



APPROVED

WSWSA Executive Board Meeting
November 7, 2011

Present: Linda Rimmer, Bonnie Darch, Heather Bornhorst, Karrie Hildebrand, Stacy Fox, Phoebe Russell, Judy Simone, Wendy Fletcher, Diane Clark

Absent: Hilary Crisman, Micki Gould, Joey Guesman, Janet Slauson, Bernadette Noonan, Marisa Ruhter, Mary Gager

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm

Approval of Minutes

Phoebe Russell moved to approve the meeting minutes from April 4, 2011 with no corrections. Karrie Hildebrand seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Officers and Commissioners Reports

President

The WSSA AGM is in January so please think about nominees for this coming years awards (Barney Kempton Award, WSSA Lifetime Player Card Award). USASA asked Linda to chair the recreational player's committee so think about what USASA can do to help our leagues grow. Linda will also lead the women's symposium at the mid-year meeting for Region 4. There was great success at the national meeting. WSSA is planning a coed tournament in Lacey in June.

Vice-President

No report

Treasurer

No report

Secretary

The 2012 schedule is defined and will be posted on web site and sent to the Executive Board.

Commissioners

No report

Old Business

Vacant Positions

There are three vacant Commissioner positions and Linda and Bonnie propose to realign teams with the remaining Commissioners so that there are only nine Commissioner positions. Karrie Hildebrand motioned to reduced the number of Commissioner positions from twelve to nine. Wendy Fletcher seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw Committee

Gilli Mitchell volunteered to help Heather Bornhorst and Janet Slauson review the bylaws.

New Business

Proposed League Changes: Age Brackets

The intent of the proposed changes to the age brackets is to allow younger players who cannot compete in the Open division due to the level of play to participate in our league. In past years WSWSA has tried to create an Open Division III but has not had success.

The proposal was to change the Masters Division from Over 30 to Over 25, and to allow up to three players on each team in the Masters, Classic and Gold Divisions who are within 3 years of the age limit. A survey was sent to all the team managers in the league and the information was compiled by Bonnie Darch with the following results:

- 71 teams were surveyed and 33 teams responded (1 of 10 Open teams, 13 of 18 Masters teams, 10 of 25 Classic teams, 9 of 16 Gold teams, and 0 of 2 Platinum teams)
- 24% supported the proposal, 64% opposed the proposal, and 12% did not respond. Some of the supporting teams favored the idea, but were concerned with a five year change. Most teams did not support the three underage players portion of the proposal.

The survey results identified that there was no support for either proposal. In addition, there was much discussion amongst the board members identifying that enforcement of the underage player provision would be quite difficult. There were several comments from Commissioners and attending team representatives regarding the possibility of revising Masters to Over 28. Heather Bornhorst motioned that we should resurvey the teams for a proposed revision that would redefine Masters as Over 28, and then based upon the survey results let Linda Rimmer and Bonnie Darch make the decision if we are going to implement this change for Spring 2012. Wendy Fletcher seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Bonnie Darch will send out the results of the survey to the team managers and conduct the resurvey.

Proposed League Changes: Day of Week

Over the years WSWSA has received many complaints that each age bracket plays on different night of the week from season to season. The intent of the proposed revision is to define a set day of the week for each age bracket that is supported by field availability.

The proposal was to change the nights of play to the following: Open on Wednesdays, Masters on Thursdays, Classic on Tuesdays, Gold on Wednesdays, and Platinum on Mondays. A survey was sent to all the team managers in the league and the information was compiled by Bonnie Darch with the following results:

- 71 teams were surveyed and 33 teams responded (1 of 10 Open teams, 13 of 18 Masters teams, 10 of 25 Classic teams, 9 of 16 Gold teams, and 0 of 2 Platinum teams)
- 66% supported the proposal, 15% opposed the proposal, and 24% did not respond. There was a lot of support for making the night of play consistent year round, but there were also several comments as to which night of the week was better for their team.

There was quite a discussion regarding field availability (Youth teams have a lock on many fields so we may need some Sunday games the first year), and concerns with the Kitsap teams and weekday games since there are no fields with lights. Karrie Hildebrand motioned that we should revise the day of week as proposed starting with the Spring 2012 season, and if there is limited field availability then schedule games on Sundays. Wendy Fletcher seconded the motion and the motion passed with one no and one abstention. Bonnie Darch will send out the results of the survey and the Board's decision to the team managers.

Winter Chill 2012

The tournament is scheduled for March 3-4 at Starfire. Heather Bornhorst is Committee Chair with Linda Rimmer and Stacy Fox as Committee members. Once the field payment is confirmed we will post the tournament information on the website and begin taking reservations.

Transgender Player Policy

There were questions being asked if WSWSA had a policy regarding transgender players. WSWSA does not have a policy, nor does WSSA and likely USASA as well. The State of Washington does have a process for changing your gender on your driver's license that requires a physician's signature. Since WSSA uses the driver's license as the basis of your information for your player's card, Linda Rimmer will ask if WSSA could check current driver's license if there are complaints regarding a transgender player.

Good of the Game

None.

Stacy Fox motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Heather Bornhorst seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approved: 4/16/2012
Heather Bornhorst, WSWSA Secretary