

ACYLA Board Meeting

February 5, 2013
New Hope Ice Arena

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. and introductions followed.

Present: Michael Charles (Co-President); Laurie Ripplinger (Co-President/Equipment Mgr), Julie Carpenter (past President); Kelly Thompson (Equipment Mgr); Carol Zehrer (Secretary); Kent Zehrer (Treasurer); Jim Ojala (Coach); Andrea Anderson (Girls Lax); Karen Lysne (Fields); Tony Johnson (Coach).

Approved the 1-4-13 minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Communication's Update:

- With registration open and clinics being announced, more emails will be coming in. Mark Palony will continue to monitor.
Action: Mark Palony will advertise the New Player clinic (2/16) in next week's Sun Post, and run the "registration open" notice for the next 3 weeks.

Webmasters Update:

- Spring Registration - Both spring/summer and summer –only is open on the website for boys. Girls registration is ready to launch as soon as we're ready to pull the trigger.
- Mark Lucas has had some difficulty with Robbinsdale schools getting the flyers into elementary envelopes. He will be dropping them off tomorrow and get them out to the kids yet this week.
- Still working on volunteer background checks.
Action: Mark Lucas – reformat the website to create two tabs -- one for boys, one for girls. Girls contact will forward emails directly to Andrea; backup will be Mark Palony.

Old Business:

- **2013 board meeting schedule**
 - First Tuesday of the month for the remainder of the year at the New Hope Ice Arena.
Action: Michael Charles forward the schedule to Mark Lucas to have posted on website.
- **Coach background checks**
 - We have created an account through the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) and the registration is up on the website as:
To coach a team for ACYLA, perspective individuals are required to register, have a current US Lacrosse coach membership, and a valid background check. Therefore, in order to complete your registration, you must provide your membership number or follow the steps provided to apply for one. You will also be directed to the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) website to complete a background check. NCSI will return a "green light" or "red light" result to ACYLA from the background check. Individuals that receive a "red light" result will automatically be rejected for coaching positions for Armstrong Cooper Youth Lacrosse. Background checks are valid for a period of 2 years.
Cost: \$23.75 (Will be reimbursed upon receipt of a "green light" result)
 - Head coaches will be mandatory. We cannot background check anyone under 18, so most high school student will not need checks. We should probably require all Dad coaches and anyone over 18 who has contact with children to

have a background check. Volunteers and team parents should also be checked because they have access to players' personal info.

- Kent recommends all background checks be reimbursed by ACYLA. If a person gets a Red light, we do not offer them a position nor reimbursement.

Action: Michael, Laurie, and others meet off line to discuss US lax membership fee requirement and reimbursement as well as Level 1 certification.

- **Winter workouts**

- The sessions are currently ongoing, are well attended (36 total this year), and Aaron of Homegrown is pleased with the result. All those who registered have checked in except one. All the 8th graders are together in one group and nearly all are ACYLA kids.

- **Apparel and uniforms**

- Michael talked to Kristin at VSA about signing contract for multiple- year business. She's putting together pricing and samples of a sublimated shirt and bottom for both boys and girls. Sublimated fabric is lighter than full jersey but heavier than a t-shirt. She is coming in cheaper than All-Star.
- Also have quotes from All-Star, Northstar, and Champlin Athletic, although it is difficult to compare apples to apples with everyone choosing different brands and styles.
- They all three want to have our spirit wear business as well.
- We need to figure out the numbering system if we move to a standard design. Some numbers will become available as players "retire" from the program.

Action: Michael and Kelly will get samples and meet with their contacts to finalize quotes from vendors.

- **Clinics and camps – New Player, Girls, and Coaches**

- New Player Clinic: Saturday, February 16, 10 am – noon. Mark Lucas flyer getting out to schools this week. Ross Brower & Kevin Whiteis have started preparing for this event.
- Girls Clinic: Bill Moir, AHS Girls HS coach, is interested in doing a clinic and may have his assistant coach, Katelyn, helping out. Possibly reach out to Cooper contacts. We have the RMS gym available on 2/16, noon-2:30; however, there is a girls hockey conflict that day and Andrea is not available. Alternately, we're looking at the weekend of 2/23 or 2/24. The only additional cost would be \$125 insurance for a different day; gym costs would be the same.

Action: Andrea find a photo from a former AC girls player and forward to Mark Lucas to create the flyer.

Action: Andrea contact Jennifer Bridgeman to schedule a RAS gym.

- Coaching Clinic: Boys & Girls
In process – coaches will be meeting Saturday at New Player Clinic to discuss how to set this up.

- **Tournaments:**

- **Rochester Rumble in the Bubble-** Betty spoke with Ben Boldt. This is a climate controlled dome with field turf at Rochester Regional Stadium to be held April 6-7 – they are hosting a **U13** Tournament & **U15** Tournament (limited to 12 teams in each age group). Each team is guaranteed six mini-games played Saturday and Sunday. Registration Fee: **\$200**. Entry Deadline: **March 15** (*Ben said if we register 4 teams and have to pull any out, we have until March 15 to get a full*

refund. After that the refund would be half the fee.) They plan to add more hotels (hopefully with breakfast) in a week or two.

Action: Betty - book 4 teams – 2 U13 teams and 2 U15 teams. We may or may not get our teams in order by the April 6-7 tournament. If we don't get enough players, we'll cancel a couple teams by the 3/15/13 deadline.

Action: Laurie - look for hotel block.

- **Grand Rapids GR Lax Shootout** – Betty is having difficulty contacting organizer, Brad Gallop, for the May 4-5 tournament.
 - Julie thought the info on this typically comes out late.
 - Julie will push Joel (AHS Boosters) to determine if AHS will send a U15 team of ninth graders.
 - Leaving a team of 7/8th graders behind last year was not a popular choice; plan on sending all the kids. Not sure if there will be a U15 and U13 bracket.

Action: Betty -Book a block of rooms at the Sawmill, unless you can find something better.

Post Meeting Addendum:

This information is from Betty who talked to Brad about the GR tournament. He said that there is no penalty if we register 2 teams at each level and then have to drop one at each level because of less interest (this is due to their great relationship w/ACYLA--- thanks Julie!). However, the website is still not updated and at this point there doesn't seem to be a way to easily get registered.

There is also a concern with hotel rooms---they are few and far between. There is a large religious event the same weekend and most rooms are booked. Brad is trying to get some resorts to open early (TBD). Betty plans to talk to him again soon for an update on room blocks.

Action: Betty continue to look for rooms and work with Brad on this tournament.

- Betty will research new tournaments being organized in Wisconsin or Upper Midwest.

New Business:

- **Change of registered office**
 - As part of the process to receive exempt tax status, the Board needs to approve change of registered office.
 - Proposed change of registered address to 4346 Ewing Ave N, Robbinsdale (Michael); motion made, seconded, and carried.
- **Changes to Articles of Incorporation**
 - Approve change to Articles of Incorporation, Article 4 – The Purpose to include the phrase “assist youth 18 and younger.” Motion made, seconded and carried.

Action: Kent - Submit change of registered office to the State of MN (online; no charge).
Kent - Submit annual renewal of ACYLA as a non-profit (online; no charge).
Kent - Submit amendment to Articles of Incorporation by mail and include \$35 filing fee.
Kent - Submit Form ST16 (Exemption from State Sales Tax) to the MN Department of Revenue.
- **Parent meeting**

- The Parent Meeting was held in mid-March last year to allow for most families to register. We are looking at hold this year's meeting on Saturday, March 10, 3:00-4:30 pm at the Crystal Library on Rockford Road.
- Regarding selling used equipment at the meeting: Play it Again Sports was less than hospitable, and Way to Go Sports was non-responsive. ACYLA still has some items that we need to sell/give away.
 - Action:** Laurie – send meeting invitation to entire distribution.
 - Laurie - check with Crystal Library if it is okay to sell used equipment during the meeting.
 - Laurie – Call Kim Olson for the AHS swap and a contact at Dick's.
 - Laurie - See if there is a starter kit at All-Star or Sport Hut for new players.
- **Website content management – what to post**
 - Action:** Mark Lucas - put meeting agendas only (no minutes) under Documents on the website.
- **Youth girls program, email address (girlsacylax@gmail.com), and fees**
 - The average cost for most programs is \$225 per season, which covers MSS Lax fee (refs, association fee, administrative fees) plus uniforms and field costs. Michael is okay at \$225 base rate; \$425 two-season to be the same structure as the boys. Girls must also have a US Lax number.
 - Andrea currently has 16 Grade 5/6 girls, but more communication needs to be made available to the Grade 7/8 girls.
 - Blast email going out to boys soon to say that registration is open.
 - Action:** Mark Palony - Put additional info in this email to have others forward to any interested families that we have a new girls program this year.
 - Action: Andrea** - Julie suggested calling the middle schools for permission to have a high school girls lunch-time recruiting effort before the clinic.
- **AHS boys lax program ad**
 - Karen Berg has approached us for advertising for the AHS boys lacrosse book. We will use the same ad for all future advertising requests.

Optional Topics: Postponed due to lack of time.

- MBSLA scheduling meeting 2/23
- 2014 grants - Hennepin Youth Sports Program, US Lacrosse AED & PE Programs
- Branding efforts

Adjourned: 8:42 p.m.

Notes submitted by Carol Zehrer

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 5

7:00 pm

New Hope Ice Arena, Meeting Room 1