

Illinois Water Polo Meeting Minutes for 4/11/21

Attendance

Kyle Perry - President
Heather Serrano - Treasurer
Elizabeth Timmons - Secretary
Jeff Plackett - BOD
Rose Wimer - BOD
Carlos Ceja - BOD
Megan Brownley
Phillip Hoffman
Chris Cloy
Perry Korbakis
Nancy Kane-O'Brien
Eddie Pryztalski

1. Opening comments – Kyle Perry
2. Treasurer's Report – Heather Serrano
 - Taxes are officially efiled.
 - At this time, we do still have some outstanding checks and are waiting for them to get cashed.
 - All monthly fees are taken off the debit card so there is less need for reimbursements.
 - Money going out this year has been to pay bills, accountant, insurance, etc.
 - While we are doing ok financially right now, looking to the future, we need to make sure we get money coming in to be able to replenish that.
3. Reports:
 - A. All State Banquet – Elizabeth Timmons
 - At this point, we are considering a virtual event. Date would be June 8th or some time that week.
 - Elizabeth reached out to a friend who gave her some information about running an event like this and she recommended hiring an event organizer to run the zoom/other website call. This should help minimize technical difficulties as well as allow people to participate or be muted at the appropriate times.
 - Suggestion to send an email or use social media to see if we can have someone in the community do this job for us. Since we are a nonprofit, a volunteer could use it as a write off.
 - Will put together guidelines for what the job will entail and then send it out through Mike and Megan.
 - B. Photography – Tom Musch - <https://illinoiswaterpoloimages.wordpress.com/>
 - be sure to send photos to Tom's website!
 - Coaches, please share with parents.
 - C. Website – Jesse Zien
 - The website had 1,568 Sessions with 3,174 Page Views and a Bounce Rate of 42.16%.
 - Jesse is continuing to update the website and looking to do a major website overhaul, likely this spring. More discussion needed on this.
 - The website is having quite a few issues due to the aging build that is resulting in it occasionally crashing. Jesse has restored it from backups 3 times since our last meeting. It will probably get worse over time. He can manage it and is not too worried due to the desire to rebuild the site on the road map, but wanted to mention it.
 - Jesse commented that the Looking for Games emails are going really well from what he sees in the email box. If we want to add a page to the website it would be pretty easy to add. It would pretty much just pull the text of the email they send out and post it. We can also do a post each time we update it.
 - D. Player Recognition - Chris Cloy

- Chris is looking for someone to help out with awards this year with a new baby on the way (CONGRATS!).
 - Anyone who knows anyone or is interested themselves should please contact Kyle or Chris.
 - At this point, we have had enough of the season so we should be giving out all of the awards that we can this year. We will be emailing to ask for anyone interested.
- E. Hall of Fame – Jeff Wimer
- Rose updated from Jeff. Hall of Fame candidates from last year will be the same. This way we can honor those who would have been recognized last year.
 - If you have any nominations, please send them to Jeff Wimer.
4. Liaisons Report
- a. USWP Liaison – Midwest Board Members Present & ODP - Tim Daniel
- Nothing at this time.
- b. Chicago Park District - Beto Garcia
- Nothing at this time.
- c. College Programs Liaison - Ryan Castle (Carthage)
- email from Ryan:
 - 1. Carthage
 - despite the odds we have pulled off a covid free season so far. Next weekend we host the CWPA D3 championships, and thanks to our medical/facility staff we are even having limited spectators for all the teams. We have 7 freshmen this year (1 from AZ, 2 from MI and 4 from IL). We are and always be a midwest program, and if you have any kids you would like to recommend please let me know :)
 - We are looking to host any water polo events at our campus next fall. If any clubs or HS teams are interested in running a tournament, our facility is available, please reach out.
 - 2. NCAA water polo in the midwest
 - Still recovering from losing MonMouth, but Midwest teams are doing well. Wittenberg is having a great season. Michigan is poised to win the CWPA D1 at the end of the month (Champs hosted at Michigan May 1 & 2).
 - Augustana officially begins in the fall with Men.
 - We are planning on hosting a D3/D2 Midwest tournament in Cincinnati next year - Cincinnati is the midway point between the Eastern and Western teams from the Midwest.
 - We are hoping to have another college showcase tournament in Chicago in the near future, we just need a venue and dates that work for all the local colleges. We will once again also have a coaches clinic like we did in Fall 2018.
 - 3. NCAA water polo in the US
 - Most men's teams didn't compete this year. But we had just enough to meet NCAA requirements to have an NCAA Championship. UCLA beat USC in the champ game to win NCAA's. Bucknell represented the East Coast to NCAA's
 - Women's season has seen a few teams like CSUN not compete and then recently UCSB had to cancel their season. Only the Ivy League and SCIAC teams cancelled water polo this year entirely.
 - But on the whole we are up and running and ready to have various conference championships at the end of the month.
 - 4. College water polo
 - new recruiting service focused on water polo specifically - polovolo.com run and developed by Nikola Malezanov and Jim Staresnic from Pittsburgh. Highly recommend it for high school coaches to share with their kids.
- d. League updates - Jesse Zien
- AWP has sent out a preliminary email about participating in the age group summer leagues.

- Jesse is happy to run the league this summer, but will probably not be able to be on-site or officiate many of the games. He has contacted Joe Kamper (new AWP assigner) to confirm he will assign the IWP League.
- Jesse will be sending out information and especially looking at where we might be able to host games.

5. Bylaw amendment Vote for officers and BOD members: Current bylaw Article I – Name and Purpose Section 1. The name of the organization, incorporated as Midwest Water Polo and Aquatics Association (MWPAA), will be known as Illinois Water Polo, referred to herein as IWP.

Proposed bylaw: The name of the organization will be known as Illinois Water Polo (referred to herein as IWP), a state and federal not-for-profit 501(c)3.

- Kyle will send out an email about this for the vote.

6. IHSA update: COVID-19 Resources & Information

a. IHSA Season and IHSA State Tournament

i. <http://illinoiswaterpolo.net/ihsa-2020-21-water-polo-considerations/>

- Sectionals and state dates are now up there.

7. Old business:

a. Thank you to Jimmy Heard and Ian Davidson for their new rules coaching clinic last month. A video of the clinic can be see at: PART 1 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yuecAxQyJuM&feature=youtu.be>
Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3ht9AnQ6A0&feature=youtu.be>

- Links are going to go up on the website for anyone who might want to watch.

b. Thank you to Tim Daniel (Fremd, USAWP, Olympic Development, and NWCWP) and Megan Brownley (Hersey) for their presentation on the new rules which can be found at:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z_xXRkL3AYnoqmjJGcn1ikkuzZHaBR1J/view

c. Dave Perry Scholarship for 2021

- We are going to do the scholarship for 2021.
- We can't do the typical fundraiser because that is usually in person so expect some email blasts about how to apply or donate funds.

8. New Business:

a. Joe Kamper - American Water Polo league assignor.

- Joe will be helping to run the officiating side of the leagues we run for

b. Mike Cashman update:

- New email service has been beneficial and has streamlined the process for getting information out there and game requests. For coaches, it is helpful that people can't reply all and everything goes through one source.
- Still working on the newsletter to send out.
- Feedback for overall plan and discussing the website. Hoping to connect the website to the email with the same server. When something is updated on the website, please alert them so that an email can go out about it.
- Good stuff coming up social media wise.

9. Next meetings will be on Zoom: Sunday, May 16 at 7:30pm, Monday, June 14 7:30pm, Monday, September 20 7:30pm, and Monday, November 16 7:30pm. Elections will be held in November.

10. Closing Comments & Adjournment