

PROPOSED MEETING MINUTES

Date: 11.5.22
Time: 10 AM
Location: Butte, MT

Call to Order: 10:05 AM

No Roll call – sign in roster

Camden Walters, Jeremy
Comstock, Kevin Terry, Nathan,
TJ Gionet, Brad Townsend, Bill
Stoddart, Dan Carrol, K. carrol,
Stephen Crass, Steve Amish,
Brynn Schwarz, Kirk Brown, Dane
McCollim, Ethan Petro, Joni
Petro

1. Approve the minutes from the last meeting, October Brynn (**Motion**) Second Jeremy No opposed
2. Treasurer Report
 1. No change from last meeting
 2. Sports Engine hasn't posted – Check with John
3. Secretary Report
 1. Nothing to report.
4. VP Report
 1. Nothing to report
5. President Report
 1. Nothing to report – absent
6. Kevin Terry Nomination
 1. YVL nomination – Spartans second
 2. Discussion:
 1. Good perspective with someone coming from MLOA
 2. Only way to grow is a more wholistic approach – common goal/vision and a lot of communication.

VOTE:

All in favor - None opposed

7. Team Registrations
 1. Motion to close registration on Jan 15th with blackout dates provided at the same time– Motion - Brynn, second by Nathan
 2. Discussion
 1. Anyone can register up to that date
 2. Teams bring team numbers – provide weekends that won't work for hosting/etc. so it's all available at the same time (blackout dates, field conflicts, etc).

3. Brynn motion for blackout dates for Jan 15. Second by Bill (Bozeman)

8. Registration fees

DISCUSSION:

1. MLOA fees to increase for 2023 season by 10%
2. Treasurer reports that budget won't be impacted
3. Can keep the same as 2021-22 without impact to budget
4. Won't have 5k impact to budget from scheduling

Bill moves to keep fees the same, Brynn second

MORE DISCUSSION

5. Why discrepancy between D1 and D2
6. Fewer games, smaller team sizes is the reason why

DISCUSSION:

7. When to open registration?
 1. Date to open registration- who is opening registration?
 2. Open as soon as SportsEngine is ready to go
 3. Idea to spread more responsibilities across the board to share responsibilities
 4. Work to get access to entire executive board for SportsEngine

VOTE: One opposed - Dane McCollum regarding discrepancy between D1 and D2

SCHEDULING

DISCUSSION:

Who is taking part in scheduling? Reps/coaches/etc.

One of most important things this organization does (Kevin) form a committee with a draft ASAP after 1/15 deadline to bring to coaches meeting with several versions to make it work and speed things along.

Need meetings leading up to scheduling meetings – girls and boys game can schedule separately – girls games specifically has an issue with officials – girls and boys youth are never together except for Missoula – as many 3 person crews for boys games as possible- often spread across 3 or 4 cities on same weekend and spread too thin.

Scheduling boys HS season is what needs to be scheduled still.

Baller (Bozeman) volunteered for scheduler- need to confirm

Committee – need rep from officials to work as closely as possible

style meetings not phone calls- need a Zoom account that can utilize the account for larger calls.

\$5K set aside last year – Committee selects scheduling person and perhaps pay?

Recommendation that it's a volunteer position. Takes a lot of work from everyone involved.

Desperate to get schedule done last year – no guardrails in place and didn't match what got done.

Maintaining schedule through season is the tough part – setting schedule is easy part. Why can the schedule be more set year to year – girls stays with girls youth – why it works better than boys.

Should we go back to the Jamboree style schedule?

Fields and officials are the most difficult issue – include a few games that compete at a youth tournament – fields already lined, officials already there and good chance for youth.

Three locations/ Girls/ Boys youth and select HS games/and exclusive remaining HS teams – more predictability and better utilize resources. How to utilize weekday nights?

MOTION TO CREATE COMMITTEE:

Motion by – Bozeman- second by Brad (Glacier)

Brad, Kevin, Cam, Joel- committee members

DISCUSSION:

Glacier only had 6 games – reached out to programs directly, and lots of games against Missoula not equitable from last year

Two timeslots with two games on two fields A/B C/D A/C B/D

Focus on allocation of resources- youth have not locked in their needs and can collaborate with youth to make this happen on jamboree style.

Need to start looking at expanding season as it grows in a 2 month period – need to look at going into June.

Because of the way that HS tournament works – if youth are going to play they have to leave the state to play. Becomes a problem and the weekend after Memorial is a lot of HS graduations, etc.

Goal is to grow to 15/16 teams in the state

VOTE ON COMMITTEE: none opposed, motion passes

WINTER COACH MEETING/SCHEDULING MEETING

In person with optional Zoom 2nd or 3rd weekend in Jan – committee will go back and fix based on objections/etc. and bring to next board meeting for vote so it can get to officials directly after Feb 17th MHSLA board meeting to Feb 15th.

Jan 21st is coaches meeting without officials.

DISCUSSION:

Move to talk about Blake's submission

DISCUSSION: Every team is on the rules committee. Blake had an open forum to provide during rules committee and didn't take advantage. Question was asked about who Blake reached out to - Blake reached out to Spartans – per Spartans, his main goal was more responsibility for the state board to handle admin functions of the league so there isn't burden on local boards.

YVL – administration has slowed down growth – intent was to create secondary layer of administration from Blake and Matt – drags everything down.

Last 6 months have been asking programs for changes- request was placed on Slack channel for feedback

Kevin – Slack is a great thing, but brings up things at the wrong time. Can't be instantaneously dealing with issues at any time. Lynn Porterfield – wasn't USA Lacrosse that wanted the split necessarily – need to bring communication back together. Back then, there was growth and that has slowed because of the HS/youth split.

Billings had 4 separate boards – competing for volunteers, donors, etc.

How do we make it better for 5th graders into the future – how do we get growth back into the sport. Girls youth in Helena is lost this year –

Original document was pretty solid and non cumbersome – Blake and Matt complicated

Discussion regarding overall board for youth/HS

Move to per head vs per team

MOTION – set up committee that reaches out to MLA - Bill (Bozeman) first - Second – Brynn

DISCUSSION: how to provide equity in conversation time between HS and youth so youth gets “mic time” and not conversation dominated by HS discussions.

Discussion – Steve only one in the room who sees lacrosse being a HS sport –

Always going to be ebbs and flows – killing the sport

Brad (Glacier) - Mandatory to split to go to HS and we did – biggest mistake we ever did. HS board gave them assets –

Helena – work well with youth board –

MHSA – not opposed to adopting lacrosse – relatively inexpensive sport – some speculated that it is not far off from approval – others disagreed strongly – consensus seemed to be clear that the majority do not see it being an MHSA sport.

Helena – good collaboration between HS and youth – growth in the boys sport – why the drop in other cities, and why is the girls program not seeing the growth?

Growing the sport committee – need more members to join – have a current forum to discuss.

Bozeman – had Headwaters and Bozeman and recombined 3 years ago – youth board and HS board working better together now than in the past.

Each program needs to be able to figure it out by themselves –

Meetings with executive committees of each program – worth having a discussion at the city side on best solution moving forward. Work at state and local level to open communication between youth and HS boards.

Kevin – amend that we put together a date to discuss ideas on how to work together to open dialogues.

Do we mandate the recombination or not?

Recognize lane – youth/HS/elite to drive retention

BREAK

READJOURN – 12:21 PM

MHSLA BYLAWS

F – voting by proxy

DISCUSSION- need to substitute at time because of schedule – local board currently has permission to appoint whoever they want to vote – permission is allowed

MOTION – YEA -Bozeman - Second – Brad (Glacier) – None opposed

SECTION E, LETTER C – Remove “a proxy naming” from language

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: FOR – Unanimous AGAINST—none

MOTION – YEA -Bozeman - Second – Brad (Glacier) – None opposed

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: FOR – Unanimous AGAINST—none

N: SUBSECTION 4: Full accounting of all receipts

MOTION: YEA -Bozeman - Second – Brad (Glacier) – None opposed

N: – Remove “executive” from Secretary throughout document

DISCUSSION:

All strikethroughs for executive

VOTE: FOR – Unanimous AGAINST—none

MOTION: YEA -Bozeman - Second – Brad (Glacier) – None opposed

A, B, II, article 6, C – strike through under N

MOTION: YEA -Bozeman - Second – Brad (Glacier) – None opposed

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: FOR – Unanimous AGAINST—none

BYLAWS – update to current list of members

MOTION - Brynn SECOND – Brad

Glacier

Spartans

Wild

Last chance

Great falls

Butte

Billings

YVL

Rimrock

Bozeman

Cody

Sheridan (associate)

Jackson

Discussion – inequity with some communities having more votes than others –
Three years ago we had a regional rep vote for the region – Move discussion to subcommittee –
technically a rules change that needs time to discuss. Has Sheridan applied for full membership? Kevin
to talk to

VOTE: FOR – Unanimous AGAINST—none

MHSLA RULEBOOK

DISCUSSION:

Board of directors need to be updated
Verify that programs are correct

3.1 OVERSIGHT - Each program will operate under a Board of Directors who oversee eligibility and coaches/player conduct.

Remove “single”

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) – Second – Brad (Glacier)

DISCUSSION

VOTE: none opposed

3.2.4

Each program must have at least one certified official associated with their program (e.g. 1 for boys, 1 for girls). Enforce or remove. Additional issue is whether to listed referee was actually available for games. Add a minimum number of games or fine? Possible penalty of loss of home games the following season if your refs never get assigned? Refs work a min number of league games per season? Or financial incentive for clubs where refs work more than a min number of games.

DISCUSSION:

Certified official for both boys and girls – enforce or remove

Small programs can't field officials – discussion about registration rebate for incentive – favors bigger programs – MLOA standpoint – no MLOA overall recruiting officials –

Kevin did 44 games last year – unsustainable – accountability on the team and not the program – imperative to the growth per Kevin – needs to be accountability at the local level

Rep from each club to be a part of each MLOA call – youth is already onboard.

How do we keep retention? Mean age is 55 for officials.

MTLOA information for onboarding for officials

Not knowing who are the officials in the community

MTLOA needs to be out in front of this with incentives, etc.

Needs to be an incentive to have officials and minimum number of officials per weekend.

Current incentive – pay for uniform, pay for training, - are there other incentives

MLOA needs to be on Slack to communicate, etc.

MOTION: strike 3.2.4 – Bill (Bozeman) Second - YVL

VOTE: None opposed

3.2.5

FAILURE TO SUBMIT COACH'S PACKET – Failure of the Head Coach to attend the mandatory coaches meeting and properly submit a fully completed Coach's Packet will result in a \$200 fine to the program. Enforce or remove.

DISCUSSION:

Decided not to enforce last year – needs to be a deadline or no coaching – first warning if it doesn't

Amend to **“Failure to submit coaches packet is forfeiture of game until submission.”** Game can still be played.

3.2.5 Coaches packet must be submitted 21st. Penalties will be enforced beginning on March 1st. failure to submit coaches packet will result in forfeiture of first game with obligation to play.

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) – Second – Brad (Glacier)

VOTE: None opposed

5.2.8 Programs will not share players between the program's same divisions. Players can be named on a Div 1 and Div 2 team within the same program pursuant to 17.2.1 (D)

MOTION TO ADOPT NEW LANGUAGE – YVL- Second – Bill (Bozeman)

DISCUSSION: can move a player up but can't move between d1 and d1 after 4 games. Have to clock in for at least 1 minute per game. Can't play state in both levels – move kids up and down to see what they can do. Does it give an unfair advantage if you are dropping kids up and down. Current limit is 4 times. No double rosters at state. If there is a discrepancy – if there is a violation, it does not stop a game, etc. Comes back to board for decision for forfeiture.

This gets changes to 17.2.d Programs will not share players between programs same divisions. D1 players cannot play D2 games.

MOTION: Accept new language under 5.2.8 Bill (Bozeman) Second Brad (Glacier)

VOTE: no opposed

17.2.1.d **Players moving between D2 and D1 can remain on both rosters until their 4th game**

Players moving up from D2 to D1 can remain on both rosters until state rosters are due.

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second - Brad (Glacier)

VOTE: DANE YVL opposed due to safety – opportunity to play too many games

6.1 **A student must be enrolled in high school and in regular attendance. Regular attendance is defined as actual physical presence in the building (bricks and mortar.)**

Strike second sentence. Keep first sentence

MOTION: Dane – Second Great Falls

VOTE: no opposed

6.2 Students must be in grades 9-12.

Motion to strike – Bill (Bozeman) Second- Brad (Glacier)

Coach letter of approval, and parent request.

Remove High school – from 6.1 – “enrolled in school”

Remove 6.2

Remove 6.7

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

DISCUSSION: Butte doesn't have youth program to pull from – used to be able to play in 8th grade, then removed, now. Not mandate but allow local board and parent/coach to make the decision – not a state board decision. Is the decision to field a team or select decision for the best interest of the player.

VOTE to remove 6.2 and 6.7: Opposed Wild

6.3 **A homeschool student is eligible to play for *the program whose boundary their home address falls.***

DISCUSSION:

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

VOTE: None opposed

6.4

In the case of conglomerate programs, a student enrolled as a student and otherwise satisfying eligibility requirements would be eligible to participate.

removed- was stricken last year – no vote

7.2 When forming, a new program must establish and submit the defined boundaries.

Removes everything previous in 7.2 and 7.1

Motion – Bill (Bozeman) Second Brad (Glacier)

VOTE: Spartans opposed

7.4

DISCUSSION: Spartans is in favor of going back to boundary document – YVL – boundary document seems to be in conflict with US Lacrosse. Why billings is in a mess – 1 youth program feeding two other programs. Let the parent//player decide. Is it a numbers issue – Lynne talked about going to a city based model – only place that it worked was in Seattle. For the board to impose at a separate.

Boundary document was an item to move towards HS alignment – push to get seamless transition to MHSA.

MOTION: ADOPT 7.4 (2nd) item) as written: [Conglomerate programs will be restricted by the Association Boundary Documents](#).

Motion – Bill (Bozeman) Second Brad (Glacier)

Further discussion: remove current boundary documents

VOTE: opposed – Spartans, Bearcats, LCLC

(Ethan had to leave at this point – Cam’s notes below):

9.4. During the MHSLA season only contests scheduled against MHSLA sanctioned teams or teams sanctioned by their state’s lacrosse sanctioning body are permissible.

9.4.1 The High School commissioner may schedule non-sanctioned games so long as it is in the best interest of growing the game.

Vote to remove both

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

7.5 - no discussion needed.

9.6.1 - changed to read programs affected by a game cancellation will arrange for a makeup game if deemed necessary by required play.

9.6 Changes to a scheduled game must be reported to the MHSLA scheduler at least 48 hours prior to the originally scheduled date and time. Notice of less than forty-eight (48) hours change of time or location played will results in one of these two scenarios:

A) Games played within the same forty-eight (48) hour time frame will cause a charge to the offending team of \$100.00 payable to MHSLA. The payment will be split between MT-LOA and MHSLA. Exception to this rule is if game field is closed by city or school.

B) Games played outside of the same forty-eight (48) hour time frame will require full payment to the assigned officials unless officials can be re- assigned. MT-LOA will make a good faith effort to re-assign officials and will consider extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the teams involved.

9.6 Programs affected by a game cancellation will arrange a makeup if deemed necessary by required play

Vote to replace 9.6 with Programs affected by a game cancellation will arrange a makeup if deemed necessary by required play

Vote: Passed

9.7 .No games will be scheduled past an 8:00pm start time Monday through Thursday. (Repeal, 9.9 lists start time max of 8:30pm)

Vote to Remove 9.7

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

9.8 and 9.8.1 (Add) Unless agreed upon by participating teams and coaches

Vote to Add above language to 9.8 and 9.8.1

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

9.11 Remove (controlled scrimmages and practices) from 9.11.

Vote to Remove them

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

10.1 and 10.2 were ignored due to being talked about as part of the previous rule.

11 AWARDS (ADD) At the end of each conference game, coaches will submit to the Statistician 3 players and their position from the opposing team who stood out to them that game. These names will become the nominated players for Awards at the end of the season and Coaches will still vote. The coaches will be given the number of mentions the player received throughout the year.

11.1 changed to 1st team, 2nd team, and honorable mention and 11.1.1, 11.1.2 defensive midfielder was added for boys and girls making teams have 13 and 15 players.

Vote To Make above changes

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

There was discussion on this but It was not written down. Was left to the coaches to decide how they want to go about remembering people for all state consideration

11.1 change to 1st team, 2nd team, and honorable mention and 11.1.1 add defensive midfielder was added for boys and girls making teams have 13 players

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

12.1 - small portion was removed(except as noted in 11.1.2).

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

12.4.1. Programs, or any representative, or other person or entity associated with that program, are prohibited from engaging in any activity intended to induce a player (either directly or through the parents or guardians of the player) to remain in his/her current school or transfer to another school for reasons relating to athletic participation. Note – this rule does not apply/isn't enforceable in any city where the boundary document does not apply/exist, or where there is open enrollment (e.g. Missoula), as parents/students are allowed to choose schools, and should be allowed to choose programs. (ADD- to Prohibited) Any monetary payment to players, parent(s) or coaches for playing or recruiting

Vote to remove section 12.4.1

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

12.6.4 B Add B) Spectators are to remain on the opposite side of the field from the teams during games. Maximum number of 3 home team representatives and 2 away team representatives at the table

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

14.1(Either remove or enforce) Too many programs have coaches and refs with Chewing Tobacco on the field. It should be enforced. Chose to enforce

We chose to enforce this rule

17.2 All games to include playoff games will be played 10 v 10 (mens) or 12 v 12 (womens). 8v8 or 10v10 (womens) may be played if both coaches agree but the games will not count towards conference record or playoff record For both D1 and D2 teams.

Vote to Add suggested 17.2

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

17.2 B Interdivisional games are allowed but the statistics are not reported for D1.

Vote to add 17.2 B .

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

17.2.2

B) Boys' Uniforms: Helmets. This means that the color scheme must match. Boys helmets or girls goggles or headgear need not be the same model or brand. Regarding helmets, the shell of each must be the same base color and any accent colors must be team colors or neutral (black/white). NOTE:

C) Team's gloves should be team colors or neutral. One-year waiver for brand new teams.

17.2.2 (B&C) Remove both of these or say: It is preferred if teams have the same helmet designs and colors and white gloves but not mandatory. (It hasn't been enforced for years, get rid of it.)

Vote to remove 17.3.2 B&C

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

17.3 (Remove all) ADD: All fields will meet NFHS Standards.

This suggestion was not added.

17.6 PLAYER LIMITATION – Each player may play in twenty (20) contests, but in doing so may not exceed eighty (80) quarters (boys) or forty (40) halves (girls).

Any appearance in a quarter/half, regardless of the time played, will be considered as one (1) quarter/half. This is interpreted as meaning when a player steps onto the field and the ball becomes alive, that the player has played in one (1) quarter/half. Overtime quarters/halves will not be taken into account.

17.6 (Remove all) If we need to have something just say: no one can exceed 20 contests in a season. The reset is just confusing and unnecessary

17.6.1. Four (4) quarters or two (2) halves played against the same squad is one (1) contest.

17.6.2. Four (4) quarters or two (2) halves played against the same program, same day, different squads (i.e., Division I and junior Division I squads) is one (1) contest.

17.6.3. Four (4) quarters or two (2) halves played against the same program, different days during the same week, different squads (i.e., Division I on Tuesday, junior Division I on Thursday) is one (1) contest. If a player exceeds four (4) quarters or two (2) halves, that player is considered to have participated in two (2) contests (one (1) contest on each day).

17.6.4. A total of four (4) quarters or two (2) halves played against two (2) different programs, same day, different squads is one (1) contest.

17.6.5. One (1) or more quarters/halves played against two (2) different programs, different days during the same week, different squads would be two (2) contests.

17.6.6. Postseason games do not count against the game or quarterly season limitation.

Vote to strike 17.6 in its entirety and replace it with 17.6 PLAYER LIMITATION – Each player may play in twenty (20) contests.

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

17.7.3 - (New) Refs are assigned by MLOA and teams do not have a say in who refs their games.

This suggestion was not added.

17.7.4 - (New) Program refs are not allowed to officiate their programs games.

This suggestion was not added.

18.3 - (Replace) Teams must play each team in their conference twice to qualify for state championship weekend. (This creates easier scheduling and keeps appropriate stats).

This suggestion was not added. It was talked about as part of 18.4.3

18.3.3 - (Replace) Teams must play each team in their conference twice to qualify for state championship weekend. (This creates easier scheduling and keeps appropriate stats).

This was discussed and found to be unattainable.

18.4.2 - 18.4.2. Division II State Championship Weekend games will be played in a 8 v 8 format.(Replace) D2 state championship weekend games will be played 10v10

Vote to change wording to 18.4.2 Division II State Championship Weekend games may be played in a 10 v 10 format

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

18.4.3 Teams will be seeded and participate in a single elimination tournament with a consolation bracket.(this invalidates the addition proposed to 18.5.3)

Vote to adopt above wording

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

18.5 End of season playoffs and tournament.

18.5.1. Division I teams must have a minimum of 10 Division I games played during the regular season to qualify for playoffs.

18.5.2. Division I and Division II teams must have played all teams in their respective division at least once. (same as 18.3.3 above)

18.5.3. Teams will be seeded and participate in a double elimination tournament.

(either 18.4.3 or 18.5.2, remove 18.4.3)

Vote to remove all of 18.5 as everything is already stated previously.

MOTION: Bill (Bozeman) Second – Brad (Glacier)

Vote: Passed

Adjourn meeting – Motion to adjourn by Bill(Bozeman) Second – Brad(Glacier)