



Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2009

Wheeler-Taft Library

1. Welcome and next season updates
 - a. Turn in registration packets - Make sure we have your team's jersey color and team rep contact info on the sign in sheet.
 - b. Dates for play - Season will begin January 8, 2010. We will take off Feb. 26, 2010 for Rodeo days and March 19, 2010 for Spring Break (Marana School District). These can be optional days for extra play but we will not schedule games at this time.
 - c. We plan on playing at the same fields we have been using this season (Arthur Pack, Marana, Riverfront and Desert Vista). We would like to add Dan Felix back into the schedule when it is available from the youth season being over.
2. Equipment Update
 - a. We still need teams to be better at not forgetting to pick up equipment and bringing it back by Saturday. Without it, we cannot update the scores and SP on-line in a timely manner OR schedule games for the next week's play! Next season, there will be a new penalty for forgetting equipment duties - your team will lose 5 SP and if you do not bring back the equipment by Sat you will lose your team rep voucher.
3. New Rules
 - a. Form is attached with all the new rules; New Forfeit rule, New Sportsmanship requirement for earning a returning spot next season, New registration deadline, New red card accumulation rule and New Equipment rule.
4. Playoffs
 - a. This season the playoffs are single elimination with uneven number of teams in each division. So each 1st place team had a bye the first game but advance on. They were scheduled for a friendly cross over game. Next season we will rate teams by their SP not their game standings. So the best SP would have the bye and advance. We will also choose all byes during the season by the lowest SP teams.
 - b. We have three teams that need to make sure that they get good SP marks in their playoff games or they are not eligible to win the Championship. Adrenaline needs to get a 7 or higher, Simpleview needs a 10 and Matrix needs a 6 or higher.
 - c. Any team that is below the 7pt average during playoffs will still not be eligible to win the championship (they will have to forfeit to the 2nd place team)
5. Discipline
 - a. We are tracking each player and team and how they do with cards and SP. If you have a player that earns a sit in the last game of the season - it will roll over to the next season. Their discipline will also follow them if they move to a different team the next season as well.
6. Referee update – Bill Degnan
 - a. Review what sportsmanship can be docked for – jewelry, not helping set up/take down the nets and equipment, messy sideline, kids running on the field, dissent, swearing, etc.
 - b. Sportsmanship points are not negotiable. You do not have the right to complain how a referee rates your team, but you may fill out a referee evaluation form and send it in if

- you ever have a legitimate issue that needs to be passed on to the referee assigner. He takes these seriously and reviews them and uses valid information to better his referees.
- c. Review procedure for referee evaluation form – information will only be accepted if submitted by the correct form from the website. Most (besides ridiculous) forms will at least be acknowledged by the board.
 - d. Highlight main “issues” in the league this season – jewelry, verbal dissent either directly or indirectly about/to the referees from both players and spectators.
 - e. Please review the Sportsmanship qualifications on the game card (listed on line in our rule book) so that you and your team are aware of what you can be docked for in a game.
7. Sportsmanship Points
- a. Any team that earns fewer than 7 SP average two seasons in a row will be suspended for a season (sit a season out).
 - b. Any team that is below the 7 SP average during playoffs will still not be eligible to win the championship (they will have to forfeit to the 2nd place team.)
 - c. Playoffs will now be bracketed by SP. So in other words the team with the lowest SP in a given division will be the team to have the bye if needed.
 - d. This will also be the case if there is ever a rain out or field closure. If a game has to be closed down (out of our control) and we have to chose a game or team to get a bye. It will be done by SP. The team with the lowest SP will get the bye. If a whole field is closed down and that part of the schedule is closed, then the SP procedure may not come into affect.
8. Misc. League News & Reminders
- a. We will have a new rule book printed up and ready to hand out at the first game in January. It will also be updated online before then.
 - b. Make sure you have enough players for your team to last all the way into the playoffs even if you have injuries, pregnancy, moves or drop outs.
 - c. You must notify the webmaster before the first game of the season of your team’s primary uniform color. It is your responsibility for this to be accurate on line. We use this for sending pinnies to the field for conflicting colors.
 - d. The board is aware that things happen and are happy to review situations from a team rep or players as needed, however, these must come in the form of the player evaluation form or we can not accept them. This form is kept and reviewed at our board meetings so that we can make corrections to the league as necessary – in other words, **NO RANDOM EMAILS TO THE BOARD EMAIL – ONLY player/referee evaluation forms filled out properly.**



Updated Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures

*Pick up Trash!

Don't forget to pick up trash when leaving your game. As a team rep it is your responsibility to check and make sure your team is leaving the field clean. If we leave trash at any of the fields we are contracted to use, they can refuse to give us a contract in the future. Please pick up trash as you leave and remind your players to do so as well.

*Playoff Eligibility

Your team needs to achieve a 7 sportsmanship average during the season to qualify to participate in playoffs.

*Sportsmanship Posting

Each week when game scores are posted, so are the sportsmanship points that your team earned. Please keep track of this because as it gets close to the end of the season it is your responsibility to remind your team if they need to do better in their last few games to qualify for playoffs.

*Accumulated Yellow Card Rule

Remember, if a player receives TWO yellow cards within one season they will receive a warning letter that if they receive one more they will be required to sit out the next game. Then, if the same player reaches the THREE card level, they will have to sit out a game and will receive another letter warning them that if they get a FOURTH card they will have to sit out the rest of the season. Each season this accumulation is wiped clean (unless they received their 3rd or 4th card in the last game of the season, then the suspension rolls over to the next season and must be served then).

*Calling Down a Game or Forfeiting (What is the difference? And how does this effect sportsmanship points?)

Calling down a game is when a team contacts the board and lets us know that they will not have enough players to play their game so they are not going to show up to play for their scheduled game.

Forfeiting a game is when you don't have enough required players to play the game properly AT the game. A forfeited game can still be played by picking up guest players (male or female) and a friendly game is played. **The objective of the league is to have all scheduled games played if at all possible.** Called down or forfeited games that are not played, will NOT be re-scheduled by the league. So it is a game missed on your schedule. **The team that calls down a game loses their entire SP for that night.** If a team finds itself in a situation where they are going to be short players the proper procedure is:

1. Contact the league and the team rep that it will affect by email to let them know your situation and your intentions:
 - You want to play the game, but may be short and have to forfeit, but you would still like to play a friendly.
2. Send out an email to the teams that play before or after you soliciting help from any players that want to play another game (females if you are trying not forfeit or males and females if you have already determined you won't have enough to not forfeit)
3. If the other team chooses to take the night off and not play a friendly, your team is not penalized. But if the other team wants to play still you are required to do what you can to get as many players there for a scrimmage.
 - Scrimmages are still refereed by the officiating crew that is scheduled at that field.
 - Both teams will have the opportunity to earn their full sportsmanship points.

New Forfeit Rule

If a team forfeits a game (that is not played by the definition above), they will be on probation for the rest of the current season. If that same team forfeits another game in the same season, their team will be suspended for the remainder of the current season.

New Sportsmanship Requirement for Earning a Returning Team Spot the Following Season

Beginning January 2010, for a team to receive a returning team spot for registration, that team will HAVE to earn an average over the season of at least EIGHT sportsmanship points. This doesn't mean that a team under EIGHT can't register, but NWASL cannot guarantee a team spot. Returning teams with more than EIGHT average sportsmanship points will receive the first available spots, then and ONLY then, new teams and any returning teams receiving below EIGHT points average can register -- pending enough open team spots (30 team maximum at this time).

Additional Player Registration Deadline

A team can add players to their team roster up to the FIFTH game of the season. After that, registrations will not be accepted for the current season.

New Red Card Accumulating Rule

- Three red cards accumulated during the player's NWASL **playing career** => suspension for the remainder of the season when third card is received and ineligible to register to play the next season.
- Four red cards accumulated during the player's NWASL **playing career** => suspension for the remainder of the season **and for life** (i.e., a lifetime suspension)

New Equipment Rule

*Equipment pick up or drop off is the team reps responsibility when your team is assigned. This does not mean that the team rep him/herself must do it, but must ENSURE that someone on the team picks up or drops off the nets and equipment as needed. When your team is assigned to return the equipment after the games, this HAS to be done Friday night after your game. If this is not possible, the absolute deadline to return the equipment is Saturday night. The league will be keeping track of teams dropping off the equipment. If it is not done properly, your team rep will lose their team rep voucher. Also, if your team forgets to pick up the equipment or return the equipment after the game, your team will lose 5 Sportsmanship Points.