

South Sound Youth Lacrosse League

Annual Membership Meeting – January 25th, 11a – 2p
Location - Round Table Pizza – 7011 27th St. W. University Place

11:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks- 11:09am

- Introduction of SSYL Executive Board
- Roll Call of Programs in Attendance – Secretary Melanie Contreras
- Submitting Mandatory Coaches Compliance
- Treasurers Update – Invoices/Payment Per Team Registered- \$10,874.55

11:30 League Report & Progress on Priorities - President Mark Funkhouser

- Status of SSYL
 - ✓ Growth, Boundaries, and Competition- Last year we had 19 teams at 7/8 this year we have 22 teams. 5/6 - 23 teams. Now 22 teams. 18 teams for ¾ now 22 teams. Net gain of 6 teams with one club drop (N. Olympic). Start registration in Nov. sometimes keeping rosters still open to help fill teams. Boundaries- Puyallup is a moving target with moving boundaries. Kids going to STEM programs and private schools. Competition- Division A and B for 5/6 and 7/8. ¾ is regional, somewhat a moving target to make sure the younger teams don't have to drive that far but making sure it's an even amount of teams. Some teams may have two teams in the same division depending on the point process of determining teams. Competition is getting stronger with more teams and kids are getting better.
 - ✓ Improved BOD Attendance & Communication – Mandatory Meetings- Sept. (rules) Jan. (team dues) Feb. (Ref dues). Cancel two meetings in the summer. We started to track attendance for participation.
 - ✓ K-2 – Update- operating outside of our league. Sticks only, feeder programs. 4 programs close to each other that are committed to the younger ages with actual lacrosse. Those who have a k-2 program want to form a little league. No goalies, 4v4, with gear for safety. Some 2nd graders are playing up for registration and growth.
- Priorities
 - ✓ Player Safety – Injury Prevention, SafeSport, Lanyards, Audits- Focusing on safety. Injury prevention is number one. Concussions and unnecessary roughness are the concern. Jeff Bambrick South sound WALOA reps has been trying to work with VP on areas that need to be worked on. Concussion at end of year tournament: Afterwards there was some footage on the unnecessary roughness. It was helpful in seeing the dialogue and what happened. The year before an individual used a stick as a weapon and already had disciplinary restrictions, on file. He was suspended out of SSYL for a whole year to hold the child and coach's accountable. Help kids learn how to not get hurt and not hurt other people. No poking to the stomach. Some players are full of red stomachs from being poked

in the gut by the other team. Other team is taught how to do it or allowing it. We need to clean up the league from unnecessary roughness and mental stability. Don't allow kids to keep playing if they have a questionable head injury or hard hit. Know concussion symptoms. Take the helmet away. Have a doctor assess and clear the athlete. Make sure coaches know the rules, proper technique in how to not hurt each other, and condoning un-sportsman behavior. Teaching smaller players how to maneuver moves around bigger kids to protect self. Teach bigger kids how to body position to keep both kids safe. Safe Sport required in youth sports. It helps educate adults on how to approach children. No exceptions of adults on the sidelines with kids. We don't want kids taken advantage of. Adults involved with kids need to have all their SSYL requirements. Everyone with approved requirements, need to have a lanyard. Coaches who are minors, high school players that want to help is a gray area. They cannot be on the sideline coaching unless they have a lanyard. Recommend they have Safesport. Minor needs USL, safesport, CPR, background, cannot run practice alone. Youth AD would not be counted as a coach on the sidelines for a home game or if they are not on the bench. We will use the "honor rule" for high school kids coming for a day or two to help with specialties during practices only. Lanyards are required to have: photo of person, name, club name, usl #, position. If forgotten, that will be okay. The lanyards are mostly for non-certified members with teams during games. AD, President need to make sure both teams have their lanyards for home games and need to report teams who are not complying. Executive board to do random game for accountability. Referees will be watching for this too.

- ✓ Adoption of US Lacrosse Rules and Records Access- we are all required to use USL for our secondary insurance. Board has to be US lacrosse plus players. The Executive boards job is to make sure the other clubs are making sure they are doing their jobs. Gig Harbor has bylaws restricting club information being distributed to outside sources. Gig Harbors attorney is looking into it. Puyallup, regional rep for USL and Lin was able to help quickly.
- ✓ Inappropriate Behavior Coaching, Parents and Score Keepers- MBO's hardest issues are from coaches not understanding the rules, too aggressive, inappropriate language (tone), which leads to elevation of the crowd. Last year we had family scream and "coach" so loud that overpowered the coach's instructions. Clubs boards and field marshals have accountability to keep family controlled. Not refs or coaches. Coaches are trained to not have conversations with spectators. Score keepers need to understand their role. They may need to be screened for their temperament. No cheering or seeming frustrated. They are part of the referee staff. Audits will be looking for this. Priority list to help get this cleaned up.
- ✓ WALOA Referee Association, the MBO Program & Arbiter- Two years ago we didn't hold the MBO accountable with their paperwork. They are to evaluate the

refs and give them a score and help them with issues. Or their games. Last year we asked them to do 60 games (tracked). They also needed to turn in all their paperwork or they will not be asked to continue to pick up games. Nick Lyon, inputs all the info into arbiter (ref assigning website). Do we pay Nick Lyon more for the additional work like rescheduling games? \$1000 for coordination of refs currently. *Side note* Refs were running to their cars after games because they fear their safety. – Not Okay! Maybe have a coach or board member stay and escort the refs, especially for heated games.

12:00 Lunch Break

12:30 Game Rules Update – VP Chris Gerke

- US Lacrosse vs. NFHS
- Rule Changes Summary- Minimum age cut off for swinging up can only go up one grade.
- Coordination with WALOA on Points of Emphasis- per flyer handed out.

1:00 League Schedule

- Division Determination Process
- Distribution of Schedules and Review

1:30 Other Information

- Chris Hall Memorial Scholarship – no one applied
- Field Marshall Program- Per flyer Add MBO's to equal the amount of money we are bringing.
- Arbiter & MBO Program Update - fees due Feb. 12th Meeting
 - \$85 for MBO's per team.
 - \$50 for 5/6 and 7/8
 - \$40 for 3/4
- Clubs Providing Referees – 1.5/team
- Game Results Reporting- Send one email from all games within 24hours to the south sound email.
- Weather Related Reschedules- trying to not reschedule. Only weather permitted. Field struggles may need to just give up a home game.
- “Honor the Game” Star Fire Event – Not all stars, first you need to make sure the athlete is able to attend, not super competitive. No practices, more of an honor to be a part of it.
- End of Season Tournament – May 16th & 17th Enumclaw. May need to add a third day.

2:00 Closing