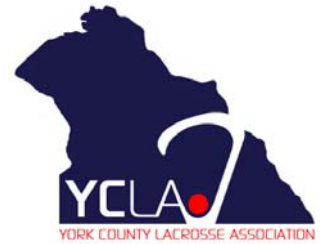


YORK COUNTY LACROSSE ASSOCIATION



Meeting Minutes –

May 3rd, 2009 at Penn-Air & Hydraulics Corp., York, PA.

The meeting was called to order by Bob Rhein at 6:01 pm. Roll call was performed:

Present:

CENTRAL YORK – John Yantek
DALLASTOWN - Phill Bates
EASTERN YORK – Bob Rhein
GOTHAM CITY – Dave Hagan Jr.
NEW OXFORD – Dan Badolato
NORTHERN YORK – Doug Gamber
RED LION – Joe Dashler
SHOOTING IRISH – Iona Conlon
SOUTH EASTERN – Melanie Greaver
SOUTH WESTERN – John Moore
SPRING GROVE – Dan Wilmot
WEST YORK – Mark Keim
YORK SUBURBAN – Nick Hendler
CHAIRMAN – Guy Muller

Excused Absence:

SUSQUEHANNOCK – Mark Norris

Absent:

None.

Guests:

Ted Schonbrunner – SOUTH EASTERN
Amy Haines – DALLASTOWN D.B.M.
Charlie Villier – CENTRAL YORK
Jim Gilhool – CENTRAL YORK
Troy Arnold – RED LION
David Stickler – EASTERN YORK D.B.M.

1. **Minutes** – Bob Rhein distributed minutes from the April 5th, 2009 meeting. Dan Wilmot of Spring Grove asked that the minutes reflect that he abstained from his Club's vote in April regarding the By Law modification. Nick Hendler made a motion to accept the minutes as is (to include Dan's exception). John Moore seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved and the minutes were updated and distributed to include Dan's exception.

2. Old Business

- a. **Referee Update - (SPLOA):** Nick Hendler asked that we strike this topic from the agenda for future meetings. Aside from a few operational issues, all the games are assigned and running very well. 62 officials are in the Association and 31 are doing PIAA games. Melanie questioned how to pay the officials with multiple assignments. Nick explained that you take the full rates minus \$10 for a ref who is there for more than one game. Dan added a comment about payment of officials for next year may go through the Assignor. Dave Hagan Jr. asked about ABW and why they do not have access to the system. Nick Hendler responded to this. Phill Bates stated that Dallastown cuts checks to each coach to pay each referee. Bob Rhein also reinforced that each Head Coach should rate the officials on ABW within 24 hours of their game. It takes two minutes to complete. Ted offered positive comments about the efforts of the Junior officials. Troy Arnold also offered positive feedback as did a few other Board members regarding the difference between the SPLOA and the CPLOA.

→ Action Item: None.

- b. **LAXFEST May 16th – Central York Overview:** Charlie Villier offered details about the pending event. Games will run from 9:00 am – 7:30 pm. This will include a coach's game. \$22 per player and this needs to be prepaid. Four people per team plus one alternate are invited. If you have an outstanding goalie, he can attend as well. There will be MS Girls games and the fee is \$150 per team. When you arrive and register, you get a piney and water bottle; t-shirts are available for sale at the event. Games on the side...trick sticks, radar gun and food. CYLC needs help with volunteers for the dunk tank. Jim Gilhool has offered to pay back to the Association 50% of the net proceeds. Dan asked about some the details - renting the stadium for \$50 per hour, extra insurance for \$250 coverage, CYLC will offer to split the profit. Charlie has three hours to fill based on last year's Boys HS schedule so he is offering MS Girls games. Officials will be supported by Tim Link. Bob Rhein stated that CYLC is doing a great job and it should be a fun day for everyone.

→ Action Item: Central York to communicate the final details in the next week and Bob Rhein to email media (done on May 14th.)

- c. **Spring Grove Tournament (Lumberjax Shootout) – Recap:** Dan Wilmot shared that there were over 90 games and great sportsmanship was demonstrated throughout the day. Dan announced that Eastern York won all three awards for sportsmanship for the U-9, U-11 and U-13 levels of play. This was determined by the official's ratings after each game as well as the total number of penalties per game. The U-15 Sportsmanship Award went to Northern York. A U-15 secondary Sportsmanship Award also went to Shooting Irish U-15 who played most of the day with less than 12 players. Dan will send the summary to the YCLA electronically. Dan shared that next year, they want to go two days for the event. Board Members shared that it was an outstanding event and very well run.

→ Action Item: Dan will provide a summary electronically of who won all four levels of play in addition to winning the sportsmanship awards.

- d. **Roster Review – Player Numbers for both boys and girls:** Bob surveyed the YCLA Board Members to try to obtain the final numbers for each club with respect to boys and girls from youth through HS levels. Some Clubs were still missing their numbers for girls.

→ Action Item: Bob to email those clubs who have not completed the survey. The summary was sent on June 2nd to the Board & US Lacrosse.

- e. **YCLA By-Laws & Process:** Discussion took place initially by Bob regarding Roberts Rules. It was suggested in a previous email from Dallastown that the YCLA Board follow Roberts Rules. Bob reinforced that the YCLA process does in fact follow Roberts Rules, but reminded Board members that only one person speaks and until everyone has an opportunity to speak, a Board Member may not speak twice on the same topic. Nick spoke on behalf of York Suburban. He stated that a Club is not in compliance at this time. No other Club has been in violation previously. Dave Hagan Jr. (RL President) spoke on behalf of Red Lion. He stated that personal preferences seems to be the history over the last year. He shared that the YCLA Board is getting away from the kids. He stated that the Board voted electronically and that it is a double standard. He acknowledged the Association has to have rules and Clubs must abide by the rules. Dave stated on several occasions that there is a political aspect to all of this. Bob Rhein spoke on behalf of Eastern York as well as spoke in his role as President. He stated that the process the YCLA follows allows all 14 member clubs to share their ideas and comments on a monthly basis for ways to improve. All motions, votes and results come as a direct by product of feedback from all 14 clubs. There is no club and no officer in the YCLA who has any more power or authority than the other members of the Board. Guy Muller spoke about the issue. Nick Hendler briefly answered some questions about the issue. Dan Wilmot asked how much teeth do we have and reinforced that this is for the kids. He stated that as an Association, we cannot dictate to a Club. Phill asked if we were defined as an in house league or not. We should consider a club as in house or an independent. Interleague play is an option that all Clubs have. Troy Arnold asked a question about the motion. He read the motion...are they really out of compliance? At that moment, Dave Hagan Jr. announced that Red Lion Youth Lacrosse and Gotham City Thunder were no longer members of the YCLA and he walked out of the meeting. Joe Dashler and Troy Arnold also left the meeting without comment. After the three individuals left the meeting, Doug Gamber commented that it is imperative that we stick together for continuity purposes. Dave Hagan withdrew from the YCLA as did Gotham City. Mark Keim suggested that we talk about the ramifications in our June meeting. Ted Schonbrunner spoke about getting lacrosse into the High Schools. Doug Gamber had to leave but suggested that the President take action. Bob Rhein asked if we should let the situation go or if he should write a letter to Red Lion Youth Lacrosse and Gotham City Thunder to acknowledge what happened. It was suggested that Bob Rhein should send a letter to them to confirm their request to withdraw from the YCLA but also provide a path to rejoin the Association.

→ Action Item: Bob to write a letter to and summarize what happened (done on May 5th and included in the May minutes - Footnote A)

3. New Business

- a. **Lacrosse the Field (this was the very first topic of the meeting):** Mike Cramer, York Suburban Coach presented this community service project to the YCLA Board looking for support. Shiloh Nurseries and Brown Orchards are providing the land for the planting of a large vegetable garden. Mike asked for donations. In June, all YCLA lacrosse players are being invited to volunteer to work the land along side of the York Suburban Lacrosse Club. Mike will call it "Lacrosse The Field". Dustin Dohm has offered to do the banner as sponsorship for the project. Mike has a number of contacts with the media. Shipley Green Team van will support it as well. Land is really close to the old Shiloh Nurseries and all the food will go to the York County Food Bank. Mike extended an invitation to the YCLA to participate and would like to include the YCLA if anyone is interested. Mike shared the preliminary logo with the Board.

→ Action Item: Mike will send an email to Bob Rhein as a summary of the event (done May 6th).

- b. **YCLA Post Season Tournament – Nick:** Nick Hendler recapped last year's event and shared the details for what will take place this year. There is a tournament on Sunday at Penn Manor so some teams cannot be scheduled for play the first day. Nick has offered to coordinate the event and will email out the details this week.

→ Action Item: Nick to email the details of the event (done throughout the month of May).

- c. **U-9 & U-11 Roster/Level Criteria - Dallastown:** Phill Bates stated that we don't have enough kids to run A & B levels of play. First year vs. second year vs. A & B. He shared what Dallastown does and Mark Keim shared what West York does.

→ Action Item: This will be reviewed for next spring.

- d. **U-9 Youth Rules (NFHS vs. NCAA) – Dan:** Bob Rhein brought this topic up as it was shared via email by some coaches from Spring Grove. Dan commented on the topic as well. Currently, the YCLA has adopted the NFHS rulebook for the spring 2009 season of play.

→ Action Item: None.

- e. **Youth Games – Score Table Area:** Bob Rhein stated that he had been asked by the SPLOA to review the procedure for the score table area. A scorekeeper from each team is asked to be present and sit by the primary score table by the penalty box for all post season games. They scorekeeper should not stand in the coach's box with the coaches. They are asked to remain silent during the game and to record the score only...not to cheer or coach from the box area.

➔ Action Item: None.

- f. Additional:

- a. **SYSL - Announcement:** Bob Rhein passed out the flyers that were provided by Russ LeBlanc for the Southern York Summer League.
- b. **In-House Rules:** Phill Bates suggested that we discuss in house rules at our next meeting.
- c. **Letter to the YCLA Board:** Bob Rhein read a two page letter to the YCLA Board (included in the May minutes – Footnote B)

➔ Action Item(s): None.

- 4. **Next Meeting** – The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on Sunday, June 7th, 2009 at 6:00 pm (**note that this time may change due to a summer tournament taking place that day in Reading**) at Penn-Air & Hydraulics Corp.
- 5. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

FOOTNOTE A:

The following letter was sent on May 5th at 6:07 am:

TO: Red Lion Lacrosse Club; Gotham City Thunder
ATTN: Mr. Joe Dashler, Mr. Dave Hagan Jr.
CC: YCLA Board Members
BCC: Red Lion Lacrosse Club Parents

Joe & Dave -

I am writing to you at the request of the York County Lacrosse Association (YCLA) concerning the withdrawal of the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder from the YCLA during our monthly board meeting held on May 3rd, 2009. The 12 Clubs that now remain in the Association as members in good standing have asked me as President, to document what took place and to provide a gateway for both the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder to reopen communication. This is being done with the focus on "what is best for the players" as you had suggested during our meeting. I am also blind copying several Red Lion Lacrosse Club parents who have expressed their concern over what they have read from Dave Hagan relating to Sunday nights meeting. These parents have expressed their concerns to me as President of the Association in the last 24 hours and have requested a response from me as President of the Association.

At the time Club President, Dave Hagan, Jr., announced that the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder were withdrawing their memberships from the YCLA, the Association Board Members were having a discussion about what repercussions may befall a Club that operates in non-compliance with the YCLA By-Laws. This was conversation, discussion and commentary based on our process following Roberts Rules. At the time, there were no motions presented to the membership nor were any votes cast or decisions made.

During the discussion, the representative from West York, Mark Keim, suggested that the Clubs ponder this topic on their own during the next month, and report suggestions back to the YCLA at the next board meeting. Currently the remaining 12 member clubs are discussing this topic on their own and intend to present suggestions to the YCLA at its next board meeting in June.

The Association feels that the withdrawal of the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder from the YCLA was premature, as discussion had not been completed regarding By-Law non-compliance, and this discussion will continue at least for another month. Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder's decision to get up and walk out of the meeting while announcing its withdrawal from the Association is completely opposed to the mission statement of the YCLA.

The YCLA By-Laws read, "The purposes for which the York County Lacrosse Association has been organized are: To set up a league with the intention of promoting lacrosse programs in York & Adams County; thereby hoping to bring about good character building, good citizenship, and spiritual and physical development for its members. To promote, by example, the highest standards of sportsmanship and good team fellowship, thereby helping to build a better York & Adams County in which to live. To establish a code of conduct and rules under which the York County Lacrosse Association and all members will support."

As a result of your withdrawal from the Association, the players belonging to your programs can no longer participate in the 2009 LaxFest or YCLA Post Season Tournament, which are Association sponsored events. The Association membership is confused as to why there was such an urgency on the part of your leadership to withdraw from the YCLA on Sunday night, and as to why all those representing Red Lion and Gotham City thunder left prior to the conclusion of the meeting. It may have been more prudent to wait until the discussion had been completed and to attend the full meeting, prior to making that decision.

The Association would like to extend an invitation to the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder to consider applying to become YCLA member Clubs again.

The YCLA offers a safe haven for youth lacrosse players in the York-Adams area by providing a framework based on the Positive Coaching Alliance concept of ROOTS. This acronym stands for Rules, Opponents, Officials, Teammates and Self. Our Association operates for the benefit of lacrosse players in York and Adams counties and our mission is to promote the growth of the sport of lacrosse in South Central Pennsylvania.

In order to become a YCLA member Club, prospective Clubs must apply, commit to adhere to the YCLA By-Laws and league regulations, and must obtain a majority vote approving their request at a regularly scheduled YCLA Board meeting. Please strongly consider this invitation to apply for YCLA membership immediately. As you are aware, there is time sensitivity as two major events are being planned this week with deadlines falling this coming Friday.

Laxfest takes place on Saturday, May 16th. The Laxfest Committee from Central York Lacrosse Club who is hosting the event has asked all the YCLA Board Members to have their coaches complete the forms and submit their selections no later than Friday, May 8th. The post season tournament is also being drafted this week by Nick Hendler and your decision to re-apply for membership directly impacts the bracketing of games in all four age groups.

With that said, I would respectfully request that a response from each of you as the YCLA Board Members for Red Lion Lacrosse and Gotham City Thunder be submitted to me, as President & Secretary **on or before Wednesday, May 6th at 8:00 pm**. Your response should be emailed to me so that I may present your decision to our Association.

In the event you both decide to re-apply by committing to adhere to the YCLA By-Laws and Association regulations, an immediate electronic vote will be initiated on Wednesday evening to the current 12 YCLA Board Members asking for their decision to reinstate Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder back into the Association. This will be done within 24 hours to enable the Laxfest Committee and the Post Season Committee to complete their requirements in the timeline stated above. Should there be a tie in the voting process, our Chairman, Guy Muller will cast the final vote.

In the event I do not receive your written response in the defined timeline, then the YCLA will accept the decision of Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder to withdraw its membership. The Association would like to extend a message of thanks to the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder programs for participating in the YCLA. All YCLA Clubs consider both the Red Lion Lacrosse Club and Gotham City Thunder programs as worthy opponents on the field in addition to friends both on and off the field.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Rhein
President & Secretary
York County Lacrosse Association (YCLA)

ROOTS ==> *Honor the Game*

Email: brhein@pennair.com
Work #: (717) 840-8100 [ext. 316]
Mobile #: (717) 577-1600
Website: www.yorkcountylacrosse.org

Please note that this was the final vote (South Western voted in favor after the deadline).

TO: YCLA Board Members
BCC: Red Lion Lacrosse Club Parents

I have updated the final vote count below...FYI.

From: Bob Rhein
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2009 11:23 AM
Subject: Statement from the YCLA - RLLC & GCT Withdrawal...RESULTS

TO: YCLA Board Members
BCC: Red Lion Lacrosse Club Parents

Based on the results to date, the Red Lion Lacrosse Club has been reinstated back into the York County Lacrosse Association. This brings the total membership of YCLA Clubs to 13. For the record, Gotham City Thunder did not request reinstatement back into the YCLA so they are not a member of the YCLA. I have published the count early as there are time sensitive decisions that Central York must make based on the Laxfest deadline tomorrow. In addition, the post season tournament committee has deadlines as of tomorrow. I will publish the final vote count early tomorrow morning.

Red Lion provided the following statement to the membership via email yesterday morning. In doing so, they agree to adhere to the current By-Laws which help to govern our Association and hold all Member Clubs accountable:

“Red Lion has no problem to adhere to the current By-Laws.”

Results (11 voted): 11 (Y) & 0 (N) – 12 Member Clubs able to vote – as of 5/8/09 @ 6:45 am.

Central York: John Yantek - YES

Dallastown: Phill Bates - YES

Eastern York: Bob Rhein – YES

New Oxford: Dan Badolato - YES

Northern York: Doug Gamber - YES

Shooting Irish: Iona Conlon - YES

South Eastern: Melanie Greaver - YES

Spring Grove: Dan Wilmot - YES

South Western: John Moore – no vote received

Susquehannock: Mark Norris - YES

West York: Mark Keim - YES

York Suburban: Nick Hendler - YES

FOOTNOTE B:

The following letter was sent on May 3rd to all YCLA Board members at 8:20 pm as well as being read at the conclusion of the meeting:

TO: YCLA Board Members
CC: Guy Muller - Chairman
FROM: Bob Rhein – President & Secretary
DATE: May 3rd, 2009

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that I will be retiring from the York County Lacrosse Association at the conclusion of our fiscal year in June of 2009. I have made the decision to share this in advance so that each Board Member can take the time to consider what role(s) they would like to fulfill as of July of 2009.

As I transition in my role as President, I do so with the knowledge that the YCLA Board is stronger today than it has ever been. Since 1998, I have served in some capacity in terms of administering boy's lacrosse in York County. From 1998 to 2003 when the York Lacrosse Club was ultimately transitioned into the York County Lacrosse League, I had the privilege of working along side of some great mentors like Larry Heim, John Gerstmyer and Tim Horn to name just a few. In 2003 when the York County Executive Committee was created, I again had the privilege of learning from some outstanding people like Dave Reeder and TJ Buchanan. In 2005, the York County Lacrosse Association was officially formed and I have had the honor of serving as the elected President for the past 4 years.

I am confident that the people serving on the Board today have the best interest of growing the sport far beyond even the 2,300 boys and girls that are playing today. It is my desire to see this passion for the growth of the game continue in the years ahead.

In March, I came to this decision and feel strongly today that it is in the best interest of my family and the Association that new leadership step forward. I have two daughters who will be attending college together and playing Division 1 Women's Volleyball starting later this summer. Our family plans to spend significant time in North Carolina in support of their college activities and endeavors.

Thanks to US Lacrosse and Positive Coaching Alliance, in addition to the past and present Board Members, the people that I have met through the great game of lacrosse have brought so many wonderful people into my life that otherwise I would not have known. I am thankful and so appreciative for the tremendous support and help that I have received along the way in my role as President.

Unfortunately, the person who will be assuming the role of President along with the other Executive roles in the Association will have the challenge of rebuilding the reputation of the York County Lacrosse Association.

As a result of an incident that took place on April 9th of this year, the Dallastown Wildcat Lacrosse Club took it upon themselves to by pass the process clearly outlined in our YCLA By-Laws relating to disciplinary issues. This culminated in eight separate emails being sent by parents of players, one email being sent by the wife of the coach and one email being sent by the Dallastown Wildcat Board of Directors. All of these emails were sent to the key executives of US Lacrosse and Positive Coaching Alliance. This includes the President and CEO of US Lacrosse, the Executive Assistant to the President of US Lacrosse, the Directing Manager of the Youth Council for US Lacrosse, the Central PA Chapter President for US Lacrosse in addition to the Chairman of the YCLA. In addition, all of the emails were sent to the Founder and President of Positive Coaching Alliance.

On April 23rd, approximately 2 weeks after the event took place, the emails were shared with me by the Executives of US Lacrosse. US Lacrosse has shared with both Dallastown Wildcat Lacrosse as well as me that they do not adjudicate in local issues such as this. US Lacrosse has asked that as President of the Association, I bring resolution to the issue by communicating with each one of you to enable our disciplinary process to take place. I am more than comfortable with my actions during and after the game. Based on the initiation of the emails and the accusations stated in the emails, our disciplinary process must take place per our YCLA By-Laws.

In order to bring resolution, David Stickler, the Eastern York Disciplinary Board Member will be communicating with the York County Lacrosse Association Board Members to arrange for the Disciplinary Board to meet prior to our June YCLA Board meeting. As a result of the meeting in June, I will look forward to starting the process to rebuild the reputation of the York County Lacrosse Association, the reputation of the Eastern York Lacrosse Club as well as my own reputation in the role as your President and Secretary.

In my role as President of this Association, I thank each of you for your trust that has been established and the strong relationships and friendships that have resulted. I will cherish the memories of having been part of such a great group of people.

As it relates to lacrosse, my commitment in the future will be primarily focused on the Eastern York KNIGHTS Lacrosse Club and expanding the program to include a U-15 and/or a 7th and 8th grade team next year. I will be working closely with the school board, athletic director, superintendent and the local community to do everything I can to bring lacrosse to the Eastern York High School student population. In addition, I will be supporting the families from Northeastern and Columbia who are

currently participating in our Eastern York Lacrosse program. I will assist with their efforts to enable the YCLA to have two additional Clubs for the 2010 spring season.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your President. Thank you for your time, effort and energy that each of you have invested to help the York County Lacrosse Association promote the game of lacrosse in the south Central PA area.

Best regards,

Bob Rhein
President & Secretary
York County Lacrosse Association (YCLA)

ROOTS ==> *Honor the Game*

Email: brhein@pennair.com
Work #: (717) 840-8100 [ext. 316]
Mobile #: (717) 577-1600
Website: www.yorkcountylacrosse.org