

# MBSLA Annual General Meeting, November 16, 2013

## **Roll call**

ACYLA, Anoka-Ramsey, Blaine, Bloomington, Chaska-Chanhassen, Delano, Duluth, Edina, Fargo, Forest Lake, Hudson, Lakeville, Maple Grove, Proctor, Rochester, Rogers, St. Michael-Albertville, St. Louis Park, St. Paul, Waconia, Wayzata, Woodbury.

## **New associations**

Winona and Red River Valley (Fargo/Moorhead) were approved as new members. Winona by unanimous voice vote and Red River Valley by a vote of 20-2. Red River Valley plans on Varsity and youth teams and Winona a JV team. Other areas in various stages of development: Minnesota Ojibwe Lacrosse in Bemidji, Prairie Island-Red Wing, Columbia Heights-St. Anthony, Big Lake-Otsego, Washington Tech Middle School in St. Paul, and Minnehaha Academy.

## **MBSLA / YLM merger update**

Outgoing President Kevin Reed wanted to see an even board split and said MBSLA thought the process was rushed at the end. YLM President Chuck Friedbauer is in favor of merger, as is new President Damon Kocina. Both boards pledged to work it out over the coming year and present common bylaws and operating policies for the approval of membership at a common annual general meeting in the fall of 2014.

## **Box lacrosse offered by MN Swarm**

Rules are true box lacrosse, allowing cross checking, diving in the crease, and off-ball contact. MBSLA board is strongly against these new rules for youth players. [Several days after the meeting, the Swarm went back to the previous year's rules, which are modified US Lacrosse youth rules.]

## **Scheduling meetings**

Varsity and JV scheduling meeting is on Saturday, December 14, 10 AM in the National Sports Center's Classroom. Youth leagues (9/10, U15, U13, U11, U9) will schedule Saturdays in late February and early March. Tentative schedule: South divisions of U leagues and any U leagues not in divisions will be in the south metro on February 22, place and time TBD. 9/10 and North divisions of U leagues will be March 1 at the NSC in Blaine at 10 am. An email requesting the expected number of teams will go out to associations in January and meetings will be finalized at that time.

## **Youth season dates**

April 12-13	Season begins, turf sites only
April 20	Easter
May 17-18	Weekend 6
May 21	First round of 9/10 Playoffs
May 31-June 1	Make up games
June 7	9/10 championship

## **Bylaws and Operating Policies changes**

Unanimous voice votes approved both documents.

## **U15**

With the adoption of the new Operating Policies, waivers are not needed for age-eligible 9th graders to play in the MBSLA U15 league. A separate U14 league is a possibility if enough associations are interested. If not, teams can self-designate as U14 and the U15 schedule will be made as to minimize match-ups with teams with 9th graders. No guarantees are made and associations are responsible for accurate reporting.

## **Varsity conferences and playoffs**

North: Brainerd, Duluth, Fargo, Grand Cities, Grand Rapids, Proctor, and Red River Valley. South: Becker, Hudson, Mankato, Shattuck-St. Mary's, St. Cloud North, St. Louis Park, St. Michael-Albertville, St. Paul, Waconia, and Wayzata. Neutral sites for all Varsity playoff games, which begin in the Quarter Finals. Five teams from the South and three teams from the North qualify for the Quarter Finals. The fifth-seeded team in the South will be slotted into a cross-conference bracket in the position of the fourth-seeded team in the North would have gone. JV does not use conferences for playoffs.

## **Field Marshall program**

New program to hire Field Marshalls for youth games, \$12 per game. Will do the same job as the Sideline Manager (which in practice isn't used much) as well as some other tasks. For all youth games 9/10 and down, however, will be assigned from the youngest up. Position open to 18 and older. Requires an online course.

## **Referee training**

See [umloa.org](http://umloa.org) for info and schedule. High school freshman and older can officiate youth games. Costs \$150 for Level 1 (able to do U15 and lower). Earn \$35 per game plus travel fees for over 14 miles one-way.

## **Online coaches' training**

New recertification course for returning coaches will be shorter.

## **New rules**

New ball rule, must meet NOCSAE standards. No tape on the head of the stick on face-offs.

## **Elections**

Damon Kocina was elected President, John Saccoman was re-elected Communications Officer. Both votes were unanimous.

## **New business**

U13 A/B discussed. Associations will be polled for the number of expected youth teams and any desire for A/B split at the U15 and U13 levels in January.