



WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of June 9, 2007
General Membership Meeting

- 372: The meeting of the General Membership of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association was held on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at Noon at Bertona Hall, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington.

Board President: Dave Low
Board Executive Secretary: Gail Shelton
Division I Rep: Brandon Fortier
Division II Rep: Absent
East Rep: Vern Smith
Metro Rep: Absent
West Rep: Rob Hawley
North Rep: Ken Hopkins

Division I – Bainbridge Island, Bellevue, Curtis, Eastlake, Eastside, Garfield, Issaquah, Lakeside, Lynnwood, Maple Valley, Mercer Island, Roughriders, Seattle Prep, Skyline, Vashon

Division II – Blanchet, Eastside Catholic, Klahowya, Lake Tapps, Mt. Rainier, Nathan Hale, North County, Northshore, Overlake, Port Angeles, Puyallup, Sammamish, Snohomish, Stadium, Tacoma, Whatcom

- 373: In review of the 2007 season, Dave thought it had been a good year with more referees and more games covered, although more inexperienced referees were on the field. There were 371 games with two referees, 73 games with one referee and 4 games with no referees.
- 374: Question: Some teams were loaded with home games at the beginning of the season and the last 4-5 games were away. Can that be fixed?
Answer: Brandon tried to make sure no teams had more than 3 games in a row at home or away, but when teams start changing games and trading home/away they will experience this.
- 375: Dave reminded the members the dead period begins August 1, 2007. WIAA clarified the rule by explaining that a coach can play with or against players from his an open gym situation. The sessions must be open to all participants and cannot be specific team practices. No coaching is to occur in these situations which include summer leagues and informal, pick-up scrimmages. Captain's practices are not considered open gym situations.



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376: Meetings dates for the 2008 season are as follows:

October 6, 2007
February 2, 2008
June 14, 2008

The season will begin on February 25, 2008.

The Board will review the meeting structure from the By-laws and the structure may change so that the October meeting must have a representative, the February meeting will be required for coaches and a representative cannot be sent. The February meeting would cover WALOA rule changes, expectations for the season, etc. The June meeting may be regional. The Board hopes to have the meeting structure clarified by the October meeting.

377: The Board received the final report of the 5/10 Committee regarding the possibility of WIAA sanctioning. An email survey will be sent to all programs to determine whether the timeline suggested is possible. The 5/10 Committee suggests making a presentation to WIAA in 2009 for the 2010 Season. Each program will have one vote and the survey will include the pros and cons of state sanctioning. The Board has not been able to review the report in its entirety, but will be doing so over the summer and a full report will be sent to the membership.

378: The Board will be handling other matters during the summer such as: forfeits, jersey color clarifications, and how to incorporate other areas of the state – Wenatchee, Tri-Cities, Spokane and Vancouver.

379: By October the Board will have details regarding coach's certification requirements. It will be looking at WIAA requirements, USL Level I training, attendance at the 2007 and 2008 state convention, attendance at the national convention, WIAA hours from other sports, CPR/first aid, background checks etc. The Board had not decided whether every coach must be certified or whether to start with the head varsity coach and incorporate the other coaches in the future.

380: Under New Business, Jack Visco, Bainbridge Island asked that the Board revisit the requirement for programs to have a representative at the general membership meetings or lose voting rights because some of them must come from long distances to attend the meeting.

381: Greg Hill, Whatcom asked the Board to consider a financial incentive be given to refs who have learned the rules. He thinks the new refs do not



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- have a full grasp of the rules and they need an incentive to become fully engaged in officiating the games
- 382: Dave Farrington, Port Angeles offered a training camp for officials at PA. He has a facility available, needs and 8-10 team tournament with college officials offering to help teach rules, how to control a game and mechanics.
- 383: Referee evaluations are needed so coaches can offer constructive criticism. A request was made that WALOA make more effort to correspond with coaches when problems arise. It is irresponsible of WALOA to threaten cancellation of officials for the remainder of the season without some dialogue.
- 384: Charley Rosenberry, Vashon offered as the league grows, the Board and programs need to be ever vigilant about the safety of our players. A person has attended games, wearing team jerseys, offering water bottles to players, shoulder massages, money and attempting to obtain player's addresses etc. As the conversation continued, it became apparent that many of our programs have had contact with this individual and also at the youth level. The Board will contact the parents and the person regarding the situation and asks all coaches and program directors to be vigilant regarding this and other individuals at the playfields. Gail will inform the BYLW leadership about the situation at their meeting on June 12.
- 385: The Board will be reviewing the length of the 2008 season and determining the date of championships. The 2007 games are still on Comcast-on-Demand and through gametapes.com. Thanks to John Wherry the games on Comcast have been successful and gametapes.com is interested in showing lacrosse again in 2008. Sponsorship will be important if this is going to happen. John Wherry reported scores to all local newspapers this year – if your score was not reported in your paper it may be that you did not send John a point of contact. The State Chapter is looking into working with a public relations person and WWSBLA will work with the Chapter on this important initiative.
- 386: On behalf of the Board and the general membership, Vern thanked Dave Low, the outgoing President. Dave led the membership from Washington Lacrosse Council, an ad-hoc group, to the representative format that is WWSBLA today. He was the perfect President to lead the membership through five years of issues, unpopular decisions, and appeals. Dave always took a calm approach, listened to all sides and mediated with care. The success of the WWSBLA today is due largely to Dave's contribution.



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- 387: The elections for the At-Large, Division I and Division II representatives were held. The results of the election were: Tony Olney, At-Large Representative; Brandon Fortier, Division I Representative and Kevin Martin, Division II Representative.
- 388: The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Gail Shelton, Executive Secretary