

## Illinois Water Polo Meeting Minutes for 10/18/20

Kyle Perry - President  
Beto Garcia - Vice President  
Heather Serrano - Treasurer  
Elizabeth Timmons - Secretary  
Jeff Placket - BoD  
Rose Wimer - BoD  
Carlos Ceja - BoD  
Chris Cloy - Liaison  
Tom Musch - Liaison  
Tim Daniel - Liaison  
Jesse Zien - Liaison

1. Opening comments – Kyle Perry
  - Thank you for joining us. I hope you are all staying safe and healthy.
  - There are some parts of our normal agenda that we don't need to discuss right now because we need to see if we have a season first.
  - Our main goals for this meeting are to take nominations and then discuss what water polo stuff is going on right now so we can create a list to give to coaches that want to get something started.
2. Treasurer's Report – Heather Serrano
  - a. Plan to finalize the closing of old IWP accounts at TCF to consolidate all accounts.
    - Can finally say that all funds from the TCF general account have been moved and we have about \$39,000 in our account.
      - Still working on getting the rest of the Scholarship fund moved over (about \$8000) and Heather is hoping this will happen very soon.
    - IWP also received some funds from AWP that we weren't expecting.
    - Financially, we are currently in good shape with what is coming our way.
    - Everyone says THANK YOU to Heather for all of her hard work to make this all happen!
3. Reports:
  - A. All State Banquet – Elizabeth Timmons NO
  - B. Referees – Perry Korbakis
    - As always looking for new refs. Trying right now to figure out how to do recruiting and online training since there are no in person meetings due to Covid-19 restrictions.
    - Asking for help from coaches for recruiting new officials. Looking for coaches to help reach out to any graduates who are still in town because of the Covid-19 to see if they would consider officiating this season. While it might only be for this year and then they go to school, maybe we would be able to get them back when they return to the area?
    - For both coaches and officials, there were some big rule changes coming into effect this year and at this time, trying to figure out how to get the information out since there are not really any in person trainings.
    - Tim Daniel made a presentation about the new rules that includes a powerpoint and video
      - IWP would like to get this link up on the website as at least a starting point for sharing the information
  - C. Website – Jesse Zien
    - Nothing really new but the website is up and running normally.
    - Last 30 days we had 527 sessions with 917 page views and a bounce rate of 68.12%.
  - D. Hall of Fame – Jeff Wimer NO
4. Liaisons Report

a. USWP Liaison – Midwest Board Members Present & ODP - Tim Daniel

- Jesse and Jeff are running for USAWP zone board positions.
  - There is still time to nominate people for the midwest board.
- Right now all camps are virtual.
  - Holiday camp is coming up and they are still looking for nominations.
  - 2 weekend dates
    - Because this is virtual, it would be a pretty easy thing to try out as a coach.
    - Everyone interested can apply and they will select the people they want. They are looking for new people to join in and try to include someone from every zone.
  - If they are going to run the officials side too, this could be a good way to recruit some new officials and get them some training.
- All-Academic Teams lists have gone out.
  - IWP wants to recognize your players so let us know if anyone from your school or club is recognized and we can get that info on our social media.
  - You should also promote it on your school social media.

b. Chicago Park District - Beto Garcia

- Nothing at this time

6. League Updates – Jesse Zien

- At this time, we are waiting until we have a better idea of what we are allowed to do for the season.

7. Old Business

- Nominations for President and Secretary
  - Perry Nominated Kyle for president and Elizabeth for secretary
    - Jeff seconded those nominations
    - There were no other nominations made at the meeting.
- 20 IHSA Contact days through October 31
  - There are only a few days left and no one seems to think these might get extended.

8. New Business

- Suggestions for water polo? Who is currently running something and what is working?
  - Kyle is running high school boys contact days.
    - Covid Symptom check list & temperature check.
    - Kids swim only half the pool and back with 1 kid per side of the lane.
    - Passing in pairs, keeping the same partners whenever possible and keeping siblings together.
    - There is some shooting but drills are socially distanced with everything really spaced out. This means no true defensive pressure, but may have a shot blocker far away.
    - New drill that has players set up like foosball players. You are passing with your team and must make all dry passes without dropping the ball. Dropping or scoring is a turnover and causes a rotation of players.
  - 14U camp has started and is running for 1 month.
    - Basically is following the same guidelines and procedures as above.
  - Tim Daniel is running a couple mornings for high school boys.
    - Next week he will switch to the afternoons as girls swimming wraps up.
    - Currently, he is struggling with numbers and usually has 8-10 kids.
    - Has started to do 2 man zone shooting drills in order to engage more players.
    - Passing drill with 3 players on offence in a triangle with 2 defenders in the middle. Defenders are trying to anticipate the pass and knock the ball. If they do knock the ball, they swap with an offensive player.
    - His practices are a little more lighthearted than they would be during a traditional season to work with the current climate and allow a little socializing since the kids are

so isolated right now. In addition, with all the questions surrounding our high school season, there is no need to be super serious right now.

- Regardless, the kids are having fun and that is all that matters right now.
- Chris Cloy is running Saturday nights and Sunday mornings with high school boys
  - School district created a waiver for the kids/parents to sign to allow scrimmages.
  - Practices are consisting of shooting and shot blocking since not all signed the waiver and it is not mandatory for them to do so.
  - For any who did sign the waiver, they will run 3x3 scrimmages after practice and anyone who did not sign the waiver is not allowed to participate in those.
- Jeff Plackett - Boys' coach is getting high school boys together on Saturdays and Sundays.
  - In his district, kids can't do contact days if they are doing another sport so nothing for girls until 10/26. At this point they will only have a week to work with before the contact days run out.
- Mac Varilla of Chi Polo is running a 6 week fall session in Bensenville that started last week.
  - As you may know, most of the pools are down in the city. It's been really challenging to keep it a float this summer but we were able to make it work. I found pool time out in Northbrook and Evanston during the summer. The years of not having pool time with Payton-Jones definitely prepared me.
  - Currently no contact in training and more focus is on skill based and positional training.
  - They are using small groups of 8-12 athletes per training session & some virtual training as well.
  - They have incorporated a lot of best practice methods being implemented by USAWP & AWP.
- What is the current plan in place for the season? (Beto)
  - Jeff Plackett had a discussion with Perry Korbakis who has been in contact with Beth Sauser.
    - Currently there are two weeks before games can start in the new season format and normally games can start after one week. Perry said he would ask Beth about this to see if it could get changed.
    - IL HS Football Coaching Association is working on a proposal for what they want the season to look like and they will present it to the IHSA. Should we do something similar?
      - Jeff will ask about how this goes and let us know to see if it is something worthwhile for us to pursue.
    - With limits on who you can play depending on school (conference, geographic location, etc), how will the season shape out with games? If you play 30 games will you be playing the same teams over and over again because you are so limited in who can be involved?
  - Chris Cloy suggested that we wait to see what happens with basketball because we are on the same level of contact so we could expect restrictions or changes to their requirements would be similar to what we will see.
    - In addition, basketball brings in a lot of money for the IHSA so they will be working hard to make sure the season can happen.
  - Rose Wimer asked about splitting the boys and girls seasons and putting one into the summer season because of a lack of pool time and limits on the number of people on deck. If you can't have boys and girls practicing at the same time, a school would require twice as much pool time as before.
  - While there is an advisory committee and anyone has the ability to email her, Beth seems to only contact Perry Korbakis outside of our season.
  - Do we all agree that we need to put something together in case no one else does?
    - Would we create a committee to do this? WHO WANTS TO BE ON THIS?

- It is a good idea because we need to make sure our unique needs are heard by the IHSA because what we need is different than what happens in basketball.
- However, do we want to spend a lot of time on this and see no changes?
- Tim Daniel brought up the urgency of communicating a change like separating boys and girls seasons. This would need to be done ASAP!
  - IHSA might just say If basketball can get it done with both in the same season, water polo needs to find a way, but space is a bigger concern in the pool compared to a gym.
- Should we create a committee made of athletes so they are involved in the decision making process.
  - Kyle will discuss with the board of directors to see if they are on board with creating a committee or maybe having a representative for the high school students to go to who can bring their concerns to the group.
  - Everyone is welcome on the zooms and can voice their opinions so do they really need a committee?
  - Carlos Ceja strongly feels that because it's their sport, they should be involved in the decision making.

9. Next meeting will be on Zoom: Sunday, November 15 7pm

10. Closing Comments & Adjournment

- Any liaisons not interested or applicants who might want to join into this, please reach out to Kyle
- NCAA championship schedule went out and they will be in the midwest for girls in 2022 (MI) and 2025 (IN).
- We will meet in November and then depending on what we need, there might be a mid December follow up if needed. Date in December TBD.