

SSL Meeting Agenda - Meeting Date October 12th, 2022
Video Call - 7:00 pm

1. Roll Call
 - a. Call to order- 7:10pm
 - b. In attendance- Executive Board: Tripp, Kris and Melanie,
 - i. ER (Kristi, Ken), Gig Harbor (Steve H.), Hornets (Mark N.) N. Kitsap (John), N. Tapps (Steve Ne.), Olympia (Jennifer), Orting (Crystal), Puyallup (JR), Rogers (Matt), Sumner/Bonney Lake, (DeAnna, Laura), UP (Tripp), Vashon (Osha)
 - c. b. Absent: GK, Kitsap, Peninsula, Twin Cities
2. Review and approve minutes from the September Meeting
 - a. Secretary- Meeting Quorum-
 - b. Motion to approve- JR from Puyallup Motion to approve September meeting minutes. DeAnna from SBL seconds
 - i. Yea- Unanimous
 - ii. Nay-None
3. Board Reports
 - a. President's report- Tripp F.
 - i. I just received the handover from Chris a week or so ago.
 - ii. Introduction- I am active duty Air Force for 20 years. Moved to WA a couple of years ago. Married with 4 boys. 3 plays lacrosse. I have been involved in youth sports such as, soccer, baseball and basketball. I got involved with lacrosse through the kids. I want to make this the best experience for everyone such as players, coaches, parents and directors with clear communication and transparency. I'm open to feedback as we start moving forward with what went well last year and what we can improve to help your club. Feel free to email or call if you have any questions.
 - b. Vice President's report- Melanie C.
 - i. Introduction-I started with the Blackhawks board as the youth athletic director. As part of that role, I attended all of the SSSL meetings. When the SSSL secretary position became available, I was kind of voluntold to step into that position. I was secretary for a couple of years but when a president stepped down midseason, the VP stepped into the Presidents role and I stepped into the VP role. I'm no longer on the Blackhawks/GK board. I have 4 kids all who have played for SSSL. Two of my kids are now in high school but my younger daughter and son still play for the SSSL. My youngest is currently in 3rd grade so I may have a while with this league.
 - ii. Conversation with Lynn P. regarding K-2
 1. There's not a whole lot to adding the K-2 to our league. We as a league can decide if we want to have helmets and gear. It would be coach reffing so we don't need to worry about WALOA. We as a league would need to discuss how much we would charge for team dues for a K-2 team but WALOA dues would not be added for the K-2 program. If we chose to do full pads and gear for the K-2, we would follow the USL 8U rules. We would strongly recommend every K-2 player to be in an AED chest protector but since there won't be any officials officiating the games, we won't have anyone there enforcing the chest protectors.
 - iii. Document removing "Youth" from South Sound Website and Rules
 1. Please go through the document and the website to make sure it is all updated correctly.
 2. Steve N. (N. Tapps)- I noticed on the website, in the address it says SSSL.
 - c. Treasurer's report- Kris C
 - i. Introduction- I've been the treasurer for about 3-4 years. I no longer have a youth player. My son's in high school now. I was previously president on Rogers Lacrosse.
 - ii. Checking- Just under 13,000
 - iii. Update on Legal Resolution- Our only expense was for an attorney. We needed to go ahead and protect the club in the timeframe between now and when USA Lacrosse chose to list us as a covered entity for them. With the help of John Kenney, he

introduced me to Gary who is taking care of the case for us. Right now, there's a real possibility that USA Lacrosse says we were covered and they will reimburse us the legal fees, or at least a portion of the legal fees. We are in the process of getting all of the data to USA lacrosse for them to make their decision. We sent them all of the information already.

d. Secretary's report- Chelsea B. – Not in attendance-

i. Critical dates for 2023

1. Team declarations with Blackout dates
2. General meeting- Club Compliance Due- Club dues
3. MBO and Referee fees due
4. First Game of the season (10 weeks of games 1 bye week)
5. End of Season Tournament

ii. 2023 Compliance- Tabled

iii. Review Club Contacts-Tabled

4. Old business

a.

5. New business

a. WALOA Training- Melanie

i. Jeff Bambrick sent an email regarding upcoming referee training.

1. "To facilitate getting more officials on the field WALOA is providing classroom training for new HS level officials this Fall. The process for becoming an official is outlined at our website: <https://waloa.info/>The course will be presented over two days, Sunday Oct 23 and Sunday Oct 30, 10am-3pm. The location is Seattle Pacific University, Bertona Hall, at 107 W Bertona, Seattle, WA."

b. K-2 Proposal-

- i. DeAnna (SBL)- I wanted to send a proposal for the K-2 program. We have had a really good turn out in Sumner for our K-2 program and our parents would like to see more opportunities for them to play. We would like to play with the 8u rules, with the kids in full gear. We have been blessed to have elbow pads, gloves, helmets and chest protectors to rent out to families for a small deposit or fee. Our club doesn't really like to handle that so we said we will do gear rentals for helmets and pads and gloves but as a family, you will need to provide your own chest protectors. We would like to see the league take on K-2 because we all know that K-2 feeds into $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{5}{6}$, $\frac{7}{8}$. If we have kids starting at 3rd grade, we are fighting other sports like soccer or t-ball to transition those kids to lacrosse. If we can get them at kindergarten, it will help grow the sport. We would also like a jamboree or end of the season tournament for the K-2 as well. We don't start the K-2 team as early as our other teams. Their season starts after daylight savings, so about March. They practice about twice a week for about an hour and a half. In the 8u rules, you have a goalie and 3 field players or you can choose to have 4 field players and no goalie. We've had no goalie and 4 field players that have access to the entire field. They can work on those fundamentals of catching and throwing and it has gone really well. If there is a foul, the kid is taken out but another comes in so they are never playing man down. Since the games are 12 minutes halves with a 4 minute half, I would like to have two games back to back so they can have more game time. We use a standard lacrosse ball.
- ii. Jennifer (Olympia)- Our clubs concern for having a K-2 with gear is cost. The registration for lacrosse tends to be more than soccer, baseball or other spring sports. Then when you add the cost of gear, some families aren't wanting to make that commitment to this sport early on.
- iii. DeAnna (SBL)- We do reduce the registration fee of our K-2 program. We charge \$100 per player and that's really just to cover the field costs and uniform. It's only \$15 for USA Lacrosse for kids under 6 years old.
 1. If as a league, we could host a gear swap for clubs and families to come in and swap gear out.
- iv. Melanie (VP)- One thing Lynn and I talked about was having a K-1st with no pads and helmets and a second team with just 2nd graders with pads and helmets. If your team is

big enough to divide the teams. Since we are only playing with 4 kids. Also, if you have a kinder or 1st grader that is ready for pads and helmets, they can play with the 2nd graders. I know with my little guy, he was 1 of 2 second graders on his k-2 team and there was a definite skill/coordination difference.

- v. Steve Nemeth (NTapps)- We start our K-2 teams later in the season also. I'm totally in favor of a K-2 getting added onto the league. I think we are wanting to go away from pads.
 - vi. Crystal (Orting)- We have done a modified K-2. We have a smaller and poorer district. We have done ours for a fundraiser for our High schoolers. They run the program. We don't have pads and we use Pinky balls. We have them do drills and have modified games just here in Orting just to get a stick in their hands. We charge \$100, they get a t-shirt. We don't have the population out here to run a successful program and especially to ask them to get the equipment too. It would be a cost barrier for our club.
 - vii. Tripp (President)- For UP we started later in the season, it was 4 Saturdays in a row. It was skills and drills and then a couple of games.
 - viii. JR (Puyallup)- We are high school heavy, with our board as well. Our Varsity coach may recruit from our high school players for volunteer hours. I think we are having a hard time finding the right parents who are interested in lacrosse. We would want to keep the cost low for registration and gear.
 - ix. Osha (Vashon)- We really struggled fielding a $\frac{3}{4}$ team and I don't foresee us putting together a K-2 teams.
 - x. DeAnna (SBL)- If you have 6 players, you have an entire team. That gives you subs or if someone is ill and can't make it.
- c. Game Schedules- Melanie
- i. Steve (Gig Harbor)- With the 5/6 and 7/8 teams, we will out the Team Determination Form because we have a decent idea of who your teams are so they can be placed in the appropriate division. With the $\frac{3}{4}$, we just don't know because you may have 3-4 returning kids and the rest of the kids you have no idea who they are.
 - ii. DeAnna (SBL)- When we are doing the game scheduling, are we able to have all of our games at home one week so we can do a club get together.
 - iii. Critical dates for 2023
 1. Team declarations with Blackout dates- Monday, January 16th
 2. General meeting- Club Compliance Due- Club dues- Saturday, January 21st
 3. MBO and Referee fees due- Wednesday, February 8th
 4. First Game of the season (10 weeks of games 1 bye week) Saturday, March 4th
 5. End of Season Tournament- Saturday/Sunday May 21st/22nd
- d. 2023 SSL End of the Year Tournament
- e. 2023 Chris Hall Scholarship
- i. Melanie (VP)- Last year we were able to do a lot of Chris Hall Scholarships but with the legal fees that came out (may be reimbursed based off of USL) I'm not sure how many extra scholarships we will be able to do this year. Lets get that info out to clubs and families sooner than later, especially when clubs start opening up their registrations.
 - ii. Kris (Treasurer)- If USL does reimburse us, which I believe they will, they will free us up. We could probably do 2 Chris Hall Scholarships as is.
 - iii. Melanie (VP)- I'll send out the new Chris Hall Scholarship Application. It will be similar to last years.
 1. Steve (Gig Harbor)- Chris Hall was a gentlemen with the Orting Club. He was President for South Sound Lacrosse League and he was heavily involved with lacrosse in Western WA. He contracted cancer and passed away in 2017. At that point the board decided to honor Chris and what he stood for in lacrosse and started the scholarship. It is for all youth players in our league.
 2. Melanie (VP)- If selected for the Chris Hall Scholarship, Kris our treasurer will send the \$500 scholarship to the club for the club to distribute to the family. Whether that be for registration, gear, travel or whatever the family needs.
- f. Team Determination- Steve (Gig Harbor)

- i. Are we going to revamp how we determine the 5/6 and 7/8 for the divisions? Last year we tried to have two equal teams at both levels. We were told that we had to have an A division and a B division. Our 7/8 B team barely scored 10 goals the whole season. It was demoralizing for the players, making it hard for them to come back. We would rather have 2 B teams this year.
 - ii. Tripp (President)- Yeah. I'm open to that and how we division the teams and what that looks like.
 - iii. Melanie (VP)- You guys form your teams as you see fit as a club when you do the team determination forms. We may have an abundance of clubs thinking their teams will be in B but they may be placed in A. We may have 10 in B and 7 in A and a parent not understand why one of their kids has 9 games and the other only have 6 games.
 - iv. Steve (Gig Harbor)- Would you rather play the same team twice and have good quality games or would you rather have games where there's a huge score differential?
 - v. Melanie (VP)- I'm not sure that is something we could accommodate. If we have 10 teams in one division and trying to make sure everyone has a home game in a 9 week season. We will need to play around with the schedule.
 - vi. JR (Puyallup)- I would concur with Steve, I would rather see more competitive games. It helps develop the player too.
 - vii. Matt (Rogers)- We might be able to explore 3 divisions, once we have the team determination forms. Where that middle division may play both divisions. Then you can figure out the outcome of the season to figure out a 2 division End of the Year tournament.
 - viii.
6. Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 9th @ 7:00pm via video conference
- a. Motion to adjourn: 8:27pm