

MINUTES
OF THE
MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION
LACROSSE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2011

A meeting of the Lacrosse Committee was held on February 17, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the MPA office.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Elkington, Jason Fuller, Robert Riley, Joe Schwartzman, and Jeff Thoreck.

LIAISONS PRESENT: Gary Gorman, Don Glover, Linda Levesque, and Barbara Snapp.

GUESTS PRESENT: Jamie Chamberlain, Cheverus High School girls' lacrosse coach and new girls' coaches' liaison.

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Burnham.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a MOTION by Thoreck/Schwartzman, the minutes of the October 14, 2010 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file:

- A series of articles discussing safety in womens' lacrosse.
- A series of emails discussing the formation of a cooperative lacrosse team.
- An email from a student that graduated from high school at an early age hoping to participate on the local lacrosse team for one additional year.
- An email from a student at the University of Maine interested in starting a women's lacrosse program at the school.
- A series of emails discussing the interpretation of the NFHS Concussion Rule.
- An email from a school reporting a possible violation of the Sport Season Policy.
- An email from a coach asking the committee to consider allowing coaches to work with lacrosse goalies one week prior to the start of the spring season. On a MOTION by Elkington/Riley, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, it was decided that the item would be placed on a future agenda. The committee also agreed to form a subcommittee that will gather data in regards to goalie injuries that may be prevented with an additional week of conditioning.

REVIEW OF 2010-2011 BULLETIN / SITE PACKET / SCHOOL MEMO: The 2011 MPA Lacrosse Bulletin, championship site packet, and the memo sent to the championship participants were reviewed and updated.

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COACHES' REPORT:

Girls

- Introduced Jamie Chamberlain, coach at Cheverus High School, as the new coaches' liaison. The committee thanked Linda Levesque for the outstanding work that she has done as the coaches' liaison for girls' lacrosse.
- The first rules interpretation session saw 34 of 40 schools in attendance. New rules, points of emphasis, concussions, MWLOA programs, officials' training, and teen training were all discussed at the meeting. A second rule interpretation meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2011 at the Hannaford Brothers Conference Center in Scarborough.
- The upcoming season will see a focus on the partnership with officials, sportsmanship, player safety, and the new concussion rule. There will also be an emphasis on opportunities for players to become involved with officiating.

Boys

- The first rules interpretation session was held on January 8, 2011 and 90% of the high school coaches were in attendance at the meeting.
- Would like to see the committee recommend the one additional week of conditioning for goalies.
- The coaches have a number of questions regarding the NFHS Concussion Rule.

OFFICIALS' REPORT:

Girls' Officials:

- The annual meeting and interpreters' presentation will be held on February 27, 2011.
- There are going to be new umpire training clinics held at the following sites during the month of March:
 - Brunswick High School (Mondays)
 - Marshwood High School (Tuesdays)
 - Falmouth High School (Wednesdays)
 - Gardiner High School (Thursdays)
 - Thornton Academy (Thursdays)
- There will be training clinics for any student interested in officiating held at Falmouth High School on March 12 and March 19. Any student interested would only need to attend one of the clinics.
- Points of emphasis for the upcoming year include:
 - Sphere (consistent application; make the call rather than give advantage)
 - Use of the stick (in a malicious, dangerous, or intimidating manner)
 - Carding: for yellow and red cards

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- On the 3rd card to a team, the team will play down one player for the remainder of the game
- On the 4th card, play down 2 players for the remainder of the game
- On the 5th card, down 3...etc.
- Pregame procedures will be standardized as much as possible and will be provided to the coaches through the coaches' liaison.
- Request that the committee chair communicate game fee and mileage fee to officials working the state championship games.
- Request that any email coming from the NFHS be forwarded on to the officials' liaison.

Boys' Officials:

- Training for new officials will start on February 27, 2011 and will consist of three training sessions.
- There are currently 14 individuals interested in becoming officials.
- There are 58 preseason "slots" to be assigned for the upcoming season.
- The officials are in the process of developing an evaluation system for their officials.
- Wayne Sanford will be the new boys' lacrosse assignor.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Additional week for lacrosse goalies

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting of the Lacrosse Committee will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the MPA office.

ADJOURNMENT: On a MOTION by Riley/Thoreck and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, the meeting concluded at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Burnham
Assistant Executive Director

/tjm
3/10/11

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