

Missouri Youth Rugby
Annual Coaches Association Meeting
September 20, 2015
Jefferson City

AGENDA

Missouri Youth Rugby Board of Directors Update

Mission - Promote and support the growth of high school rugby and youth rugby; Educate the public, as well as any participants, on the laws of the game of rugby as played under the laws of the International Rugby Board; Expand high school and youth rugby competition throughout the state of Missouri.

Organizational Structure

The Board of Directors
Staff

High School Coaches' Association Youth Programs
High School Coaches' Association Sub-Committees

Administrative

501©3 Status – We are recognized as a tax-exempt entity
Tax ID Update
990s – We have filed our tax report
Secretary of State Filing – Registered through August 2017

Hiring of Part-time Executive Director

Financial Update

2015 Boys' State Tournament check presentation

2015 Girls State Championship Tournament

October 31 in Kansas City

2016 Boys' State Championship Tournament

May 7-8 in Jefferson City at Lincoln University. The tournament will be run by Missouri Youth Rugby. It will not rotate locations for the foreseeable future so that Missouri Youth Rugby can build the event and corporate sponsorships.

Missouri Youth Rugby Board Nominations

Directors are needed to help guide and support all Missouri Youth Rugby programs.

Public Relations

We will be re-working our website and social media presence. We are working on a promotional video which can be used by all clubs.

National Development Summit – January 2016

Missouri Youth Rugby will be sending a representative.

Policy Discussions

Every assistant coach, administrator, and volunteer associated with a Missouri Youth Rugby club or program needs to be CIPP registered with USA Rugby.

MY Rugby Growth

Youth

Current programs

1. Mid America Youth Rugby (Kansas City)
2. Jefferson City Rookie Rugby
3. St. Louis Rookie Rugby
4. St. Louis West Rookie Rugby

8th Grade Pilot Programs

Missouri Youth Rugby is working with USA Rugby to establish a “Try On Rugby” program in Kansas City. The program is focused on introducing girls to rugby. USA Rugby is providing matching grants for administrators to run the program. We hope to learn from the pilot program and expand it to St. Louis and Central Missouri.

Missouri Youth Rugby would also like to establish and grow middle school contact programs to fill the void between Rookie Rugby non-contact and the high school full contact programs which exist currently.

High School

Branson, Franklin County, Oak Park, and Springfield are all potential schools/areas for expansion which have contacted Missouri Youth Rugby about establishing a high school program.

Missouri Youth Rugby Coaches Association Meeting

Call To Order

Elections – The High School Coaches' Association needs to elect a Vice-President and Secretary. The current Vice-President is Andy Wenger and the current Secretary is Chris Lawler. All five of the board positions are equal so the titles are relatively meaningless. Therefore, we will vote for both positions during the same electronic vote. Each club will vote for two nominees. The voting will follow the rules in the Coaches' guidelines. The nominees for the Coaches' Board are: Mike Cowger, Tracey Davies, Joe Fedkin, Andy Wenger.

Official Disciplinary Policy – Copies of a disciplinary policy were distributed during the annual meeting. The policy will be adopted or rejected based on the vote which will be held in conjunction with the aforementioned electronic vote for board positions. Each club is vote to approve or reject the policy as proposed.

Player Eligibility – We discussed the eligibility of players who attend high school outside of Missouri. Currently there are several players who fit this category and Missouri Youth Rugby's rules allow them to do so. It was discussed changing the current rules to disallow non-Missouri students from competing towards the Missouri State Title. After discussion it was determined that in order to change the eligibility policy, a formal petition would need to be presented to the Missouri Youth Rugby Board of Directors and they would have the final say over its approval or rejection.

Requirements for new teams joining the girls' 7s league or the boys' 15s league

Girls' 7s

- Paid club registration by September 9, 2015
- CIPP registered level 200 by September 9, 2015

Boys' 15s

- Paid club registration by November 30, 2015
- CIPP registered level 200 coach by November 30, 2015

*Teams formed after deadlines are welcome to play matches but will not compete toward their league's respective State Title.

Match Scheduling Priorities

- All district matches must be scheduled prior to any friendly matches
- District matches should be scheduled in April, but as long as both coaches agree to the match date then the match can proceed.

Referee Topics

- Scheduling – For the Girls' 7s season Chris Bell and Anna Kunkel are scheduling referees. Missouri Youth Rugby is working on a formal agreement with the Mid-America Referee Society to schedule referees moving forward. There was some discussion of establishing a Missouri Youth Rugby Referee Society. At this time we are pursuing an agreement with the referee society which is already in place.

All-State Programs

2015 Girls All-State

The Missouri High School Girls' All State team competed in the Rocky Mountain Regional Cup Tournament in Denver, CO on June 20-21. After a valiant effort and improving each game they played in, they finished 0-4 but had two players from the team named to the Tourney All Star team. The girls and coaches learned a lot.

Tina Nelson and Anna Kunkel will be offering the Girls All-Star program again in 2016. Tryouts will be in April/May 2016, followed by at least two 1 day prep events (or weekend event), and culminating in attending the RTC in June 2016.

2015 Boys All-State

John Watson put together a strong lead-up to the Midwest Regional Cup Tournament in Rockford, IL on June 27-28. Player selection began with two 1-day camps held in Jefferson City and Columbia, respectively. Both camps included varsity, junior varsity, and Rookie Rugby sections. Then warm-up matches were held against Tennessee, Georgia, and Kentucky in Nashville, TN; against Kansas in Jefferson City; and against Illinois in St. Louis.

To further develop the All State team, the coaches involved are working to create a St. Louis and Kansas City academy teams.

Lastly, Lindenwood University is partnering with the Eagle Impact Rugby Academy to host camps on Oct. 25 from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm, Dec. 6 from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm, and Jan. 10 from 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm. These camps are open to any player who registers (cost of \$350).