

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of February 5, 2011
General Membership Meeting

620: The meeting of head coaches of the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association was held on Saturday, February 5, 2011 at noon at Bertona Hall, Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington.

Board President: Rob Hawley
Board Executive Secretary: Kathi Lucchesi
Division I Rep: Brandon Fortier
Division II Rep: Kevin Martin
East Rep: Henry Valentine
Metro Rep: Ron Wright
West Rep: Rob Hawley
North Rep: Peter White
At-Large: Ian O'Hearn

Division I – Bainbridge Island, Bellevue, Curtis, Eastlake, Eastside Catholic, Issaquah, King's Way, Lakeside, Lake Tapps, Lake Washington, Lynnwood, Mercer Island, Mukilteo, Northshore, Overlake, Puyallup, Seattle Prep, Skyline, Stadium, Tacoma, Tahoma, Vashon

Division II – Ballard, Blanchet, Everett, Franklin, Garfield, Gig Harbor, Highline, Klahowya, Liberty, Mt Si, Nathan Hale, North County, North Kitsap, North Olympic, Providence, Redmond, Roosevelt, Sammamish, Selah, San Juan, Skagit Valley, Snohomish, South Kitsap, Stanwood, Three Rivers, Wenatchee, Whatcom, Woodinville
Shoreline (provisional member)

621: Brandon gave a brief announcement of the passing of Issaquah player, Tyler Lucas, and told members about the memorials that are planned. A moment of silence was observed in his memory.

622: Roll Call was taken. There are now 50 programs in the league. New Head Coaches of current programs introduced themselves. Rob introduced Board members and explained who they represented.

623: Rob reminded the membership about the ground rules for speaking. Everyone can speak once on every topic, if someone wants to speak twice they must wait until everyone else has the opportunity to speak once. He mentioned that we have a full agenda and asked that everyone be respectful of time.

- 624: Rob introduced Chris Long to present to members a new US Lacrosse Sportsmanship Presentation. Rob reminded coaches that it is their job to set the expectations regarding sportsmanship. This presentation is a pilot for US Lacrosse and they are asking for feedback. The presentation covers the US Lacrosse motto of "Respect all of the ROOTS" ROOTS stands for Rules, Officials, Opponents, Team, Self. Some suggestions were discussed as to how to show good sportsmanship when hosting another team with one example being to offer a BBQ or meal to teams traveling long distance. It was also noted that players and parents usually go by way of the coach and if the coach is yelling excessively, they will get on board. A final reminder was left with everyone to remember that. Chris stated that the presentation is available to whoever wants a copy.
- 625: Ron Wright spoke about a new WHSBLA requirement for this season. This year a "Sideline Manager" is required of all home teams. This person is separate from the table staff and must present themselves to the officials prior to the game. It is required of the home team and strongly suggested for visiting team to have a Sideline Manager. They will be responsible for all fans (not just home). It is their job to act as a liaison between head coach and ref. to help control fans. It is still ultimately the head coach's responsibility if fans get out of control.
- 626: Brandon explained that the Coach's Packet is due today, Feb. 5, 2011. The packet should contain signed Acknowledgement Forms, Program Certification Form, and completed Program Information Sheet. The Membership Fee is also due today (\$325 for varsity and \$225 for non varsity teams). Please turn in to Kathi today if haven't already done so.
- 627: Brandon explained the new fee structure for both the Membership Fees and the Game Fees. The last day to add a game without incurring an additional fee is 2 weeks in to the season. This charge is for admin.
- 628: An example of what each team is required to have on file at each game was shown to the membership. The binder should have a copy of the following: Proof of insurance, Lystedt compliance, WSP background checks, Players Code of Conduct, Head Coach's USL membership cards, Coach CPR and First Aid certificates, Team declaration from Coach Packet. It was suggested that programs create two identical notebooks to be kept with both varsity and jv teams.
- 629: Brandon reminded the membership to check the WHSBLA website and review the "2011 Season Need to Knows". The information for important dates are listed on the website. By March 14, 2011 the following are due: Game Fees (\$155/varsity game and \$125/non varsity game); Official program roster for everyone in the program; and Varsity Roster posted to

sportability before first game is played. Teams will be receiving their invoices in mid February.

630: Important dates:

February 28, 2011 – First day of practice

May 13, 2011 – League Playoffs begin

May 15, 2011 – All-State League meeting

May 28, 2011 – WHSBLA Championships

August 1, 2011 – Out of Season period begins

631: A reminder was given that all players must have 10 practices in before participating in a game of any kind (scrimmages and pre-season tournament games included). Please read the 10-practice rule to explain what a practice is. Practices on Sunday do not count, and if a player is involved in a winter sport that overlaps with lacrosse due to playoffs up to 5 of their practices will count toward the 10 practice rule.

632: Ron spoke about the WALOA Referee training and 2011 rule changes and points of emphasis. A video was shown to better explain and Brandon will post the video to the WHSBLA website. The main rule emphasis this year will focus on contact to the head. There will be stricter calls on hits to the head, many resulting in a non-releasable penalty. Referees are instructed to remove a player they suspect may have suffered a concussion. They will inform the coach and then any further responsibility about play falls on the coach per Lystedt Law.

633: Another point of emphasis will be on restarting the game. Referees were told this is important this year. Players should have 5 seconds to restart the game or ball is awarded to other team.

634: Ron reminded the members that there will be zero tolerance for dialogue from assistant coaches. Teams must also pay attention to bench area protocol and coaches are not to come on the field unless called by the official for an injury.

635: It was announced that State Championships will be held on Memorial Day weekend (May 28) and teams are encouraged to get a team picture early in the season for the program. Volunteers are needed as it takes approximately 100.

636: Mike McQuaid spoke about public relations for all of lacrosse in the state of Washington. The goal is to put an outside set of eyes on the game of lacrosse at the high school level so as to create an awareness of the sport to all. He distributed a Sports Information Handbook with questionnaire that all programs are to complete and return to him. This includes all contact info. He asked for each teams help in communicating game

outcome within one hour after the completion of each game. The best way to do this is via text message. Along with score reporting, there will be a "Player of the Week" each week and they are also looking for good "off-field" stories such as what players are doing in/for their community. Seattle Times online is the best place for daily results.

- 637: Matt Hastings gave a plug for the Stealth asking that coaches reach out to people they know and invite them out to a game. The Stealth is out in the community raising awareness about the sport and one way they do that is through the "Sticks for Schools" program. Contact Matt at stealthlax.com for more information.
- 638: Kris Snider spoke about some changes at US Lacrosse in regards to All American selections. With reorganization last year at US Lacrosse, there will be many changes. With the All American selections process getting a fresh look, Kris has asked for input from the membership as to an appropriate number of selections from our state. He will recommend based on this input. He emphasized that the number needs to be reflective of number of players truly worthy of the honor. Kris announced that the U-19 team will play in Finland in the summer of 2012 and if anyone is interested in being on the selection committee to let him know. Input for representation from our area will be sought in early April.
- 639: The US Lacrosse Washington Chapter is seeking to get a college game here. Although there have been a few commitments, nothing is definite yet. There was discussion of also hosting a women's game.
- 640: Rob announced that there is time for questions from the membership. None were brought forth.
- 641: The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Kathi Lucchesi, Executive Secretary