



Texas High School Lacrosse League



Texas High School Lacrosse League Annual Member Team Meeting September 24, 2011

Annual Member Team Attendees: Anderson, Cedar Park, Cedar Ridge, Cinco Ranch, Coppell, Dripping Springs, Flour Bluff, Flower Mound, Fort Bend, Fort Worth Country Day, Frisco, Georgetown, Hillcrest, Houston Christian, Katy, Keller, Lake Travis, McKinney, McNeil, Plano, Reagan, Round Rock, Saint Mary's Hall, Smithson Valley, St. Stephens, Stony Point, Vandegrift, Westlake, Westside, Westwood, Woodlands.
Non-voting: Hebron, Magnolia, Rouse

Annual Member Team Attendees Attending by Proxy: Alamo Heights, Allen, Austin, Bellaire, Bowie, Colleyville, Cy-Fair, Dallas Jesuit, Episcopal Houston, Episcopal School of Dallas, Friendswood, Highland Park, Kingwood, Kinkaid, Lake Highlands, Lamar, LBJ, Lovejoy, McCallum, Plano West, Rockwall, Roosevelt, Southlake, Spartan, St. Andrews, St. Anthony, St. John's, St. Mark's, St. Michaels, St. Thomas, Strake Jesuit, Taylor, TMI, Trinity, Vista Ridge, Wylie

Annual Member Team Attendees Not in Attendance nor represented by Proxy:
Central Catholic, Clear Lake, Greenhill, Klein,
Langham Creek, Madison, Memorial, Parish, Paschal, Pearland, Plano East

Meeting Called to order at 11:08 a.m. by THSLL Commissioner Ray Martin, and a roll call was conducted. 30 member teams represented, 35 member teams voting by proxy, 11 teams not in attendance nor represented by proxy. The number of teams meets the required 67% super majority vote of all of the active, annual fee paying THSLL Member School Programs, in person or by proxy. Each Member School Program gets a single vote on each voting matter.

1. State Championship

- A. The 2012 State Championship will be held in the Central District in Georgetown. Super Regionals will be held in Dallas and Houston.
- B. Sponsorship- The games were on television last year. The cost to produce the coverage is 30,000 to 40,000 dollars. Sponsors will receive commercial time, web site signage and signage at Super Regionals. Ideally sponsors should commit no later than November to meet the requirements of most businesses.

2. Sportsmanship

Players, Coaches and Parents need to be held to a higher level of conduct.
Sportsmanship will be a focus of the THSLL Board of Directors.

3. Voting Items

Ray reviewed the voting items. In order to have the greatest representation of votes, voting numbers will be out of order to ensure arrival of all teams who are on the way.

I. Voting Item #1 Budget

Recap-

- No Dues Increase to Programs
- Increase in State Championship Budget for Expenses
- Increase for State Administrator Salary
- Counting on Sponsorship Program & THSLL Events for 2012 Fund Raising



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The THSLL Treasurer created an on target budget for the 2011 season, and stayed within budget with SWLOA for the super regionals and state championship.

Vote: accept the proposed budget: Unanimous, No Opposition, this vote included proxies.

II. Voting Item #4 – Appendix A – 2011 THSLL Boy Rule Waivers –

- CROSSE CONSTRUCTION (1-18, Note 2) Eliminates DIII Stick Waiver NCAA Crosse Specification Rules and Division III teams required to use the NCAA approved stick head.
- PLAYING FIELD (1-2) ~ Home Teams will make all possible efforts to provide a field which meets NCAA specifications as outlined in the section entitled “The Field”, (Rule 1-2 through 1-15). Local conditions may require field size modifications.

Required field markings shall be the responsibility of the home team and every possible effort should be made to mark the field accordingly. Acceptable markings can be in the form of but not limited to paint, chalk, washable paint/chalk, tape, or any other removable material (ex: portable crease). *It is the responsibility of the home team to check with the field property owner on acceptable markings and guidelines.*

No penalty shall be assessed for a home team unable to mark a turf playing field, as long as there are existing football markings, due to school or city guidelines. Evidence of the hardship should be sent to the THSLL Board of Directors to be recorded.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of the home team to notify the visiting team of any known field issues (for example, lack of lines or using football sidelines for the width or using tape) within three days of the scheduled game date. Both coaches must agree on the field before the game can be played.

If the visiting coach does not agree on the modified playing surface, it is the responsibility of both the home and away coaches to come to a compromise, reschedule, or swap home/away status with the home team being responsible for official and venue expenses. Failure to do so should be reported in the game report to the local coordinator for escalation.

Playing field – It is the home team’s responsibility to post on the website team page any field adjustments and notify visiting team. Both coaches must agree to the field markings prior to the game. If the visiting coach does not agree on the modified playing surface, it is the responsibility of both the home and away coaches to come to a compromise, reschedule, or change home/away status with the home team responsible for official and venue expenses.

Vote: 29 For the rule change, 1 proxy opposed



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III. Voting Item 5 – Appendix J – Timetable & Penalty Matrix

In the 2012 season, SWLOA will enforce the \$10 game fee for each game scheduled over 15 games per team. Member teams will enter home games by November 30. Rosters are due January 21st; Addresses are used for eligibility purposes but are not posted. The last day of the season is Friday, April 20th including rain outs. DII teams may use April 21st for rainouts.

Seeding by Wednesday April 25th. State Championships to be played in Georgetown.

The penalty matrix for not submitting information in a timely manner will be enforced this year.

Vote: 28 for 1 opposed, Proxy votes 1 against

IV. Voting Item #2

Rulebook- 8.0 Eligibility

THIRD: A student who lives in or attends a school in an independent school district that does not have any THSLL Member School Programs must play for the "Closest" DII or DIII THSLL Member School Program to where he lives or to the school he attends.

Rule Change Proposal- A student who lives in or attends a school in an independent school district that does not have any THSLL Member School Programs whose parent is an established Head Coach or top assistant coach (minimum 1 year of prior service with a program) may make a "one time" decision to play for that program, regardless of division. "Closest" here will be defined as the nearest travel distance using MapQuest, selecting Shortest Distance under routing options, from the student's home or school he attends to the DII or DIII THSLL Member School Program (school address). Once he makes the one-time decision he must play for that Program for the remainder of his high school eligibility.

Ray presented the Board of Directors viewpoint-

Violates THSLL School Based Lacrosse Eligibility Rules

Discriminates against Private School Programs

Select Team / Recruiting Challenge for THSLL

Not Verifiable or Manageable by THSLL – League Charter issue

The UIL rules state that a student must play for the school he attends, not where parent works. BoD recommendation is this should be presented as a waiver request.

Vote Results- 19 for rule change, 45 opposed, proxy's included in vote.

The BoD committed to looking at this problem and come up with an alternative to the rule change proposal outside of the State meeting.

V. Voting Item #3 –

Player Honors-Each District awards All-State and All-District Honors within Divisions I and II.

Rule Change Proposal: Each group includes seventeen (17), comprised of: four (4) attackmen, five (5) midfielders, one (1) face-off, one (1) longstick, four (4) defensemen, and two (2) goaltenders. Breakout Goalie awards as follows, 1st Team and 2nd Team, All State (2) Total and one (1) All District.

Ray presented the BoD's alternate proposal.



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THSLL Board of Directors' Alternative Proposal: Each group includes thirteen (15) players, comprised of: three (3) attackmen, four (4) midfielders, one (1) face-off, one (1) longstick, three (3) defensemen, one (1) goaltender, one (1) Offensive MVP, and one (1) Defensive MVP.

THSLL unanimously voted no to proposal as presented. As presented, there were three options for vote – Original proposal that would increase player awards to seventeen per group; THSLL proposal of two additional awards; or no change to player honors.

Vote Results: For new proposal 44; THSLL proposal 16; 6 current rulebook.

4. **New Teams:**

Member teams need to develop relationships with their ISD, and engage Youth teams.

North-

Paschal, DIII Varsity
Hebron, JV only

Central-

Cedar Ridge – DIII Varsity
Rouse – JV only

San Antonio-

Smithson Valley, DII Varsity

South-

Magnolia JV only

5. **UIL**

Update from annual meeting.

- A. The UIL was pleased with the THSLL direction from an organizational perspective.
- B. Teams need to be in more ISD's outside of large metroplexes.
- C. Funding is a problem for schools.
- D. Need to adhere to school based philosophy

6. **Open Discussion**

- A. Georgetown ISD has a working relationship with the ISD. Receives practice fields at no charge, but may not have players outside of ISD.
- B. Leander- submits club sport policy to the ISD and adheres to no pass no play.
- C. Cinco Ranch discussed the rule change proposal process. The BoD reviewed Cinco Ranch proposal and could not support presenting it to the member teams. The proposal eliminated the ISD requirement from the eligibility rules which is the opposite of past member team support and from UIL and ISD. An alternate proposal was not offered for the Cinco Ranch proposal.
- D. Magnolia brought up distance issues for eligibility. Advised to discuss within district and ask for a possible waiver.



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7. THSLL 501c3

The league charter is separate from programs. The tax ID number may not be used by programs legally.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20.