



Iowa Lacrosse Association Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 7:00 pm - Zoom Conference Call

Attendees: Beech Turner (West Des Moines), Sean Mahoney (Waukee), Dave Hankins (Ankeny), Bruce Maxwell (Ames), Britt Mitchell (Meskwaki), Marc Shulman (Ames), and Kevin Hawn (Iowa Officials).

Meeting was called to order by Beech Turner at 7:05 pm.

Minutes Approval

The March meeting minutes were approved with Bruce making the motion to approve and Marc seconding.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce advised that the Association has \$4,730.60 in its checking account with recent activity collecting estimated officials fees from participating clubs, and paying an advance to Kevin for April games.

Old Business

ILAX Spring Youth League – Sean had distributed several versions of a proposed Boys 14U/12U/10U game schedule in recent weeks to participating clubs. Considerable discussion ensued about completing the schedule's particulars. All game times and locations are in place with the exception of the Solon Jamboree on May 1-2 and the Meskwaki Jamboree on June 12.

Sean is working with Jeff Kueter to identify which teams are participating in the Solon weekend. They will determine game times but at this point only one field is available for use which could make it difficult to guarantee each team 2 games when the goal is for no team to have to stay overnight to play. We need to share these details soon with participating clubs.

Britt will propose game times soon for the Meskwaki Jamboree and they do have a couple of fields on the Settlement. Kevin Hawn has the schedule and was confident his crew of officials can cover the proposed game schedule. Sean also has made an estimate of officials fees and ILAX has advised the clubs of what their portion of the cost is expected to be. Advance payment has been requested, and estimated fees for April have been paid to Kevin who will distribute to his officials. Dave thanked Sean for his scheduling and coordination efforts and the board members voiced their appreciation.

Iowa Games – Dave continues to handle our participation in the upcoming competition for U10, U12 and U14 Boys. The competition will be in Saturday, June 5 at Prairie ridge Sports Complex in Ankeny. Dave said that team registration is open and encouraged clubs to register their teams. ILAX will help getting the word out about this competition which is also open to girls teams.

New Officials Training – Kevin Hawn updated the board about his mens game officials' availability this spring. While a couple of officials have chosen not to officiate due to COVID, he thought they would have enough officials to handle the ILAX Boys League. He hopes to attract a few more and utilize the archived training that was made available over this past winter so hopefully we would have more to support both the ILAX and NELAX leagues. We still desperately need new womens' officials.

New Business

TryLax event – Beech reminded the board of the US Lacrosse grant ILAX received for calendar year 2021, and came back with some suggested ideas for an event. He told the board that he thought early September 2021 would be the best time for the clubs in the Des Moines metro to offer a clinic as kids will be back in schools, the COVID situation should be improved, and the clubs will be starting up their fall ball activities. Beech said the local clubs would be responsible for promoting and running the event, and that the ILAX website could be used for registrations.

With the grant the sponsor receives up to 50 Boys & 50 girls sticks and all registrants also get a free annual US Lacrosse membership. Beech will talk to Shawn Maloney of US Lacrosse about making those arrangements. The sponsor will be charged \$30 for each stick shipped, and most sponsors charge around \$35 for the event. He also suggested that Jordan Creek Elementary would be a good place for the clinic and that coaches and a few HS players from the clubs could help with the event.

Board representatives from the Waukee, WDM, Ankeny & Ames clubs were agreeable to this arrangement. In the likely event extra sticks and memberships are not utilized by the central Iowa clinic, any extras could be used elsewhere in the state to help recruit more kids to the game. More details on the central Iowa event will be worked out soon and shared with the board.

Iowa Parks & Rec Fall Workshop – ILAX has been invited to present at the IPRA's fall event in Burlington on Oct. 4-6. Our involvement would most likely be a break-out session on how cities can offer beginner's lacrosse programming. The board was supportive of taking part and Bruce will head up the effort with more details to be determined.

Annual Meeting – Beech reminded the board about the pending annual June meeting where officers are nominated and elected. Directors would be starting the second year of a two year term. Unclear whether the meeting will be virtual or in-person. A more detailed discussion will be held at the May meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm with a motion from Dave, and seconded by Sean.

Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 12 at 7:00 pm via Zoom