

Date/Time: November 9, 2017, at 6:30 PM

Location: DLA Piper, Houston, TX

Attendees (19): Glenn Reitman, Tim Bohdan from TXLOA, Scott Jackson and Chad Points from Pearland, Matt Johnson from Katy, Chad Muir from HYLAX, Deanna Reitman and Ed Torriero from Panthers, James Phillips and Ernest Webb from Roberson Middle School, Ben Barnes from Pershing Middle School, Christian Zaleski from Pin Oak Middle School, Mike Lee from SBMA, Celene Buffington and Theresa Borman from Friendswood, John O'Rourke from The Woodlands, Jack Henderson from Baylax, and Ray Self and Chani Barton from Richmond Grizzlies

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:32 PM.

Discussions

- The group discussed dues, which will be impacted by the post-season costs (playoffs + all-star games), whose locations are yet to be determined. Playoff sponsorship deal expired in May, 2017, but GHYLA will need to renegotiate a new contract.
- Rules will be agreed upon by a unanimous board consent form.
 - Concern about the number of penalties
 - Quick restart will induce many “delay of game” penalties for violation of the 5-yard rule on the restart.
 - Crosse dimensions. Tim explained that NCAA 6” minimum is less restrictive than the NFHS 6.5 minimum width, so you can use any stick that meets ball rollout and throat width dimensions. Doctored sticks will be called illegal regardless.
 - No shot clock for GHYLA.
 - Stalling rules. 30-second count. Get it in/Keep it in during last two minutes for team ahead with a 1-4 goal lead.
 - One-handed stick checks are not allowed in GHYLA due to a safety concern.
 - Teams should read the actual NCAA Rulebook and the THSLL Waivers and the GHYLA Cheat Sheet. This would constitute the entire set of playing rules.
- League realignment – get rid of multiple conferences and switch to North Conference and South Conference to reduce complexity.
 - Two conferences would require a huge number of mandatory conference games, especially for large playing divisions with a lot of teams.
 - Some prefer to keep three divisions.
 - Depends on number of play-off eligible squads in each playing division.
 - Tim suggested 6-8 conference games per season. Only have a 9-week season. Don't want first few weeks to have conference games, if possible. Glenn suggested 4-5 conference games would be even better.
 - Playoff selection is affected by conference standings, so it matters.
- Playoff Tournament
 - One weekend or two weekends?
 - Season starts the last weekend in January. No games on either weekend of Spring Break. No games on Easter weekend. January 27-28 would be first weekend of season. April 14-15 would be final weekend of the regular season.
 - Might consider the high-seeded team
- Schedule (these are the Saturdays, but obviously Saturday/Sunday are OK for each weekend):

- January 27 - Weekend #1
- February 3 – Weekend #2
- February 10 – Weekend #3
- February 17 – Weekend #4
- February 24 – Weekend #5
- March 3 – Weekend #6
- March 10 – SPRING BREAK – FIRST WEEKEND
- March 17 – SPRING BREAK – SECOND WEEKEND
- March 24 – Weekend #7
- March 30-April 1 – EASTER WEEKEND (no games on Friday-Sunday)
- April 7 – Weekend #8
- April 14 – Weekend #9
- April 21 – GHYLA PLAYOFFS WEEKEND #1
- April 28 – GHYLA PLAYOFFS WEEKEND #2
- May 5 – GHYLA ALL STAR GAMES
- Will there be 4U playoffs? Lots of support. A few people dissented. General agreement to have 4U playoffs with greater GHYLA adult supervision at the playoffs. Schedule was motioned and seconded. Motion passed.
- Thursday, January 4, 2018, GHYLA scheduling meeting from 7:00-9:00 PM at DLA Piper Law Firm, Houston, Texas. Deanna will send out a spreadsheet in December to get a feel for how many playoff and non-playoff eligible teams there will be.
- Friday, February 16, 2018, is the due date for playoff rosters. This gives the coaches time to determine which players belong on which squad. Generally, this deadline is designed to occur on the Friday that is one month before the Friday of Spring Break for Houston ISD.
- A player can never be on more than one play-off eligible roster.
- Player boundary eligibility waiver is a form and a process. Parent turns it in. Both clubs must sign the form. The process is designed to eliminate free agency for players. There is an appeal process, but this is used only as a last resort.
- GHYLA purchases Directors & Officers (D&O) Liability Insurance annually to cover the board members for their decisions.
- GHYLA elections were held.
 - President – Glenn Reitman
 - Secretary – Kay Amendola
 - Treasurer – Mike Lee
 - VP 8U – Christian Zaleski
 - VP 6U –G.L. Van Dyne
 - VP 4U – Chani Barton
 - VP 2U – Ed Torriero
 - US Lacrosse Rep – Jeremy Platt
 - Coordinator/Scheduler – Deanna Reitman w/help from Shelley Boyle
- New GHYLA programs, who will be provisional members in their first year of participation:
 - Atascocita – provided it certificate of incorporation and 501(c)(3) letter; they have three fields in Humble; zone is clearly defined in 5 zip codes feeding Atascocita High School.
 - Roberson Middle School – 1500 Southridge Road. Is a public school in Spring ISD is directly next to Westfield High School. All players must attend Roberson. Spring students not attending Roberson technically would not be able to play for Roberson's school-based lacrosse team. Ernest Webb (713-504-1641, ewebb@springisd.org) and

Coach Phillips explained their school and team background. The school is funded by the J.J. Watt Foundation.

- The 2018 GHYLA budget was discussed.
- If you want to host playoffs, submit your bid to Glenn. He will send an RFP for Championship weekend and for the All-Star Game.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

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