeting post-30 day period.

Bylaw changes possible: Ben suggested that the players be named as 'non-voting members' so that they can sell raffle tickets. We also want to have rules for spending money in between meetings, and for board/program officers.

But, at this time, since none of these have been posted, they are suggestions for a future meeting.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Ben asked that the Bylaws, which expire at the end of September, 2014, be renewed by the membership as written, without an expiration date. Mike Woodruff moved to approve the bylaws, with no changes, and in perpetuity. Doug Chandler seconded the motion, and it was approved by a unanimous decision of the membership present at the meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS**

n/a

**PERSON RESPONSIBLE**

**DEADLINE**

➤ **TOPIC: BOARD ELECTIONS**

➤ **VARIOUS**

**DISCUSSION**

Ben H reported that the board positions are elected annually at the September meeting of the membership. The terms are annual, and start on October 1, following the Annual Meeting. There are 7 positions currently, per Bylaws:

The President: Oversees daily operations of the club, assumes primary responsibility for representing Stanwood Lacrosse in the community and interfacing with the City and School District.

Vice President of Boys' Programs: Responsible for oversight of all Boys' teams.

Vice President of Girls' Programs: Responsible for oversight of all Girls' teams.

Secretary: Takes notes of all meetings.

Treasurer: Responsible for financial management and oversight of the club. Maintains the financial statements and primary responsibility for maintaining accounts.

At-Large members: These are general board positions. They do not have an official, formal responsibility. However, we generally ask that they take on additional responsibilities in leadership. This is determined by need of the club, and interest area of the At-Large Board Member. We have 2 At-Large positions.

Elections were held:

President: Michelle Kunzman nominated Ben H. Tony Bennett seconded the motion. Ben accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. Ben H left the room for discussion and vote. Mike Woodruff, VP Boys' took over as President Pro Tem. As there was no alternative candidate, the vote was held by a show of hands. Mike Woodruff called for the vote, and declared that Ben H was approved by the membership for President. All those voting, voted for Ben H. There were no dissenting votes.

Girls' VP: Michelle Kunzman nominated Jami Woodruff. Jamie accepted on the condition that she did not have to attend every meeting. Ben H reported that there was not a Bylaw requirement for meeting attendance, specifically, for board members. Discussion continued, about Jami and Mike Woodruff's schedules, competing demands, which makes it difficult to keep their board positions. It was suggested that Mike consider the VP Girls position as he was not sure if he could continue as the VP Boys. Doug Chandler nominated Mike for VP Girls. Given that there was a question about the VP Boys position—whether or not Mike may even run for the position, it was decided that it would be best to table the vote, and proceed to the VP Boys' position, out of order.

Ben H tabled the Girls' VP vote, and opened the VP Boys' Position.

BP Boys'. Jami nominated Mike Woodruff for VP Boys. Ken Schroeder 2nded the nomination. Mike accepted. Mike Woodruff nominated Eric Wietzke for VP Boys. Doug Chandler 2nded the nomination. Eric Wietzke accepted. Mike Woodruff stated that he wanted to be involved with the board as long as growth is part of the process. HE wasn't to grow the sport, and better the program. But, even if not on the board, he will support Stanwood lacrosse.

Eric Wietzke stated that he wanted whatever was best for the program.

Wietzke and Woodruff left the room for discussion and voting. After the discussion, Ben H called for a vote, by secret ballot. The ballot would be counted by 2 board members, Doug Chandler, and Shane Bookshnis with a winner declared, but the tally would not be declared. After the ballots were counted, Bookshnis and Chandler declared that Mike Woodruff was the winner. Ben H declared Mike Woodruff the winner by secret ballot.

Ben H then reopened the election for Girls' VP. The only nominee remaining was Jami Woodruff. No other member was nominated at this time. Jami left the room for discussion and vote. After the discussion, Ben H called for a show of hands. Of members voting, all voted for Jami Woodruff, with no dissents. Ben H declared Jami Woodruff the winner by unanimous vote.

Secretary: Tony Bennett nominated Doug Chandler. Ken Schroeder seconded the nomination. Doug Chandler accepted. There were no other nominations. A speech was declined by Doug Chandler. Doug Chandler left the room, for discussion and vote. Note: the secretary was not present for the discussion and vote. Upon return after the voting, the secretary was notified that Doug Chandler was approved by a vote of the membership.

Treasurer. Scott Bender, was not present for the meeting. However, the board reported that he would "reluctantly" agree to return if the membership wanted him to. He was reluctant due to his limited ability to attend the meetings. Heidi Delich nominated Michelle Kunzman. She was seconded by Natalie Hagglund. Kunzman expressed concerns about competing commitments, and also wanted to be able to continue to support the HS teams. Kunzman declined the nomination.

Tony Bennett nominated Heidi Delich. Delich declined.

No other nominees were named. As Bender was not in attendance, Ben H opened discussion immediately, and called for a vote by a show of hands. Of the members voting, the vote was unanimous. Ben H declared Scott Bender the winner of the vote.

At Large Position 1: Eric Wietzke nominated by Michelle Kunzman. Seconded by Tony Bennett. Eric Wietzke agreed.

Amy Lockett was nominated by Mike Woodruff. IT was seconded by Heidi Delich. Lockett agreed.

Heidi Delich was nominated by Mike Woodruff, seconded by Michelle Kunzman. Kunzman agreed.

The three candidates left the room. Ben H opened discussion on the candidates. It was noted that all three would be great board members, and it was suggested that we modify the Bylaws to expand the board. It would also allow for it to obtain a quorum. Ben H noted that we are prohibited to modify the Bylaws until after they have been posted and the membership notified—with the 30 day notice required.

Ben H called for a secret ballot. Eric Wietzke was declared the winner by 2 members who counted the votes. Ben H declared Eric Wietzke the winner by secret ballot for At Large #1.

At Large #2: Heidi Delich was nominated by Michelle Kunzman, Seconded by Doug Chandler. Delich accepted.

Amy Lucket was nominated by Jami Woodruff, seconded by Doug Chandler. Amy accepted.  
 Shane Bookshnis was nominated by Tony Bennett, seconded by Doug Chandler. Bookshnis accepted.  
 Kay Shores was nominated by Sheila Simpson (Shores not present). Doug Chandler Seconded. Shores was contacted by members in the meeting, who declined.  
 The three candidates left the room. Ben H called for discussion. After discussion, Ben H called for a vote by secret ballot. Two members present counted the votes, and reported that Heidi Delich was the winner. Ben H declared Heidi Delich the winner by secret ballot.

Following the vote, Mike Woodruff suggested that the Bylaws be modified to expand the board by 2 positions.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Board members for the term of 10/1/2014 through 9/30/2015 are:

- Ben H, President
- Mike Woodruff, VP Boys'
- Jami Woodruff, VP Girls'
- Scott Bender, Treasurer
- Doug Chandler, Secretary
- Eric Wietzke, At Large #1
- Heidi Delich, At Large #2.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
n/a		

Ben H reported that upcoming meeting schedule would be determined soon.  
 Other business: The HS coaches meeting is the Saturday following this meeting.  
 Coaches are approved annually by the board. We will be seeking additional coaches.

The meeting was adjourned at 915 by Ben H.

SUBMITTED BY:

Doug Chandler, Board Secretary