

Illinois Water Polo Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2017

In Attendance:

Kyle Perry – President

Elizabeth Timmons - Secretary

Carol Macola

Sally Stelnicki

Tim Daniel

Rob Lindgren

Perry Korbakis

Jesse Zien

Lynn Castro

Tom Musch

1. Opening comments – Kyle Perry

- Welcome to 2017!

2. Treasurers Report – Ron Biamonte (not in attendance)

- Currently checks are going to Kyle because Ron has recently moved.
 - o That will be updated as soon as Ron is settled.
- For 2016, the scholarships checks were not sent because of a miscommunication.
 - o The checks were approved on January 1st, so they should be sent to the tuition office shortly for each school.
 - o This will not happen again in the future.
 - Some of the trouble is that colleges don't accept funding until 7/1 and the scholarship is given out at the banquet at the end of May or beginning of June.
 - Thinking of having the winners supply us with an envelop addressed for the school at the banquet so checks can get mailed on 7/1 each year.
- Summer clubs are all paid.
- Schools are currently looking for a W-9 when they submit payments for the high school leagues.
 - o Would be good to have a prepared form so this is easy.
 - o Kyle will talk with Ron about this.

3. Midwest Water Polo and Aquatics Association Executive Board Report – Rick Marsh, Garrin Kapecki, Jeff Wimer, Sally Stelnicki, Perry Korbakis

- Nothing to report at this time.

4. Reports:

a. All State Banquet – Sally Stelnicki

- Date has been set as Tuesday, May 30th.
 - o Diplomat West is venue again because of location and their ability to accommodate us as the only event, free parking for those who attend and not requiring payment up front.
 - o Kyle will check to ensure the ad book can be completed in time but does not foresee a problem.
 - All-State voting should be complete by May 22nd.
 - Deadlines for ads and All-State voting will be provided at the next meeting.

b. Player Recognition – Chris Cloy (not in attendance)

- Chris will follow the same format as last year.
- This year, coaches will receive several emails about voting, the banquet and the ad book to ensure participation of as many as possible.
 - o Currently we have a good list for coaches so we should be able to reach many teams with this important information.

- c. Hall of Fame – Jeff Wimer (not in attendance)
 - No updates this time, but we should have an updated running list for the Hall of Fame Nominees at the next meeting.
- d. Fundraising – Kyle Perry
 - Updated ad form for the banquet is coming soon.
 - Lively Bottle website
 - o We can have a website off the Lively Bottle website for IWP.
 - o Free shipping and the cost decreases as more bottles of the same type are bought.
 - o IWP will receive a percentage of the proceeds.
 - o Water bottle would include the IWP logo and everyone would be able to customize the rest of the design.
 - This brings up the issue of branding as we should have everything with the same logo.
 - Elizabeth is looking to see if there is a template of the wave logo in the IWP bin.
 - Want to have same logo on the certificates given out and the website.
 - o Want the website to be up by the start of water polo season (6 weeks).
 - Gary Radville will help us with promotion of the website. He is a member of the Hall of Fame and we are excited to promote his company.
- e. Referees – Perry Korbakis
 - Coaches and referees tournament on January 29th (THIS SUNDAY!!!).
 - o From 9am-4pm at Fenwick.
 - o Currently the presentation has been updated and includes a lot of good information.
 - o Guest Speaker = Sandy Searcy
 - She is the water polo person for the national federation and has been to our state tournament.
 - Training tournament information for February 10-12th is on the website.
 - There are a few other trainings coming up so be on the lookout for information.
 - Currently we have 100 referees which seems like a lot but because we have both girls and boys playing during the same season, we could have 80 sites hosting games in one day.
 - o Having 125-150 referees would be ideal.
 - If everyone brought in 1 ref, even if they can't work every day, numbers would increase so we could cover more games.
 - Coaches can help increase numbers by reaching out to players in college and encouraging them to give back to the sport and get involved by reffing.
 - Coaches need to be understanding of new referees as Perry tries to place them with more experienced refs but there are so many games, this can't always happen.
 - If we increase the quantity of referees, we will also increase the quality of referees.
- f. Communications – Lynn Castro
 - Currently Lynn is helping with getting Hall of Fame bios up on the website.
 - Lynn is also working on the New Posts section of the website:
 - o 4 girls' teams went to Florida last weekend for a tournament outside of Orlando.
 - This year, the tournament increased from 12 to 16 teams.
 - Florida teams are excited to play teams from Illinois.
 - o Looking for other tournament results to post.
- g. Website – Jesse Zien
 - Built up masters and club registry
 - Any job postings we have received are currently posted.
 - Website has been upgraded
 - o Current pages include photos, evens, results from tournaments, schedules, job postings, twitter, meeting updates, calendar of events and scholarship information.
 - o Want to make the pages more attractive and inviting to draw people in to the website.

- Kyle is working on the bios for Hall of Fame members.
 - o Nothing has been updated lately, but he is working on many deceased members biographies.
- We are still looking into figuring out how to access the PayPal account because we need a new password.
- Twitter is up and running on the website and Kyle is constantly adding content.
 - o Currently we have 258 followers.
- Wondering if we can check the number of hits on our website to see how many visitors we have.
 - o Could not do that before because it was a resource drain but now with the update, we should be able to do this.
- h. Photography – Tom Musch
 - Information about the website will be given out day 1 of games.
 - This way coaches have the information at the beginning of the season about how to send in photos for slideshow, ad book and IWP website.

5. Liaisons Report

- a. USWP Liaison – Midwest Board Members Present / Tim Daniel
 - Elections just happened:
 - o Miguel was re-elected as the president and most members were re-elected.
 - o While this is in the early stages, they are discussing splitting the zone.
 - IL and MO while MI, OH and western PA would be together.
 - Water Polo Planet
 - o There is new leadership at Water Polo Planet and they are reaching out to IWP in regards to sponsorships with the leagues we run.
 - Garrin Kapecki working on organizing clinics in the Chicagoland area.
 - o Wants to work with Tony Azevedo because he is currently retired and his wife is from Glenview.
 - o He comes to the Chicagoland area two times a year and he might be interested in organizing a clinic.
 - o Want the clinics to be all around the Chicagoland area so we can encourage developing teams along with more developed teams.
 - Jeff Wimer worked with him in the last few years so he would be a good contact to discuss logistics of running a clinic with Tony.
- b. ODP – Tim Daniel
 - Travel rosters have been announced for the February travel trip for boys.
 - o This is not the best timing with the boys' swim season state championship taking place at the same time as the travel tournament.
 - For the girls, the travel trip is March 10-12th
 - o This is the first weekend of games during the high school water polo season.
- c. College Programs Liaison – Gregg Emde (not in attendance)
 - He is really excited about getting the season rolling next weekend on the East Coast.
 - He is excited about a few Chicago players who are planning to be a part of next year's freshmen class so continue to promote McKendree with your players.
 - Parent of a current player has expressed how excited he is with how the boys team did this past season.
- d. Chicago Park District Liaison – Beto Garcia (not in attendance)
 - No current updates

6. League Updates – Rob Lindgren

- Age group league is up and running for the winter season with 6 teams.
 - o This has provided a good opportunity to get involved for players, new referees and parents.
- Coaches and Referees Clinic

- Need to find a date and get started on this ASAP!
 - Thinking of the first weekend in June or first week of league games.
 - Maybe switch the dates between March (the beginning of the high school season) and June (beginning of summer) to reach as many people as possible.
- Have plenty of speakers for a clinic like this.
- Also looking to have breakout rooms for specific topics that coaches are interested in.
 - Open discussion to bounce idease off of each other and people who are passionate about the subject will help to enrich the conversation.
- Thinking of including an event to encourage participation and socializing between coaches and referees.
 - Possibly a baseball game, race track or riverboat
 - Still looking into prices and accommodations.
 - Tim Caldwell has a connection to a hotel on the southside which could reduce costs for accommodations and banquet rooms.
- Could the entry fee for the league help cover the cost of coaches to participate in the clinic?
 - Looking into whether IWP could supplement the overall cost for the event.

7. Old Business

- No current updates

8. New Business

a. Carol Macola – By-laws Discussion

- Our by-laws were written at a different time (July 6, 2010) and we might need to re-work them or write new one so they fit more with the mission of IWP.
 - Legally and financially, what is best for IWP?
- Currently, IWP is a subset of Midwest Water Polo and Aquatics Association.
 - For MWPA, members can come from outside of Illinois and have control over funds raised.
 - Does IWP currently fit into this role or do we need to change this to fit in with the mission of IWP?
- b. IHSA has a new app to get schedules and information about every sport.
- c. NFHS rule changes due to IHSA by February 1st.

9. Next meeting

- Sunday, March 19th @ 7pm in the Fenwick library

10. Closing Comments & Adjournment