

Minutes from Commissioner's Pre-Season Meeting on January 29, 2013

GLAAAC Board Members present: Jeff Bunker, Jackie Harrison, Joe Weiss, Nikki Blanche, Ron Kolbe, Danny Markley

12 Full members present; 4 Associate members present.

Commencement of Meeting @ 6:42 p.m.:

- Minutes from last meeting were read by at-large member Nikki Blanche. Motion made and seconded to approve.
- Treasurer's report read by Joe Weiss
- Old Business: Officiating and the "stalling rule" imposed @ 2012 Junior Playoffs; GLAAAC talked with County and was advised that new vendor has contract for refereeing for 2013 season.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Moving up/down in Conference: GLAAAC decided that only feasible way is on a case-by-case basis, i.e., one teaming doing a "swap" with another team.

a) There was a question about a B+ conference for Middies/Juniors - that is not an issue.

b) Question: what about a team who is really good in regular season moving up but the coach does not want to. President responded that the decision should be up to the Commissioner.

c) Question: can we have A- and A+ teams? Joe Hayden would need to address, but the general thought was that there are not enough A teams in the County.

2) Middie Playoffs: Arden Commissioner spoke and stated it "felt" like GLAAAC had "caved" to the previous referee vendor in doing away with the playoffs. He was advised that the Board had discussed this and the new officiating regime, and advised there would be a possibility of revisiting this issue for the 2014 season.

3) Junior Playoffs Format: GLAAAC Board has decided to make this a “big event.” Would potentially have semi-finals on one day followed by finals on another day, all at AACC. Would solicit sponsors, signage, vendors, and have announcements. Less intrusion from parents. T-shirts designed and paid for by sponsors.

4) Senior League: John Carty, the Commissioner, not able to attend but asked through the President for organizations to provide field space. Would need 4 hours a week in Severna Park, 4 hours per week in Broadneck, 4 hours per week in Annapolis, and 2 hours per week in Generals Highway area. He wants time frame of 5-7:30. Bowie fields offered up by Bowie Commissioner.

5) Player Eligibility to Participate in Rec. League: President explained County rule that a high school player is not eligible to also play in rec league. Davidsonville Commissioner then gave background info about an 8th grader who lives in Calverton and attends the Calverton School. She played on their HS team last year as a 7th grader and now wants to play rec while also playing for the same HS team. After much discussion, motion made by Davidsonville and seconded by CYLA to allow the girl to play. Motion was soundly defeated as no other organization voted in favor.

6) Player Transfer Procedures: President brought issue of recruiting up and threw out for discussion. Discussed doing away with 3 player rule and encouraging Commissioners to discourage transfers in. Davidsonville Commissioner addressed issue of player who can't make her community's A team going to another organization and playing on their A team. SRYA Commissioner asked if the decision to allow outside players could revert back to the Commissioners. Various solutions tossed around and discussed. It was decided to ask all the Commissioners to be diligent in policing the 3 player rule and reviewing player release forms.

7) Bilderback Day Volunteers: Brief explanation of Bilderback history given by President. Advised email would be forthcoming soliciting for volunteers.

8) Solicitation for Secretary and Vice-Treasurer: Lyn Shoop (Davidsonville) nominated and approved for position of Secretary. Sean Finelle (SCYA) nominated and approved for position of Vice-Treasurer.

9) New Rules: a) Arden asked if we can have referees keep the time again. Broadneck asked if the referees can announce the time after each goal. Motion made and passed for referees to keep the time on the field.

b) Broadneck stated that more training is needed for Sticklette coaches (issue of parents yelling at coaches, coaches not knowing which team to call fouls on, etc.) Bowie Commissioner suggested one coach take ½ of the field with the other taking the other half. General decision was to leave as is - this is a way to train the coaches. Coaches should agree at beginning of game how to referee.

c) Stalling: it is the GLAAAC Board's decision not to make any rule concerning stalling. Commissioners should discourage generally.

d) Start of Season: April 6, 2013.

e) CYLA Charge-Up Tournament: March 23. Pee Wees, Middies, and Juniors.

10) New Referee Vendor Sue Diffendorfer: Promised "transparency, access, and U.S. Lacrosse rated officials. Melissa Coin of U.S. Lax will be providing a training session for all coaches at all levels. There will be high school kids on Pee Wees, adults and high school kids on Middies, adults on Juniors. Will use Arbiter to assign all refs, and we were advised that coaches/Commissioners can call Sue at any time. Her main concerns are with parental behavior and coaches knowing what they are doing. Refs will wear black and white stripes; fees will remain the same. If only 1 ref shows up, she gets 1 ½ pay. Sue is under the Womens' Officials Organization (WOO).

a) In Pee Wee, if there is a major foul, there will be no direct shot.

b) Pee Wees and Middies never play short if a Yellow Card is issued - a sub must enter the game.

c) Any intentional check to the head will result in a red card and ejection from that game. The player will NOT be suspended from the subsequent game. If, in a subsequent game, that same player receives ANOTHER red card, she will be ejected from that game and suspended for the subsequent game.

d) No cards issued to spectators. Coaches MUST control them. No cards issued to coaches for parents' behavior. If the coaches don't control them after repeated warnings, the game will be ended.

e) Officials keep time; coaches keep penalty time.

f) Sue will set up a mandatory coaches' meeting first week of March.

g) Sue advised a Positive Coaching Alliance Course is being offered for all coaches on 2/09/13 from 10-11:15 a.m. at St. Timothy's School in Baltimore. Cost is \$15 for U.S. Lax member, \$20 if not member. More info @ greaterbaltimorelax.com.

h) Sue can be reached at (410) 329-1991 and email @ 1suediff@gmail.com.

i) Minimum age for refs is 16, and they can sign up to ref through Sue. If coaches want access to Arbiter, can contact Sue.

Meeting ended @ 9:45 p.m.