

4/14/20

Montana High School Lacrosse Association

Minutes for 2nd Emergency Meeting re: Covid 19 pandemic/possible late lacrosse season

Meeting called to order at 5:34 pm by Matt Rizzolo

12 board members present

Tina Drain, Rachel Becker, Dan Carroll, Chris Fraser, Kris Fears, Mike Flaherty, Jacie Jeffers, John Noble

Lance Weppler, Matt Rizzolo, Mike Power, Sheryll Stewart

4 board members absent- Stephen Amish, Mary Drumm, Dave Madeira, Blake Wahlrich

Guest participating on call- Lyn Porterfield USL regional rep

Lyn Porterfield shared that USL in MD has cancelled all lacrosse events through 6/30. Summer camps and programs might be able to operate- players could be kept 6 ft apart for clinics. Some leagues are thinking of having a Fall program. She encouraged all of us to follow our state and local guidelines and that is why there has not been a national directive from US Lacrosse as each state is going to have a different situation. She said that if every player is a USL member then yes communicable diseases are covered under the general liability policy. But if the CDC and/or state and local governments were still to be saying no to gatherings then there would be risk of liability/a grey area for coverage if any program were breaking state or local laws regarding gatherings and social distancing. There will also be sanitation issues if any lacrosse events are held this summer- i.e. no back to back fields, sanitizing stations, hand washing stations, more space at tables, etc. Again, she stressed that no one policy will fit all states. If we did decide to hold a later season there would be the issue of finding field space and officials. She said most high school and youth leagues in our region have cancelled already- only one youth league in WA holding out at this point.

MHSA is not making another decision until 4/24. Wyoming Schools are out through 4/30 and WY spring HS sports have been cancelled.

Mike Flaherty made a motion to cancel our current season. Tina Drain seconded the motion.

Discussion on motion to cancel our current season:

Matt shared that Treasure State is not willing at this point to change their schedule or summer plans to accommodate us having a summer season also. At this point they hoping to at least have clinics, but know that games are probably not going to happen. Cody team is not interested in a summer season. Matt pointed out that currently all our fields are closed and the rules are stacked against us having a season. Sheryll Stewart insists she still has fields for May in Missoula and is not ready to give them up. She is hoping for at least a three week season. Only about 7 teams interested in a summer season. Big Sky is not interested. If we played in the summer we would be taking players away from summer

programs like NCLL. Tina pointed out we will still be required to practice social distancing well in to the Fall and Jacie concurred that Billings school teachers have been told to prepare for online teaching next Fall also. If we don't cancel tonight we would be putting off possible refunds.

Motion to cancel our current season did not carry.

5 in favor, 6 against, 1 abstain

In Favor- Tina Drain, Kris Fears, Mike Flaherty, Jacie Jeffers, Mike Power

Against- Dan Carroll, Chris Fraser, John Noble, Lance Wepler, Matt Rizzolo, Sheryll Stewart

Abstain- Rachel Becker

Additional General Discussion

No one wanted to discuss current financials provided by Kris Fears on Slack. Mike from Cody still wants to know what part of their program packet is missing. Sheryll Stewart said her players never received their awards nor did her team get a refund for officials' fees from last year. Next regular conference call is 4/21/20 at 7:30 p.m.

Lance Wepler made a motion to adjourn. Dan Carroll seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor of adjourning the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

KP

Kris Fears, Treasurer