

WSLA Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: 10/15/2025, 7:00pm via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Present: MK Benshoof, Curtis Estes, Holly Whitman, Christy Neff, Claire Monsaas, Jeanette Wake, Tony Duck, Grace Hamilton, Bo Weingartner

Absent: Ryan McCloskey, Jamie Asaka, Lyndsey Gillis, Tami Tommila, Steve Fricke

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the September meeting minutes (9/28/25). Board approved (all in favor).

Presidents Report

Budget

The proposed budget for the 2026 spring season was reviewed. There were slight increases on team registrations costs due to rising referee costs. A motion was made to approve the budget for the 2026 spring season. Motion approved.

All in favor: (all present)

Opposed: n/a

Executive Director Report

OGLA petitioned to become a sanctioned program (equivalent to our WIAA) in Oregon and their petition was denied. This is potentially on the horizon for WSLA. ACTION ITEM: MK is going to investigate the petitioning process for WIAA.

MK reviewed the board structure and our contact information to be pushed out to membership.

MK reviewed the board member agreement and conflict of interest document. A motion was made to approve the board member agreement and conflict of interest document. Board approved.

All in favor: (all present)

Opposed: n/a

New Business

-Conference representative duties and responsibilities were reviewed. MK will email and post these responsibilities to the WSLA community. There was slight concern about the consistency of operating conference to conference. Discussion ensued about the point of contact being responsible for relaying messaging to the board and reinforcing board decisions to their conference. A few edits were made to the document relative to verbiage. A motion was made to approve the adjustments to conference rep duties. Motion approved.

All in favor: (all present)

Opposed: n/a

-WSLA programs have been slow to follow league rules and steps at the beginning of the season, specifically relative to rostering teams on Crossbar at the start of the season. A motion was made to enforce a \$500 fine for programs that fail to upload their roster per handbook regulations. Motion approved.

All in favor: (all present)

Opposed: n/a

-HS game forfeits. WSLA is looking to change the handbook to reflect a score change relative to unreasonable forfeits (teams that make no effort to reschedule a game). The score change will grant the winning team the maximum point differential to affect the power rankings accordingly. A motion to adjust forfeiture verbiage in the handbook to include a 7-0 score for the power rankings. Motion approved.

All in favor: (all present)

Opposed: n/a

-Discussion ensued about out of season rules and handbook verbiage. There may need to be updates within the handbook but MK will meet with Lyn to gain better context for why the current verbiage was included.

Board Member Updates

Toby Halbert is working to take on past board member, Suzanne Replinger's, at large role. He will run point on high school power rankings. They are to meet to discuss power rankings and its algorithm ahead of the December board meeting.

Season Topics

12U – WSLA is working to build a solution relative to creating a pause after a goal to better support time for subbing and keeping track of goals relative to a mercy rule. Board members are working with USA lacrosse reps, membership and WWLOA to find the best rules solution for spring 2026. This is ongoing and will be finalized by the January meeting.

Committee Items

Rules Committee: Tony reported on behalf of Holly. A Tacoma player petitioned to play with UP and it was denied by the rules committee.

Operations Committee: in a holding pattern as they wait for new rules interpretation in December.
ACTION ITEM: Build 'cheat sheets' for each youth program

Events: Events committee has not met relative to voting on adjustments to the Rainier Cup event being combined with the championship event – finals to be played at Starfire. Moving the event poses issues for the Eastern Conference team having to travel east to Seattle multiple times within the timeframe of a two weeks. ACTION ITEM: Events committee to meet to vote on Rainier Cup.

Strategic Planning Committee: Tony performed pre-emptive research on our 2015 strategic plan. There's potential to invest in software and/or outside help to guide (Planned Perfect) WSLA through building a strategic plan. There are three options – 1) Yearly software to develop a place for all our ideas to be housed 2) Yearly software and guide to support strategic plan 3) 3rd party 1-time payment to develop a strategic plan. Developing a strategic plan will be ongoing and the committee will meet to discuss which option is best to move forward with, if any.

Next Meeting:

November 13, 2025

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm