

Washington State DA's Meeting – September 30, 2023
Lake Washington School District Offices/Redmond 9:30AM

- I. Call to Order – Chairman Glen Dickason called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM
- II. Roll Call - All districts were present.
- III. Glen led off the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Pat Ryan leading in the Little League Pledge
- IV. Introduction of Guests – Glen introduced Andrew Cortez from the Western Regional Office
- V. Approval of Past Minutes. - October 1, 2022, and December 6, 2022 - Motion to approve both D-2, Second D-9 Approved.
- VI. Old Business
 - A. Revision to by-laws - Section 5 & Section 7 amended to clarify that the secretary and information officer's terms are up to three years and expire at the end of the coordinator's term. Motion D-2/Second D-9.
 - B. Umpire Revision to Section 6 amended to include all new language, including addition of a softball coordinator. Term of office amended to extend term of office up to 3 years, concluding at the end of the coordinator's term. Motion D-2/Second D-11.
 - C. State Tournament Report –
 - Jr. Softball/D-4 Restricting Coolers from the Stands really helped control the rowdiness in the stands. All went well.
 - Major Softball/D-4 All went well. The team had problems when they got to Regionals but it got cleared up (Regional Error).
 - 9/11 Softball/D-3 There were clearly haves and have not teams. There were big blowouts on the first day, but things were more balanced after that.
 - 8/10 Softball/D-8 All went well.
 - Sr. Baseball/D-9 Everything went well. All players got medallions.
 - Jr. Baseball/D-13 Had excellent umpires for the tournament. Some vandalizing at the hotel, had to talk with parents/manager. 1 ejection.
 - Intermediate Baseball/D-3 It was fun. Had minor problem on an adjacent field.
 - Major Baseball/D-2 Had Managers meeting morning of first game. Went well.
 - 9/11 Baseball/D-11 No problems. Parents great.
 - 8/10 Baseball/D-5 Othello went out of their way to welcome teams. All had a great time. Had 1 ejection.

After the reports were complete, there was a lengthy discussion about pro and con on everyone being allowed to give medals to different number of teams. Some DA's gave

the minimum as per the guidelines and some gave medals to all teams. Both sides were adamant on their view. Those with a lot of district money felt they should be able to give to all players. Some parents objected to medals labeled “participant” in the districts where more than the first and second places were awarded. Many districts couldn’t afford to do more than the minimum. Discussion ended with districts agreeing everyone could do as they wanted and could afford.

D. Regional Tournament report – Andrew Cortez Gave a report on the Regional Tournament at San Bernadino. Small problem on the softball but they got it clarified quickly. They need more volunteers for the softball. Baseball went well. D-9 brought up that they need more participants to the DA’s Travel Fund.

E. World Series Report – Andrew Cortez reported that all went well at Williamsport.

F. Challenger Report – Bev Newsome reported that the Challenger program went well and they expanded a couple of teams this year. There were issues with communication with the Mariners and teams were invited to their events that shouldn’t have been.

G. West Regional Report – Andrew

Regional Roundtable meeting will be January 19/21 at Anaheim Hilton (\$169 + taxes per night) (registration opens on the 19th). Washington State DA’s will have a side meeting there. Friday afternoon 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will be round tables and meetings. DA’s will be given a stipend of \$250. Each person need to make her/her own reservations at the hotel.

Umpire Training for post-season will be Oct 13/15 and 20/22. Weeklong is Nov 11/17 There will be a new Insurance Policy starting January 1.

Lots of discussion about the new umpire postseason policy as well as waivers, tournament eligibility and combined teams.

H. Board of Directors Report - Janice Christensen

Not much changing and no big issues.

I. Donation to Western Regionals – Glen noted who had donated and the amounts (see agenda)

J. Other Old Business – None brought up.

VII New Business

A. Umpire Report – Was given out of order at the end of the meeting

Dennis Williams gave a report from the Umpires Meeting (Meeting was held in parallel with the Main meeting). For Major Baseball and Softball, there will be an umpires identification Camp but the ID camp will be by *invitation only* and the invitation will come from a headquarters-appointed ID Committee. These camps will be used to

identify umpires for Regional and all World Series tournaments. There are a lot of questions yet to be answered as to who appoints this ID Committee and how does an umpire get on the ID Committee list of potential umpires. The bottom line is the old way of nominating umpires for the major league divisions by DA's and Regional offices recommendations is a thing of the past (Note: Foreign Umpires will still be selected the old way). The other levels of Tournament Play will remain the same. Dennis mentioned they felt the District UICs needed better communications with their respective DA's

Dennis's term continues for one year. He has unofficially selected Bill Kosmos as an assistant for baseball due to Dennis's increased responsibilities with regionals. Darren Leggett was elected to a term as softball umpire in chief. Per new constitution section, his term will expire next fall.

- B. State Action Plan – The Regional Office is asking each State to submit items that can go in the Action Plan for their state (form attached to agenda). Some discussion followed to give some examples of items to submit.

Lunch Break

- C. State Tournament Dates – (Draft attached). Everyone committed to host the assigned tournament except D-4 did not want Sr. Baseball so it is open. Major Baseball will probably be in Aberdeen. Major Softball will be in Kirkland American. Dates of State tournaments sent with agenda are not firm and will be discussed in Anaheim. The State Tournament Rotation matrix was also included with the agenda. D-13 moved/D-2 seconded to look at tournament start dates to spread them out. D-11 moved/D-9 seconded to table until the January meeting so everyone has a chance to look for solutions. Second motion passed.
- D. Tournament Requirements – Medals for 1st and 2nd. Was discussed earlier (see Section VI-C at the end of that section)
- E. Portable Mounds – Andrew stated they need individual requests for waivers each year. No blanket approvals.
- F. Regional office must approve the tournament bracket each year before a tournament can start. Recommendation is that all brackets get date and time approved printed on it.
- G. Rob Little (D-9) gave a presentation on Bracket Builder. He showed how to use this very easy tool to make brackets and how easy it was to update them. Emphasized how this bracket results in an approved format for Regionals to review.
- H. Post Season Umpire Selection Process – (See Umpires Report at the end of Minutes)
- I. AIG Insurance Non-Renewal – (see VI-G for report from Andrew)

J. State Directory – Glen handed it out. Five Districts did not submit updates for 2023 and were sent the same as 2022. If updates aren't received for 2024, they will also remain the same as last year.

K. State Tournament Draws – Will be at Regional Meeting in January

L. Diamond Leader Training – Andrew stated it will be required every year

M. Date and place of next meeting – January 19/21 at Anaheim

N. Roundtables – (se Regional Report Section VI G)

O. Constitution Review – Glen urged all DA's to review the Constitution suggested changes as sent in the agenda, because it has quite a few ambiguities and unnecessary language in it. Secretary suggested it be revised to stagger officers elections to provide continuity to officers.

P. Other New Business – None brought up.

Glen closed the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Chadwick

John Chadwick, Secretary

Glen Dickason

Glen Dickason, Chairman