



**US Lacrosse - Oregon Chapter Meeting
Monday October 11, 2004
1600 W 4th Avenue, 7:00 – 8:30 PM**

MINUTES

Attending:

Ann Witsil
Doug Foster

Sara Roberts
Fred Zensen

Sky Goodrich
Kent Roberts

Brian Platz

Absent: Sam Sadtler, Ingrid Martens, Jen Larsen, Terry Vance, Tom Foster, Karen Rawson, Bill Lake, Jim Hammon, Amy Einstein, Andrea Shatz, Andy Croll, Salem/downstate representation

- 1. Call to Order.**
- 2. Approval of Minutes.** Minutes were reviewed and approved.
- 3. Segment Reports:**

Girl's Youth: Kent Roberts reported that last year's coaches have been communicated with to update the contact list and to make it available to the website. There are a few coaching vacancies for some teams. Kent will promote the Fall II Indoor League to parents and coaches and noted that his goal is to make sure that every team has coach and parent rep contacts.

Boy's Youth: In Bill Lake's absence, Sara reported that Bill had forwarded this segment's contact names to be posted to the website. Fred updated that Duncan Haynes was appointed Youth Officials Coordinator and that Steve Mann was Assistant Coordinator. Fred also noted that there will be one set of rules for boys youth teams unless both teams agree at the game to different rules for that game. This spring's team count could be at 12, some running 4+ teams.

Officials: Fred stated that USLA's aim is to certify more youth officials. There is discussion at USLA of using the approach that soccer uses to manage behavioral problems of players, coaches and spectators. This approach is to counter the "little league craziness" that can take over the game. Discussion revolves around use of a "purple card" that announces that the game is being played under special circumstances. If there is another behavioral infraction under the purple card, the game is immediately over. USLA is considering as a tool to give to Youth Official Coordinators.

High School Girl's: No report. (It has been learned post-meeting that there is an OGLA mandatory meeting of all high school coaches/parent reps on November 18 at Southridge HS.)

High School Boy's: Boy's high school (and youth) coaches' clinic and officials meeting is on Saturday, November 13 at OES from 9 AM to 3 PM. There is a LaxWorld social afterwards. There was discussion about current high school programs and anticipated participation by other teams including new JV teams at Medford and Bend. Vancouver is interested but can't play through OHSLA. Youth teams there are being told to start their own league and coordinate through the existing WA organization. Kent noted that there could easily be 4-5 teams formed there given the growing population and that several men's players have moved there (potential coaches).

Clubs: Doug reported that the Blue Collar team is folding and reforming and that the Portland Women's Club may be moving toward a split into two teams.

4. Coaching Clinics

Ann reported that Nike, USLA and the Positive Coaching Alliance have developed a relationship. The Oregon Chapter recently received a \$1000 grant for a coaching clinic. In initial talks with Nike, there is interest in hosting a January coaching event. Responding to Ann's questioning of the group what the interest in this might be for the different player segments, Doug said that the level needing the most attention, and should be attended to, is *youth*. Ann noted that this is Nike's interest as well. Kent added that this segment would likely be very well attended: last year 18-20 people attended a similar girl's youth clinic last year and could easily be more with better communications. It was also suggested that the clinic could also be marketed to high school coaches as a one-time event to learn about the PCA coaching philosophy. Ann said that OGLA may want to do its own event (another Porcella event like last year).

ACTION: Board voted to move ahead with planning a January coaching clinic/event with the Nike/USLA/PCA focus and participation. Emphasize youth, basic "coaching 101" and invite youth and high school coach participants statewide. Goal would be 40+ participants. Kent will work with Ann with the youth level and Bill will be contacted to work from the boy's youth side.

It was suggested that Beth Ames at U of O be invited to come up and help (from University of North Carolina, now at UO, and who has run summer youth camps). Doug suggested using the youth speakers list from the USLA convention last January to help build the program; also asking Nike who they sponsor at colleges to see if they can bring in coach talent as content speakers. Fred will help recruit.

5. Website

Sara summarized status of renovating the website. New content has been written about the Chapter, news and events info is being collected for posting, and Brian Platz had developed a new page template, which Brian showed to those attending. New navigation bars, new top banner and different colors are the graphic changes that will occur by the end of the month. The Board made suggestions about adding “camps /clinics” and changing the Chapter navigation bar somewhat, deleting one button. There is a lot of old news on the site, which will be removed in the next several weeks, replaced by new content, new pages and links. Adding advertising space was briefly discussed and generally agreed it should be pursued in the future.

ACTION: Sara will continue the website renovation with Brian and a local web designer/editor who will help post and remove items. Brian is out of town week of October 18, but content posting will begin. Goal for completion is by end of first week of November.

6. Treasurer’s Report

Sky reported that the balance in the Chapter account is \$3501.32.

Fred noted that all high school officials will be required to be USLA members and that the boy’s high school association will pay it, coming out of game fees. Fred added that for officials’ training, there is a fee for materials and for the training that goes to the Chapter; this could be the same for the PCA clinic to generate funds for the Chapter.

Sky brought up renewing the board policy of covering the Board on the insurance policy. It was \$385 last time; they may just need a new board list forwarded.

7. Membership Promotion

Doug mentioned that indoor league will put out the USLA banner and membership materials starting at games on weekend of October 16. Ann reported that Karen R. forwarded info to Ann from USLA on benefits of membership. Ann will find out at the Chapters meeting in Baltimore this month what other Chapters are doing about membership promotion.

8. Other

Ann is going to the Chapter Conference in Baltimore October 23-24. Fred, Doug, and Ann possibly going to USLA National Convention in Philadelphia January 14 -16.

9. New Business

The Washington Chapter has contacted Ann regarding possible collaboration on an event.

10. Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, IF NEEDED
7:00 -8:30 IN PORTLAND**