

**Texas High School Lacrosse League
Annual State Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2009**

State meeting was held at Dallas Jesuit, Dallas, Texas
The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Ray Martin, THSLL
Commissioner. THSLL Board of Directors (Board) introduced
themselves. Patty conducted a roll call of teams.

In Attendance:

Alamo Heights
Allen
Anderson
Austin High School
Cedar Park
Colleyville
Coppell
Fort Bend
Friendswood
Highland Park
Hillcrest Lacrosse
Houston Christian
Jesuit
Katy
Keller
Kingwood
Kinkaid
Lake Highlands
Lamar
McKinney
Plano
Plano East
Plano West
Reagan
Southlake
St. Mary's Hall
Stony Point
Strake Jesuit
Trinity
Vista Ridge

Westside
Woodlands
Wylie

THSLL Board Members in attendance:

Patty Campo
Rick Cook
Joe Donoghue
Ray Martin
Bill Montez
Mike Ormsby
Al Picazo
Jay Widdig

Advisors

Ashley Gorham
Chris Schaffer
Nancy Powers - State Administrator

1. **Commissioner Address**

Ray spoke about his vision as commissioner for tackling the complex issues and forming a consensus among a diverse membership.

- Ray outlined his 4 P's approach to leadership; Participation, Process, Plan and Promotion.
- Ray discussed the role of the League Structure Committee and introduced its members who include Ray Martin, Steve Kirk, Dave Hamill and Mark Purcell (all in attendance).
- The results of the LSC survey that was conducted in August were:
 - ❖ THSLL received 71 responses from 41 programs. Members want school based lacrosse programs.
 - ❖ Involvement in the decision making process.
 - ❖ Additions of more districts or divisions.
 - ❖ A unified championship and continual adherence to NCAA rules.
 - ❖ There was no statewide consensus on the vision for the future.
- Three models for league structure include 1) Single, Unified, Uniform League Model 2) Developmental League Model and 3)

Statewide School Sanctioning (Constituency) Model.

- The League Structure Committee will conduct due diligence on the vision tracks and outline a THSLL Strategic Plan by December 2010 after gaining membership approval.
- The Members agreed after discussion that a super majority vote should be required for all voting matters that are related to the THSLL Strategic Plan and directly related rules changes.
- Ray's complete slide show outlining his commitment and the strategic planning process is attached as an addendum to the minutes.

2. Participation by the Membership is critical going forward.

Open positions include: League Structure sub-committee, League Program Development sub-committee, League Rules sub-committee, and League Strategic Planning Committee.

Open Board of Directors positions include North DI and DIII Coordinator, San Antonio DII and DIII Coordinators and Central DII and DIII Coordinators.

Attendees were asked if they wanted to discuss the voting items before breaking for lunch. There was a discussion on eligibility, UIL and the possibility of each district having its own eligibility committee.

Members adjourned for lunch at 12:30.

3. **Budget and Dues Increase Vote**

Jay presented the 2009 and 2010 budgets after the Members agreed to waive the reading of the minutes from the 2008 state meeting. A motion was made to increase annual dues by \$100 per team to cover an increase in the administrator's and webmaster's salaries, and to improve the existing THSLL website. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

<u>Dues Summary</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Difference</u>
DI Varsity	\$500	\$600	\$100
DII Varsity	\$500	\$600	\$100
DIII (& New)	\$350	\$450	\$100
JV	\$300	\$400	\$100

Teams will be billed with one invoice to include THSLL team fees and SWLOA Assigning Fees. If scheduling more than 15 games, an additional \$10 per game is charged by SWLOA and paid directly to SWLOA by teams.

4. Penalty Matrix Vote

Nancy presented the team timeline for form submission and game scheduling. A correction was made on the penalty matrix for game schedule submission to the on time date is November 30. Members can download all forms the THSLL website under required forms. Game scores will no longer transfer from the SWLOA website to THSLL. Home teams must submit a game report for scores to post. The game report can be submitted on the website. Officials will verify the score with the table at the end of each game but will not submit scores to THSLL. There was no change on penalty fees.

A motion to approve the penalty matrix and timeline was made, and unanimously approved by voice vote.

5. NCAA Stick Rule Waiver Vote

Ray presented the proposal for the stick waiver. Seven Board members were in favor, one opposed. The Board supports the stick rule for safety reasons and to follow NCAA rules. The Board passed the stick rule in June, however it was voted on again due to 20% of the membership supporting the proposal for the waiver. Financial hardship, the lack of procedures for enforcing illegal sticks, and the lack of new heads on the market were the main concerns. Eight teams in the room said they would have a problem acquiring new heads. Ray stated that SouthSwell Sports will offer Warrior heads for \$40 and that prices could be less expensive if purchased in quantities. Ray asked the Member teams with financial issues to notify the board and each case will be evaluated individually. Chapter Presidents for US Lacrosse may be willing to help.

A vote of yes was a vote to waive the rule for 2010 for Member teams; a vote of no was to support the rule for 2010 on all levels. 29 Members voted yes, 34 Members voted no. The requirement to follow the NCAA stick specifications passed again.

A motion was made to waive the stick rule for DIII teams for the 2010 season. That motion passed. DII teams not able to purchase sticks can move to DIII or bring their financial issues to the Board for discussion.

6. Vote to approve all outstanding rule waivers

A motion was made to vote on all 2010 NCAA rule waivers as a group (Appendix A, page 13 rulebook). The Crosse Specification waiver for DIII teams is the only new waiver. All were in favor, no opposed.

7. High Hits Game Review Vote

There was a brief discussion centering on the quality of tapes, the time allowed to submit the tape, the willingness of teams to share film and the viewing angle of the hit. It was agreed that coaches want to keep players safe and it is the coaches' responsibility to teach proper hitting skills. The Board vote was split on the proposal with 4 for and 4 against. After a voice vote by Member teams, the proposal was opposed unanimously.

8. Hillcrest 100% Rule Vote

There was some discussion that the 100% rule discourages teams from moving up to DI. Dave Hamill stated that the current rule allows 4 years for teams to attain 100% after moving to DI. The Board stated that the current goal is to have school-based programs and eliminating the existing rule would eliminate the incentive for teams to achieve 100%. The Board vote was split on this proposal with 4 for and 4 against. A vote of yes would eliminate 100% requirement and let eligibility rules decide. A vote of no would maintain the current rule. Members voted against the Hillcrest 100% proposal.

9. Hillcrest Eligibility Vote

There was discussion that the current rule is confusing. The Board's position is that the interpretation of the rule is clear even if the wording is ambiguous. The Board vote was 2 Board members were in favor, 6 opposed. A motion was made to delete "but lives in an independent school district" under the THIRD: School District heading and to delete the last 2 sentences under the Families

heading starting with “likewise players...“. A vote of yes approves the proposal with the 2 deletions and a vote of no leaves the rulebook as is for 2010. The proposal was opposed by the Membership.

Tom Fitzsimmons - US Lacrosse North Chapter President, President SWLOA presented “Vantage Point” a discussion how judgment is used on all calls. Tom addressed the need for officials, and discussed that coach’s evaluation of officials and feedback to SWLOA is important so they can improve performance. US Lacrosse Chapters are discussing using funds to evaluate officials.

10. Block/Platt Vote

After discussion, a motion was made to vote on the proposal. Board vote was 1 Board member in favor, 7 opposed. A vote of yes by Member teams was a vote to adopt the new structure for 2011. Members voted to oppose the proposal but proceed with some due diligence regarding league structure.

A motion to adjourn was made. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
Handouts provided at the meeting:

Agenda
Draft THSLL Rulebook
Voting Proposals
Budget
Commissioner Slide Presentation
Team Roster Template
Game Schedule Template
Game Change Form
Game Report Form
Sample Emergency Plan
Rule Proposal Form
Waiver Application Form

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Campo
Secretary