



**Boys Youth Lacrosse of Washington**  
**Coaches Meeting**  
**June 12, 2008**

The meeting of the Boys Youth Lacrosse of Washington program directors was held on Thursday, June 8, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the Seward School, 2500 E. Franklin Street, Seattle, WA.

**1. 2008 Season Review**

- Regional Structure: generally worked well, teams appreciated less travel
- A & B Teams for Seniors (7/8): worked well. The group discussed adopting a similar structure for the Junior (5/6) division. With a focus on player development vs. winning, the group agreed not to provide incentives for clubs to stack Junior teams.
- Honor the Game: The juniors coaches in attendance expressed broad support for continuing this program, and coaches from both the Seniors and Lightning divisions recommended expansion to all BYLW divisions beginning in the 2009 season.
- Season Schedule: Several members argued for shifting the BYLW season out by 2 weeks, with benefits including field access & conditions, avoiding conflicts with winter sports, and taking greater advantage of daylight savings time. By moving year-end jamborees to the weekend after Memorial Day (used for LaxFest in past years), BYLW could still schedule 10 weeks of games. The Board agreed to consider a proposal at its next meeting.

**2. Election of New Board Members**

- At-Large: Louis Lucchesi (Lake Tapps) volunteered to join the BYLW Board, and was elected to an At-Large position, replacing John Baumann (Bellevue) whose 2-year term has ended.
- Secretary: Susie Petersen (North Seattle) volunteered to replace Michael McGinn (Bellevue), whose 2-year term has ended. No vote was taken, to give all parties time to consider the appointment.
- Vice President: No members nominated themselves to fill this vacant position. Michael McGinn (Bellevue) agreed to consider his interest in the position.

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### **3. Lightning (3/4) Division Review Committee**

- Need for Review: Tim Jones described the need for greater focus on the Lightning Division, based on growth in the number of teams, increasing skill and competitiveness of the players, and differing structures and philosophies being adopted by programs.
- Review Objective: The committee will consider and recommend a structure that is developmentally appropriate for young players and encourages more BYLW programs to participate with a consistent set of rules. Modifications to be considered include field dimensions (e.g., full-field vs. "sideways"), number of field (non-goalie) players on the field, whether or not to have goalies, equipment requirements and restrictions, officiating, schedules, etc.
- Timeline: The committee will seek to meet several times during the summer, with a goal of presenting a recommendation at the Board's September meeting. Rick Jenness has agreed to coordinate scheduling the initial meeting of this group.

### **4. Other Business**

- WALOA Agreement for 2009 Season: Offers to assist Tim Jones in negotiating a new contract with WALOA are appreciated. Interested members should contact Tim directly ([bylw.president@gmail.com](mailto:bylw.president@gmail.com)).
- WALOA Referee Commitment: WALOA has requested that BYLW require each registered team supply at least one adult who is willing to attend referee training in January and be in the referee pool during the season.
- Scheduling & Sportability: Ron Wright recommended that BYLW secure its own account with Sportability instead of being a "child" of the WHSBLA account, or consider changing schedule providers altogether. The Board will address this issue at its next meeting.
- Game Reports: The group discussed a reporting system similar to that used for youth football, through which coaches could rate or comment on referees and opposing coaches for each game. The Board will consider the resources required to effectively administer and use such a system.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Michael McGinn  
Secretary, BYLW

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