

Doug Wilson starting the meeting at: 4:01

In attendance: Chris Keenan, Will Hart, Rick Mida, Krista McComas, Joe Scully, Brian Semple, Doug Wilson, Brian Miller, Marty Pohl, Kelli Russell, Greg Jenkins, Tom Dudley, Amber Peters, Megan Hansen, Matt Latham, Ian Townsend, Jennifer Stewart, Brad Silverman, Jeff Drews, Rick Edwards, Jim Silverman and Brian Fickies.

1. Doug Wilson read the treasurer's report in Gil's absence. The current checking balance is \$2,053.19 and current CD balance is \$4,636.99 as of Jan. 31, 2008. Income generated from tournaments \$7,600; expenses, such as awards, refs, etc were \$7,861.49. These totals do not include income from Rissley that will total \$1,281.50. Breakdown is as follows:

2007 Districts at Rockford	\$125.00
2007 Districts at Birmingham Groves	\$114.50
2007 Regionals at East Kentwood	\$145.00
2007 Regionals at Saline	\$160.00
2007 States at Birmingham Groves	\$737.00

Rick Edwards asked about Rissley's rules for photography at tournament sites. Is it re-affirmed that only Rissley will have access at post-season tournaments with exception of any members of the press.

2. Rick Edwards read the Director of Officials Report in Mike Westgate's absence.

In discussion with USWP Midwest Zone Referee Chair, Perry Korbakis, official training and certification is moving on-line. Perry and Rick Marsh, out of Illinois, recently attended the USWP National Conference in CA for coaches and officials. They hoped to be receiving a new Power Point presentation for training officials. Instead the movement is towards an on-line training and certification program where Water Polo Academy is partnering with USWP. You can check it out at www.waterpoloacademy.com

Perry, Rick, and Bruce Murden are the only certified clinicians in the Midwest area and all are unable or unwilling to put on an early season clinic in MI. We attempted to put one together for the U of M tournament in January but ran into the same issues. I am still working with Perry to create an opportunity for Michigan officials but our clinic participation has been very weak over the past 2 or 3 years.

I have received a few e-mails from people interested in officiating. We definitely want to get these contacts to the assignors.

Emily Kalis – East Region, kaliser@udmercy.edu

Dave Nicholes – East Region, dave.nichols@eim-usa.com

Krista McComas – East Region, mccomask@msu.edu

Jesse Lanzon – East Region?, j_lanzon@hotmail.com

Robert Palmerlee – rpalmerlee@gmail.com

3. Nominations and Election for Co-President for Doug Wilson's vacancy. Chris Keenan nominated Doug Wilson and Rick Edwards second the motion, passes unanimously.
4. 2008 Girl's Post-Season Sites
 - Districts-
 - North/South – AA Pioneer (South) and Mason (North)
 - East/West – EGR
 - Regionals
 - East- East Lansing
 - West – Rockford
 - States- Saline
5. 2008 Boy's Post Season Sites
 - Districts –
 - North/South – East Lansing
 - East/West – T.B.D.
 - Regionals –
 - East – Huron
 - West – EK (if doesn't host states)
 - States -
 - Zeeland & EK both put in bids. Executive committee will decide at next meeting.
6. Reminder from the webmaster to send completed schedules to webmaster@michiganwaterpolo.com.
7. Various discussions over AWP League National State Challenge (see at the end of minutes). REMINDER: Club teams need to register by March 1st. Rick Mida mentioned that PA, MA, NY, MD, CT and FL have already committed teams and that AWP is trying to involve MI, OH, IL and MO teams. Rick Edwards brought up financial aspect with fielding an "All-Star Team." Greg Jenkins brought up practice issues with said team. Chris Keenan wanted to pursue league champion model approach. Consensus: League champion model approach with winning team responsible to represent Michigan.
8. Doug Wilson went over OK Conference Scheduling and MWPA policy: proposal passes unanimously.
9. Additional items:
 - Bulldog Battle announcement. April 18 & 19th at Mason, email Amber Peters at peter420@msu.edu if you are interested.
 - There is an open spot for MISCA MI representative, Marty Pohl volunteered to take that spot.

-Brian Fickies mentioned that he is looking to officiate games throughout the state. He also brought up the disconnect with teams that are playing water polo but not plugged into the MWPA system.

-Jim Silverman threw his name in to the officiating pool as well.

Doug Wilson adjourned the meeting at: 4:44 pm.

AMERICAN WATER POLO

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National State Challenge

The National State Challenge (NSC) is an exciting event featuring the best talent from around the country. Held during late summer, teams will meet to determine a National Champion and the chance for their club to win \$1000.

Location & Date

The site for the championship is held each year at one of the premier destinations in the United States. The site for 2008 will be Villanova University, (near Philadelphia, PA), tentatively scheduled for the last weekend in July.

Qualification

Each state may determine their own qualification process using one of the models below. The process for selecting the model will be coordinated by American Water Polo through dialogue with each of the AWP clubs within the state. Typically a conference call is held with all parties to make a final decision, with each club receiving an equal voice.

League Champion Model

A league structure is established that includes regular season games and a process that determines an ultimate champion, either by won/loss record or through a season-ending championship.

All-Star Model

Similar to the League Champion Model, a league is coordinated to determine a winner, either by won/loss record or through a season-ending championship. At the close of the season the top eight teams (as per their finish in the league) select their best field player from their squad to participate on the team. The remaining athletes are determined by a ballot from all of the coaches using the process outlined by American Water Polo. Two goalies are selected through the ballot process. Additionally, the team is led by the individuals who coached the winning team during the league.

Tryout Model*

If less than four clubs exist within the state, a series of tryouts may be held over a period of months in order to select a team (minimum of three required). All athletes participating in the tryout must be registered with American Water Polo and the tryout participant list submitted to the office immediately following the event so registrations can be processed in a timely manner.

*This model may be used for only one year. Following the first year, the state must adopt one of the league selection models to be eligible for future competition.

AWP Clubs interested in participating or gathering additional information must contact the AWP office by March 1st. Conference calls will be scheduled based on interest shown by this deadline.

Roster Size

The size of the roster is dependent upon the qualification model selected by the state.

- League Champion Model- no specific roster size
- All-Star Model- Teams must have fifteen players (including two goalies)
- Tryout Model- Teams must have fifteen players (including two goalies)

Gender

The National State Challenge will feature competition for both boys and girls.

Player Eligibility

Athletes must be 18 years of age or younger during the year of competition and be members of American Water Polo. USA Water Polo members may purchase a limited membership for a reduced rate.

Competitive Format

The tournament structure will be determined by the number of teams participating. Each team will be guaranteed four games. Games are comprised of six-minute quarters and will follow NCAA rules. Seeds will be determined by a random draw.

Cost

Entry fees will be \$475 per team.

Entry Deadline

States must confirm their intent to participate by May 1st including submitting their application form outlining their method of qualification (based on conference call discussion).