

MWPA Business Meeting Minutes

11/10/07

Meeting called to order at 1:15 p.m.

Coaches in attendance: Adam Briggs, Doug Wilson, Chris Groenhout, Pete Hewett, Dave Weick, Jake Miller, Matt Latham, Ron Marsh, Ross Soergel, Luke Ortego, Jeff Drews, Joe Scully, Jill Inman, Jeff Hardy, Jeremy Brandon, Michelle Caie-Brandon, Marty Pohl, Brian Post, Rick Mida, Will Hart, Dave Vruggink, John Neeb, Chad English, Katie Clarin, Chris Keenan, Mike Westgate, Jim Silverman, Sacha Barnes, Larry Winkelman, JR Vanderwall

MWPA All-State Season Voting was conducted with the coaches in attendance.

Player of the Year – Taque Patino, Rockford
Coach of the Year – Dave McWatters, Rockford

First Team All-State
David Ferrara, Ann Arbor Pioneer
Jake Garner, East Kentwood
Sam Hoekstra (G), Grandville
Taque Patino, Rockford
Chase Plank, Rockford
Dan Thurston, Ann Arbor Huron
Matt Woelfel, East Grand Rapids

Second Team All-State
Jeff Cole, Grandville
Brian Gregorka, Ann Arbor Pioneer
Jacob Marsh, Okemos
AJ Mestdagh, Birmingham Groves
Nate Nemon, Ann Arbor Huron
Morgan Priestley, Birmingham Seaholm
Kevin Smith (G), Ann Arbor Pioneer

Third Team All-State
Ken Humberstone, West Ottawa
Jordan Jackson, East Kentwood
Jim Knape, East Grand Rapids
Chris Maloney (G), Rockford
Samuel Marsh, Okemos
Mike Mette, Rockford
Craig Peterman, Rockford
Robert Spiegel (G), Dexter

Treasurer's Report: Adam Briggs reported in Gil Segovia's absence. Checking account balance of \$2,161.62. Certificate of Deposit balance of \$4613.90. All bills have been paid thru regionals, and we are still waiting on the host fee from East Kentwood.

Director of Official's Report: Mike Westgate reported that he is working on coming up with a comprehensive list of active officials across the state that can be posted on the website for use by coaches. Anyone interested in officiating should contact Mike at mwestgate@hotmail.com.

Mike reported that it has been almost two years since the last officiating clinic and the he is working on putting one together for the upcoming spring season. It was recommended that we bring in an outside clinician to conduct a classroom and evaluation session. Holt and Groves expressed their interest in potentially hosting this event. Larry Winkelman suggested that we may have an opportunity to coordinate this with official(s) coming to do one of the University of Michigan varsity water polo tournaments this winter.

MWPA Executive Board Elections: The position of secretary is currently open due to the departure of Brian Fickies. The duties and responsibilities of this position were explained and the floor was opened to nominations. Rick Mida accepted the nomination by Ron Marsh and was elected unanimously.

2008 Girls' Post –Season Sites (Adam Briggs to confirm this via email)

- Districts
 - North/South – AAP (South) and Mason (North)
 - East/West – EGR
- Regionals
 - East – East Lansing
 - West – Rockford
- States
 - Saline

Pete Hewett requested a discussion about the potential need for realignment of the West Region Districts for the boys due to Holland dropping out just prior to the regional tournament. He asked the board to consider alternate ways to align the districts; due to the fact that currently the region's most northern and southern schools compete in the same district. The board reported that they would take this under advisement and would discuss the potential for realignment prior to the February business meeting.

Ron Marsh requested a discussion regarding the potential of an assignor of officials for the east side of the state. This would be similar to what is currently being done in the OK Conference. Mike Westgate shared his experiences on how this works, and it was discussed that prior to being able to schedule officials in a similar manner, that a schedule for all East Region teams needed to be developed. Rick Mida, Larry Winkelman, and Ron Marsh volunteered to form a sub-committee to evaluate the feasibility of this for the upcoming girls' season and report back to the board at the next business meeting.

Adam Briggs read an email to the board that was sent to all water polo organizations in the Midwest concerning lewd pictures being taken of swimmers and water polo players and posted

on pornographic websites. It was discussed that there was no current knowledge of this occurring in Michigan, but that all coaches should be on the lookout. A copy of this email will be forwarded to the MWPA distribution list. Adam Briggs will also discuss the issue with Rissley Photography.

The board received information from Elite Polo who will be conducting water polo camps for high school boys during the month of December. Information will be emailed out to the MWPA distribution list.

Dave Vruggink initiated a discussion about the elimination of the “loser’s” bracket games during the second day of the regional tournament. There was a brief discussion, however most in attendance agreed that we have addressed this issue several times and that we would stick with past precedent and continue to play these games.

Larry Winkelman gave a brief explanation of a statistical ranking system that he has been working on for high school water polo in the state of Michigan. Larry stated that there may be potential to use this in the future to help seed the post-season tournaments. However at this time there still needs to be some fine tuning, and as most coaches were unaware of this system, we will not use this for any seeding currently. Most coaches were interested in seeing the rankings, and Larry volunteered to work with the webmaster to update his statistical rankings for the upcoming girls season and periodically email them out to the coaches for review.

Adam Briggs reported that Bruce Murden will resign from his duties as webmaster at the end of this year. A search is underway for his replacement, and several candidates have been identified. The board will discuss these candidates and make an announcement shortly.

The board reported that a one contract has been signed with Rissley Photography to be the exclusive photographer of the MWPA post-season. The board will report back at the February business meeting regarding issues caused, positive benefits, revenue generated, and path forward regarding this relationship following the boys’ season.

Several coaches brought up struggles that they were having with athlete numbers in their programs. A discussion ensued with multiple coaches contributing their thoughts on how to build numbers within a program. The board requested that all co-op applications for the upcoming girls season be submitted by the February business meeting.

Any coaching vacancies should be reported to the webmaster and executive board so that these can be posted on the website.

The next business meeting will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 10, 2008 at the Holiday Inn South, Cedar Street, Lansing.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.