

Illinois Water Polo Meeting Minutes for March 10, 2019

Attendance:

Kyle Perry – President

Elizabeth Timmons – Secretary

Carlos Ceja

Jeff Plackett

Tom Musch

Carol Macola

1. Opening comments – Kyle Perry

- 2 weeks into high school season.
- 1 week of games in books with just under 500 games played during the first week. Very exciting to see so many games happening!

2. Treasurers Report – Ron Biamonte

- We are still working on a yearly report summary and hope to have it before the April meeting.

3. Board of Directors Report

- Board of Directors still needs to meet.
- In the future, the goal would be for the Board of Directors to meet and prepare their report before the January meeting.

4. Reports:

a. All State Banquet – Carol and Elizabeth

- We have Tuesday, May 28th set for the banquet at Diplomat West (Elmhurst).
- The cost information and flyers to hand out will be available at the April meeting.
 - This will include all of the sponsorship information.
 - This will also include the deadlines for purchasing tickets.

b. All-State Banquet booklet organizer- Heather Serrano

- Kyle and Heather have discussed the details over several phone conversations.
- Hoping to have the ad book information out ASAP.
 - This will include Heather's contact info for those that want to purchase an ad.
 - This information will be emailed to coaches and officials. It will also be posted wherever we can get it, including the IWP website.
 - Please help promote this at your school, club, organization, etc to help increase fundraising through purchasing ads.

c. Player Recognition – Chris Cloy

- Nothing to update at this time in regard to players being recognized but Chris is gearing up for the end of the season and All-Sectional/All-State voting.
- Chris added a goal that those who vote for the All-State team should be present at the All-State Banquet and recognized.
 - Could we add a page into the ad book with their names?
 - Could we recognize all of the sectional champion coaches to identify the coach with the school that won the sectional tournament?
 - Could we call up the sectional coaches of the year at the banquet?

d. Photography – Tom Musch

- Please make sure to promote and direct traffic to Tom's site for photos. These photos are what's included in the All-State Banquet slide show so the more teams that send in photos, the more teams get included in the slide show.

- e. Fundraising – Kyle Perry
- f. Referees – Perry Korbakis
 - Perry is always looking for new officials to contact. Please encourage anyone that you think might be interested to reach out to Perry.
- g. Website – Jesse Zien
 - Website should be performing better for google with the latest update that went through.
 - Traffic has doubled since the season kicked off.
 - Last 30 days we had 1,096 sessions by 873 users with 2,461 page views with 2.25 pages per session on average and a bounce rate of 57.76%.
 - Last 90 days we had 2,322 sessions by 1,807 users with 4,859 page views with 2.09 pages per session on average and a bounce rate of 61.76%.
 - Jesse is working on updating the weekly schedule to include games and tournament schedules on the website as well.
 - Jesse is also working on compiling an index of the high school websites with their schedules. This will hopefully go live at the end of the year to help with scheduling next year.
- h. Hall of Fame – Jeff Wimer
 - Nominations are always accepted and are added to the running list for the Hall of Fame.
 - At this time it was not reported that anyone was selected for this year's Hall of Fame class.
 - Hoping to get the word out soon if there were selections so that we can make sure everyone is aware. Should help with getting any ads in for inductees as well as making sure that they can attend the banquet.
 - Jesse and Kyle are working on updating more bios on the website and developing a Hall of Fame contact list.

5. Liaisons Report

- a. & b. USWP Liaison – Midwest Board Members Present & ODP - Tim Daniel
 - Tim has been in touch with Genai Ker about Splashball and bringing splashball to local swim schools. There is an opportunity for Genai Ker to come out and is looking to run a series of camps in hopes of fostering a new age group league.
 - Tim is looking for input about this in regard to what would be good weekends/times/locations. Please contact him (tdaniel@usawaterpolo.org) if you have any suggestions.
 - Naperville has a ton of 10U players currently and they would prefer mid June, Sunday or later on a Saturday
 - Carlos - JCC summer camp for 6th grade and under
 - 10U league this winter - 5 or 6 weekends
 - WC, NIPC, CAPC, Valentine
 - little to no cost
 - Coaches officiated
 - Schedule but teams could borrow people
 - Each set up was different (Stevenson, Fenwick, Br Rice)
 - A lot of fun and want to continue trying to grow this with the addition of 10U in the summer league
- c. College Programs Liaison – Laura Coffman (Carthage)
 - Carthage won first game vs Wittenburg
 - Looking for insight from her about what we can do to help grow her program
 - North Central College - Jeff is working on them to get a water polo.
 - With a bad pool, colleges are using local pools instead when they can.
- d. Chicago Park District Liaison – Beto Garcia

- Nothing to report at this time.

6. League Updates – Jesse Zien

- Summer league will have the same format as last year.
- Any suggestions for improvements will come after the high school season is over.
- AWP will still work with us.

7. Old Business

a. 2018 Year in Review

- Already up on the website.
- Highlights included:
 - Coaches/athletes of the year
 - USAWP awards
 - Highlight former IL players still doing stuff in IL

b. Awareness week

- March 18-24 and there is nothing that you are required to do.
- There will be a flyer going out to coaches and we hope that at a minimum, you will hang it up around the pool.
- Schools can participate in a fundraiser, can charge attendance, etc, but nothing is required. Something simple like putting the flyer on your tournament program to help promote would be good too.
- WE JUST WANT THE INFO OUT THERE!!!
- On the calendar, looking for Illpolo to promote as well

c. Training tournament was a success

- There were over 30 NEW officials trained and many experienced officials were there as well.

d. Water Bottles again for this year at the banquet.

e. Thank you Jeff for the recruiting talk.

- This was a great idea and should do it again to help parents and players understand the recruiting process.
 - Jeff enjoyed it as well and would be interested in hosting more.
- There were questions about whether we could digitize the presentation to use as a resource.
 - At this time there would need to be some adjusting to the presentation to make it understandable to someone who didn't come and receive the extra explanations from the presenter.
 - Perhaps we could create a video that we could post on the website?
 - A goal is to eventually bring a college coach in to talk to coaches as well.

8. New Business

a. 2019 Meeting schedule: Sunday, April 14 7pm, Sunday, September 15 7pm, and Sunday, November 17 7pm.

b. Zumo

- This is a new swim suit company that wants to get into IL market and looking to work with IWP.
- Currently a lot of places are working with Tread 365 which is local and Zumo is from CA.
- Zumo is the printing sponsor for the Ad Book this year (\$1000)
- They can also work with you as a sponsor for a tournament. This happened with Kyle at Fenwick's Dan Lynch tournament.
 - Zumo did the following for the tournament:
 - Redid the tournament logo
 - Created a banner around the table
 - Created signs for the tournament

- Put together the tournament flyer that included the schedule and their logo.
- Other ways Zumo could be used by IWP:
 - Have something they can give out at the banquet.
 - Maybe a towel?
 - Have them create a banner for All-Star Game for IL or CPS
- Do you have any ideas about how they can help us (IWP)?
 - Send any suggestions to KP

9. Next meeting will be at the Fenwick Library: Sunday, April 13 7pm

10. Closing Comments & Adjournment