

MHSLA Meeting Minutes

Objective: Monthly Meeting
Date: 6/10/2025
Time: 7:30 PM
Facilitator: President Thesing
Members Present: Highlighted present

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82658596971?pwd=aRi3OQH6t8rYa7VUGmNUNyYBlAXkkku.1>

Meeting ID: 826 5859 6971

Passcode: T64bR2

Entity	Designated Representative	Other Representative	Other Representative
MHSLA President	Todd Thesing		
MHSLA Vice President	Pat Marron		
MHSLA Treasurer	Eric Sutherland		
MHSLA Secretary	Brad Koon	Kelly Koon	
Sheridan	Jeff Scheidemier	JR	
Billings Beartooth	Desarae Detling		
Billings Rimrock	Howard Ruzick,		
Bozeman	Rob Leder		
Cody	TJ Gionet		
Jackson	Tori Hederman		
Last Chance	Nathan Nachtsheim		
Butte	Dan Carroll		
Great Falls	Jeremy Comstock		
Missoula Wild	Jennie Grasser		
Missoula Spartans	Steve Crass	Elena	efurrow@hotmail.com
Northwest Avalanche	Chris McLaughlin		
Cheyenne	Colton Rasmussen		

1. Mike Muscatello- Montana League Officials Association President

Todd suggests creating a ref award, might encourage referring.

Mike reports- successful 2025 season. Suggests getting help from the MHSLA on some of the duties, to enable the MLOA to focus on recruiting and training, and less on scheduling/re-scheduling.

Seam Scally suggested having some input from MLOA and working together when initially building schedules. This year splitting East/West, most of the referees officiated the same teams. MLOA would like to be involved in the initial scheduling of games.

Todd asks- Could we have a trainer in each town? Mike- struggle with on field training due to late start to season, need indoor facility, and time without games.

Chris Mac- Suggested- start earlier, reserve fields earlier, continue to use google sheets to have the working document. Look at having John Noble manage it after it is initially built.

Mike M.- Maybe MHSLA could schedule the refs in arbiter. There needs to be pools of refs with capabilities so they can be assigned to level of play.

Coordinate Youth and HS games on the same weekends, so we can better utilize HS students refereeing youth games.

How to become a referee: mtloa@referee.com USA lacrosse member, online course, then on field work with trainers.

2. President's Report

Software:

Should we be using another software program? Should we engage John Noble to explore options looking at other software programs. If you have heard of any great software programs, email Todd or Brad Koon.

JR recommends the USA lacrosse system- the Sheridan Lacrosse league switched to this and they are very pleased with it.

- Idaho League- should MHSLA meet up with some of these Idaho teams?

Todd has all state awards that have not been claimed. Each club needs to email Todd with a good email address to send electronic certificates that have not been claimed.

At high school level need to figure out earlier how many teams we will have and reserve field space early.

Youth Meeting this Thursday night. Chris Mac- suggests youth stick with tournament weekends,

3. Vice President's Report

Pat- not present to report.

4. Secretary Report

- a. Comments on the 5/13/2025 MHSLA Minutes- no questions
- b. Fixed minutes on the website. Let Brad know if there are any issues.
- c. John Noble thanked the board for the season and payment of invoice.
-Nathan N. commented- if there was a central registration for all players in the MHSLA sports engine it would clear up a lot of the registration issues.

5. Treasurer Report

- Current Bank Balance: \$26,214.32
- expenses since last meeting:
- \$768.00 to Universal Awards for State Trophies
- \$800.00 to JDN IT Solutions for website management (uncashed)
- \$5,000 to Bozeman HS Lacrosse for contribution from state towards Hosting expenses
- Working on final invoices for ACTUAL OFFICIATING COSTS for the year.
- Prior to the start of the Season we collected \$53,955.00 in estimated Officiating Costs.
- Final bill from MLOA was \$67,266 (we have prepaid \$51,529.00 - outstanding balance is \$15,737.00) Working to solve discrepancy between #of games in Arbitor vs what our schedulers have told me.

6. State Board Meeting:

Steve Crass recommended separation of duties of executive board for MHSLA. Elena is going to reach out to Steve to get more detail about what he would like to see.

7. State Tournament BIDS

Todd proposes: All bids to host state tourney need to be submitted in November meeting, and voted on in January meeting. No opposition.

8. Rule Changes

NW and Bozeman have proposed rule changes. Todd proposed all proposed rule changes need to be emailed to MHSLA by July meeting, and to be voted on in the August or September MHSLA meeting.

May have to add language to bylaws stating rule change could occur at or before November meeting. Todd will look at the bylaws and will send an email about the dates.

9. All State Next Year

Todd proposes a weekly form for the coaches to give input that would potentially be more accurately. Rob Leder said this is not an issue with the girls- they have never had a problem with making all state selections.

Boys coaches like the idea of a shared file with accurate jersey numbers, or a working voting document.

10. NW Offseason Items- NW lacrosse has a list of items to work on in the off season. This discussion will be tabled until the next meeting. Meanwhile Todd will send out the document NW sent so everyone can review before the July Meeting.

Next Meeting: July 8, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

Meeting adjourned: 9:09pm
