

GHYLA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 1, 2016
1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 2800

ATTENDEES

Glenn Reitman – Fort Bend Panthers and President
Deanna Reitman – Fort Bend Panthers and Scheduling Coordinator
Kay Amendola – Pin Oak and Secretary
Korin Brody – FYLAX and Vice President of 2U
Theresa Borman – FHYLAX
Jack Henderson – BAYLAX
Joe Watson – Klein Lacrosse
Brit Chapman – Memorial Knights
John Gilbo – Katy Cavaliers
Kevin Stokes – Magnolia
Chani Barton – Richmond Grizzly
John O'Rourke – Woodlands Lacrosse
Christian Zaleski – Pin Oak and Vice President of 7/8U
Rich Pastore – HYLAX
Chad Points – Pearland
Tim Reaney – Cy-Fair Ironmen

TREASURER'S REPORT

Increase in Registration fees because we did not receive the same level of corporate sponsorship.

Steve Paulson is currently calculating the new 2017 fee schedule.

Steve will collect the additional fees at the Scheduling Meeting on January 4th.

EMERY WEINER

Emery Weiner wants to join GHYLA.

Proposal: Have them join as non-playoff eligible if their goal is to get more games. Glenn Reitman will talk to Emery's Coach, Zach Fry, about their goals. We will vote on this during the January 4, 2017 meeting.

ARBITER

Background for Decision

The decision was made that we MUST use Arbiter for the 2017 season because it is the only system that assigns officials. This is the ONLY system for assigning officials.

The High School Association uses Arbiter. The advantage to them is that they have fewer games and only one person does all of the data input. There was a suggestion by the Officials Association Representative that we could use a different system.

Proposal: Find a compatible system to work with Arbiter to make things run smoother. Ask US Lacrosse about other options.

GHYLA and Arbiter

Playoff Eligible and Non-Playoff Eligible Teams

When providing the teams that are Playoff Eligible and Non-Playoff Eligible, please err on the side of inclusion. Once it is in system, you cannot change it. Arbiter does not allow for easy deletion of teams.

Scoring Games

The Home Team is responsible for inputting the game results after each game within one or two days after the game.

Suggestion: Have a designated score person to input all data. Fort Bend Panthers has one person, if you need to draw on an organization already doing this.

Standings

Playoff standings will be sent out to each division Vice President to help determine playoffs.

Action Items:

1. Determine frequency of distribution of playoff standings.
2. Build system to aggregate all scores. Arbiter does not support this function.

Scheduling Coordinator Roles

Action Items:

1. Set up organization in Arbiter. (You will receive an email from Deanna via Arbiter.)
2. Create Arbiter account.
3. Get familiar with Arbiter and use dropdown menus. Be very careful when using the dropdown menus.
4. Once you've input information, it is difficult to delete it.

Note: Arbiter uses a dropdown menu system. Scheduling Coordinators will need to go through the following menu:

Begin with selecting GHYLA
Drop down Division
Drop down Conference
Home team enters game results into Arbit

CRITICAL DATES

Date	Event
January 4	1. Scheduling Meeting 2. Playoff Format Due Action Item: Each Division VP will determine their own Playoff Format and present on January 4.
January 28	1. Season Opening Day Note: You may play games prior to January 28 if desired.) 2. Arbiter Set Up Deadline
February 15	Rosters Due
March 11 – 18	Spring Break Note: Officials are available if games are played.
April 14 – 16	Easter Weekend
April 22 – 23	Playoff Weekend for 4U at Houston Christian
April 29 – 30	Playoff Weekend for 6 th Grade and above at HYLAX South Campus
May 6	All Stars at Camp Sienna possibly Action Item: Deanna will check on availability of Camp Sienna.

ALL STARS

History

Last year, only teams who were Playoff Eligible were able to nominate players for All Stars. There was some backlash.

2017 Season

If Playoff Eligible team doesn't make playoffs, you only get 1 player for All Stars.

There will be a snake draft by position. All-Star Coaches will select the 23 for the team.

Unresolved: When are All Star Rosters due?

SCHEDULING

Scheduling Meeting is on January 4th. We will have several different meeting rooms for conferences to determine schedules.

Note: Make sure that ALL teams play everyone.

Playoffs

Playoff format for each division is due on January 4th at the Scheduling Meeting. The goal is to determine a standard format in each division that will last a few years.

By-laws dictate that each Division VP determines playoff format.

Special Note: Each team must play every other team in your conference in order to be eligible for playoffs.

Suggestion: Division VPs talk with Jeremy Platt regarding format based on the research he did for the conferences.

Wild Card Difficulties

We haven't used wild card in two years. Wild Cards didn't work because people did not enter their games. In addition, you must consider Wild Card with strength of schedule.

History is that it is very subjective. VPs had a difficult time with it because they had to go through records not captured in Zebraware.

Questions to Consider

What is optimal size for 1-day tournament? 12 teams? 16 teams?

Last year, there were 16 teams over 2 days. It made for many games and very long days.

ALL STARS

Division Vice Presidents will present All-Star format on January 4th at the Scheduling Meeting. Currently, it is unresolved on how many picks there will be for each team.

Proposals

There were several suggestions and proposals for how to determine All-Star Teams. They are as follows:

- Other coaches nominate x number of players from other teams.
- Picks based by ranking (1st place got 7 picks, 2nd place got 6, etc.)
- Division VPs do snake draft and do rosters.
- Do not tell kids that they were nominated until they make the roster.
- All Stars be from Every team, even if they didn't make playoffs.
- Two players from each Playoff Eligible team, even if they didn't make playoffs.

WAIVERS

Explanation

Children play where they are zoned. When they want to play elsewhere, a parent can fill out waiver form that indicates the reason why they want to play for another team. Both the Home (zoned) Team and the Accepting Team must sign the waiver to encourage communication between neighboring teams.

There are approximately 4 waivers received annually.

Zones

There is a map on the GHYLA website that has where all teams are zoned.

Suggestion: Place this map on your organization's website to show your zone.

Process to Appeal

If the Home Team doesn't sign the waiver, the parent may appeal. They will present it to the GHYLA Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may overrule.

GRADE DIVISIONS

Proposal: Individual grades versus 7/8, 5/6, etc.

How will we grow divisions?

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

As you are meeting with your teams and parents, share the message that we are a community. We are competitive. We play with respect. We don't want to have any incidences like we did last year. Please be respectful to everyone else. We are all outsiders because our sport is not baseball or another UIL sport.

Raise parent incidents if they occur.

OFFICIAL'S REPORT

Number of Officials

Starting with 100 officials this year. There are a few on injured reserve.

Training

Training for new officials will be in December. There are 15 new officials. The new officials will begin refereeing games at the 4U level.

Feedback is important to them to help them improve.

Last year, there was a complaint that new officials didn't know the correct score.

Feedback

Officials want to be rated. Please score them on Arbiter. If you give low scores in Arbiter, please comment to provide specific formative feedback.

Team Book

Every team must have a team book at the score table. The book should include the following information:

- Copy of roster
- Emergency plan
- GHYLA statement
- Statistics
- Game Scores

Referees need to read the GHYLA statement at the beginning of each game and sign off on scores in both teams' books.

Suggestion: Coaches sign off on scores also.

COACHES

The quality of coaching in Houston is getting better and better.

Please be on the lookout for training opportunities for your organization's coaches.

Last season

Fort Bend Panthers held an 8-session training program. They brought in teams from New York. They did not get as much support as they needed or would like to have had.

It began in June with eight 1- 1 ½ hour sessions. Parents and coaches learned how to throw and catch. They estimate it takes seven months to get new coaches up to speed.

Upcoming Coach Training

There is a training session for coaches in January 2017. Please see below for details:

Millon Winter Camp

Date: January 21 & 22

Times:

Saturday – 9:00am – 4:00pm

Sunday – 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location:

Camp Sienna Fields
7725 Camp Sienna Trail
Missouri City, TX 77459

Action Items:

- Please invite your coaches to join and learn from Mark Millon and help assist players at the camp.
- If you would like them to volunteer to help coach, please directly contact Deanna Reitman at fbpantherslax@yahoo.com.

PROPOSED UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5/6 B PLAYDATE at Cy-Fair during All-Star Weekend, May 6
- Possible 4U Playdate at Cy-Fair on May 6
- 4U Non-Playoffs at Katy on May 6

WEBSITE CHANGES

Please contact Kay Amendola at kay.amendola@gmail.com to make changes for your organization on the GHYLA website.