

TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL LACROSSE LEAGUE

THSLL Annual State Meeting Minutes October 11, 2008

Meeting held in Austin, Texas. St. Stephens Episcopal

Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. Stacie McKay led the meeting with introductions of the THSLL Board and asked each member team representative to introduce themselves.

In Attendance:

Anderson
Bowie
Cedar Park
Central Catholic
Cinco Ranch
Dallas Jesuit
Episcopal Houston
Fort Bend
Friendswood
Harker Heights
Hillcrest
Houston Christian
Katy
Kingwood
Kinkaid
Lake Travis
Lamar
LBJ HS
McKinney
McNeil
Memorial
Plano East
Plano West
Reagan
Roosevelt
St Anthony's
St Stephens
St. Mary's Hall
St. Michaels
Stony Point
Strake Jesuit
SWLC
Trinity HS
Vista Ridge
Westlake
Westwood
Woodlands

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THSLL Board members in attendance:

Al
Bill
Chris
David H.
David S.
Joe
Mike
Stacie

1. Bill Montez presented:

Budget and Dues Increase:

Dues	2008	2009	Diff
Summary			
DI Varsity	\$500	\$500	\$0
DII Varsity	\$400	\$500	\$100
DIII Varsity & New Teams	\$300	\$350	\$50
JV	\$200	\$300	\$100

The rule change passed with almost unanimous vote.

2. Bill Montez presented the proposed Rule Change:

Add San Antonio as a 4th District.

This rule change was passed with almost unanimous vote. The DII members voted to accept San Antonio as a 4th District beginning in 2009 season.

3. Al Picazo presented the proposed Rule Change:

THSLL Coaches Code of Conduct 1.0 (Appendix F)

There was much discussion about the code of conduct. Several programs suggested wording changes. Changes were recommended to the wording regarding suspension for the next game and a review process for the coach.

This rule change vote was tabled pending review of the revised wording before the end of the meeting.

4. Nancy Powers presented the proposed Rule Change:

Team Timeline and Penalty Matrix 7.0 (Appendix J)

Team members discussed the date the game schedule is required. Many programs are unable to secure fields by the date requested, and the South DII meeting was delayed due to weather. There were questions about the penalty matrix and the enforceability. This rule change vote was tabled pending review of the revised date game schedules, which are due November 30th with review deadline of December 15th.

This rule change vote was tabled pending review of the revised wording before the end of the meeting.

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5. David Hamill and Chris Peters presented the proposed Rule Change:

Add ISD Concept to Eligibility Rule

There was discussion about the closest program rule in regards to players driving one hour to a DII versus ½ hour to a DI. A point of discussion is a program that represents more than one high school in an ISD should declare a member school. The question was raised about programs that have a DI and DII team.

This rule change vote was tabled pending review of the revised wording reflecting the use of the word program instead of team in 8.0 Eligibility before the end of the meeting.

Lunch Break until 1:20.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Joe introduced Marcos Ramos with the Positive Coaching Alliance. The mission of the PCA is for every athlete to have a positive character building experience. Workshops are offered and many coaches in attendance spoke of their benefit. The website is www.positivecoach.org. Teams may contact Marcos to arrange for a workshop.

Monty Curtis, with Southwestern University in Georgetown shared the news that lacrosse will be a varsity sport in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference in 2010. They are conducting a search for a head coach, www.southwestern.edu.

Nancy posted the amended rule changes – Eligibility 8.0, Code of Conduct, 1.0- Appendix F, and Team Timeline and Penalty Matrix 7.0 (Appendix J) on an overhead.

Each rule was voted on and each rule change passed.

6. David Hamill presented the proposed Rule Change:

Allowable Games 16.2

This rule change was passed almost unanimously.

7. Chris Peters presented the proposed Rule Change:

Voting process changes THSLL Awards for Coach of the Year, Asst. Coach of the Year, Man of the Year, 17.1 (Appendix K)

and

Voting process changes for US Lacrosse Awards 17.2 (Appendix L)

There was a lengthy discussion about the selection process, committees, etc.

Chris will send an email about the nominating and voting process to form the committee. The All American Selection Committee will be selected by Nov. 15th.

These rule changes were passed by unanimous vote.

8. Stacie McKay presented the proposed Rule Change:

3 minute penalty for benches (Appendix A)

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There was discussion about stadiums with tracks should not have to adhere to this rule. At this meeting the vote is to change the rule from a game forfeiture to a 3 minute non releasable penalty. A further rule change can be proposed for 2010.

This rule change was passed.

9. Stacie McKay presented the proposed Rule Change:

Unsportsmanlike penalty (Appendix A)

This rule change passed.

10. Joe Donoghue presented the proposed Rule Change:

THSLL recognized tournament standards 20.0 (Appendix M)

This rule change passed.

DI and DII teams went into breakout sessions

The major discussions in the DII/DIII meeting revolved around

- Bringing the THSLL more in line with UIL [set-up, rules, etc.]
- Dual-division programs - eliminating, changing so that 2 DI teams can play each other, etc.
- A coach from the Central district asked about a proposal to unify the DI and DII play-offs and asked why it wasn't presented to the entire state. Much discussion followed and Stacie outlined what the basics of the proposal were.
- A straw poll was taken to find out how many teams would be in favor of something like that, a majority of the teams were in favor. Almost all teams agreed that continued discussion needs to happen to work out exactly how a proposal like that would work.

Issues of Interest (to be discussed if time allows) were not all discussed, but all have been duly noted.

Discontinue Dual Division, 50% rule, Home school Eligibility, DII (Dual Division) programs transition up, Cut Player eligibility, UIL Integration, Combine Division I and II, Board Positions, State Promotion of Lacrosse

DI-Joe Donoghue presented Rule Change:

DI State Championship Section 4.2.1(Appendix H)

a. Yes or No

Many teams want to continue inter-district games There was discussion about lax power, seeding, 12 teams versus 16 teams etc. The vote in front of the teams is 12 team playoff "serpentine" seeding.

There was talk about DI playoff committee being formed

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The proposed structure passed with the amendment of inter-district games.

This rule change passed.

b. 2009 or 2010

This rule change was passed for 2010.

Closing:

Floor Discussion:

1. Need for more communication between THSLL Board and teams
2. Need for DII coordinators, Central and North
3. May District post season meetings will be implemented for input from programs before the annual BoD meeting in July.

Jeremy Platt and Mike Block with Strake Jesuit presented a proposal for restructuring the playoffs and THSLL. They furnished handouts outlining their ideas. Contact Mike for a copy at mblock@strakejesuit.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Handouts provided at the meeting:

Agenda

Draft THSLL Rulebook

Voting Issues

Budget

Team Roster Template

Sample Emergency Plan

Game Report

Game Schedule Template

Rule Change Form

Waiver Request Form

THSLL Board Organizational Chart

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Powers