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| SSWA LOGO Transparent 3cm | **SCHOOL SPORT WA**  **MINUTES**  **SHS Country Delegates Meeting**  Friday 18 August 2023 | SSWA LOGO Transparent 3cm |

**TIME:** 10:00am – 12:00pm

**PLACE:** WebEx

1. **Attendance:** Peter Smith, Matt Lovejoy, Andrew McWhirter, Stacey Harper
2. **Apologies**: Jason Reid, Alex McLennan, Robyn Brierley
3. **Business arising from previous minutes [18 July 2023]**

* Netball – 10 minute quarters – agreed to only shorten game time if required for fixturing purposes. It was also agreed that rolling subs be incorporated into the rules for 2024
* Second Volleyball Venue – agreed to use either UWA Gym or Loftus based on which facility could provide the best fit with fixtures.
* Touch Football Drop-offs – agreed to use Drop-offs to determine winners in finals games.
* Indoor Cricket Status – agreed that Indoor Cricket would become a points scoring sport in 2024.
* Volleyball golden point rule – agreed that Golden Point would apply for all finals fixtures as well as regular games
* Webex Coaches Meetings – agreed that this was a good idea and coaches meetings would be conducted by Webex in week 10 prior to country week in 2024. Best time 3-4pm. SSWA rep and Sport Coordinator to be involved in each meeting.
* Whatsapp usage – agreed to continue with Whats app for Teams app in 2024
* Dance teams with less than 6 – Agreed that existing rule be followed in 2024. Teams with less that 6 members are not eligible for Champion School Points.
* JARO – add duty teams – agreed that this was a good idea.

1. **Discussion of 2023 online evaluations.**

Feedback was received from 10 schools. This feedback was incorporated into the decisions listed above.

1. **Regional reports**

Nil

1. **General Business**

* Discussion on the use of Behaviour Points. Agreed that all sports should have a common yellow/red card process and these be linked to behaviour points. Use the AFL system. Need to reinforce the behaviour points system with schools and sport coordinators in 2024. Agenda item for coaches meetings next year.
* AFL umpiring standard was poor in 2023. Discussion on the need to improve umpiring standards by increasing payments.
* Closing ceremony ran late in 2023 due to a late AFL fixture that started at 11:50am.
* Agreed that rules be put in place in the volleyball rules to explain what happens when teams are late for fixtures. Agreed 5-15 minutes late – loss of first set. More than 15 minutes late – loss of 2nd set.

1. **Budget Considerations**
   * PS indicated that finances for Country Week 2023 are yet to be finalised. Unlikely to be necessary to increase from $65 pp in 2024.
2. **Review of Website for 2024** – [will be completed by PS following the meeting]
3. **Review of Admin Booklet for 2024** – [will be completed by PSfollowing the meeting]

**Meeting Closed 11:50am**

INDOOR CRICKET REPORT

* Competition was enjoyed by all despite the extensive differences in skill and competitiveness.
* The 12 over format was seen as an appropriate length for the games.
* By agreement we shortened the gaps between game so that a game was played every hour. This is more than enough time for the current 12 over format.
* Staff were in agreement that they would like to see the competition continue and become a full sport. However, there would need to be an increase in the number of schools nominating so that the competition could be split into A & B Divisions. This would go some way to alleviating the current lop-sided nature of the event.
* The venue has more than enough space to cater for a larger competition. Seamers indicated that they would be able to provide sufficient umpires to allow for an expanded event .
* Schools entering mixed teams would need to make a decision on their division. Some girls play cricket and were capable against the boys, but those with less experienced players should consider a lower division.
* It was felt that full sport status would encourage more schools to enter teams as overall champion points would attract those schools that did not want to ‘give up’ points to other schools.
* Need to tighten up the ‘rules’ and advertise beforehand in the handbook – some inconsistencies between Seamers rules, Cricket Australia rules and those used by centres outside Perth.
* Ladder differentiation needs to be clarified. Jaro has no capacity to enter a negative score. What do we do with these scores (ie add them as a positive to the winning team and award the losing team 0)? The final ranking system needs to be clarified and published in the handbook as it is for other sports.

Peter Merritt

VOLLEYBALL REPORT HBF Stadium

**Fixturing:**

* Very good indeed. No complaint received. No dark blue/black not advised. Two dark greens not advised particularly with black print. Very little difference between greens.
* Finals duties to be a single team allocated. The “W7 v 8” etc caused the only concerns for the week. No finals duties prior to playing, if possible OK after.

**App – Jaro:**

* Still cannot be fully relied on. Getting better but table still when able.
* A “duty” slot must be included in finals fixturing
* Take out what is not required from table
* Can finals fixtures be developed from the app? More convenience for coordinators. Hard to see why not?
* Inappropriate to have changes/additions etc to app when event starts. Really should be made 100% in 2023.

**Rules/Guidelines and By Laws:**

* Golden point/no draws and handbook “pot” notes a treat! Teachers adapted almost immediately! No arguments.
* Finals should be golden point rules
* Why change, rules should be consistent for rounds and finals
* “Add” no time outs in last 3 minutes of third or deciding set
* “Add” owe time out per team per set
* Remove last line, finals may commence later than start time
* Qualifying rounds – reverse dot points 3&4
* Include late arrival to games
* Duty teams – Amend – Teams will be rostered to finals games (remove the rest)

**Venue:**

* Exceptional in all respects – support & operation faultless
* Access to a microphone recommended

**Referees:**

* Greenwood students super; to be fostered
* Seniors; ¾ exceptional, reliable, competent, ¼ will not be back – reliable enough but communication poor.
* Usual complainants; too strict, not strict enough etc.

**Schools:**

* Cooperation, punctuality, sportsmanship, standard of presentation great!! Not one behaviour point lost. Amazing! 250 matches.
* Several schools let themselves down on finals day by not showing for duty or being late; WACoA Narrogin, Busselton, North Albany; not bad in 32 matches!
* Duty fixturing will fix this is paper fixtures and app

**SSWA Prep:**

* Very good, thanks!
* Scoresheet review recommended

**Comp Splitting Between Venues:**

* Not recommended

**Note:**

**\* Clocks sensational, a must! \***

**SHS Country Week Volleyball Report – UWA venue**

**Venue - Hall**

* The 3 courts at UWA were serviceable for the lower Volleyball grades.
* Basketball backboards which hung over the baseline at both ends and baseline proximity to the wall were not ideal, especially for serving.
* Teams moving to and from their courts were very close to the baseline and sometimes impeded the server.
* Teams need to be made aware of the etiquette of waiting until a point is over before crossing behind a court in play. I did this quite often but could not stand there all day. This is not an issue at HBF Stadium as there is ample space behind the baselines.
* The nets and antennae were also serviceable, although had to be locked away every night and we were reliant on the UWA  staff to get them out for us. Sometimes they could not find the key, delaying our set up time.
* UWA staff could not / would not not help with set up or taking down the courts and scoring tables citing inability to leave the reception desk as the reason.
* The 2 referee stands borrowed from a school were excellent. The one from Volleyball was flimsy and a little unstable and scared some of the referees somewhat.
* Myself and one of the referees had to arrive at least 90 minutes before the start of the first game to set up the 3 courts and ensure they were ready for teams to warm up at least 30 mins before the scheduled game time which was when some teams arrived. An imposition and not required of the 2 Volleyball Coordinators at HBF Stadium.
* Usually I could get a school to assist with taking down the courts at the end of the day. Sometimes no-one could stay.
* I chose to set up my computer in the court area behind the referee on court 1 to be available and visible. I had to fend off game balls quite regularly though. The medic was set up in the storeroom for privacy.
* Wifi at UWA was very good.
* A cleaner swept the floor each morning and left a court broom for use during the day. Teams had to do this themselves but not a big deal.
* The carpet squares were not large enough to provide protection from tables and chairs.
* An issue with the post hole on court 2 was resolved without too much inconvenience, but did result in me sending some teams away and then having to call them back.
* Court 3 had no spectator viewing from above so spectators had to sit / stand around the court walls. Not ideal, but of no real concern, other than they were a bit too close to the court.
* Some teams had traffic problems and were delayed arriving just on time but generally I didn’t hear too many complaints about having to travel to UWA. Most reported it took 12 -15 minutes travel time from the central area of Mt Claremont
* The use of the electronic clock was most helpful for me and the teams.

**Venue - Parking**

* Being the University semester break meant that parking was available in the Rec Centre Carpark, but at a cost which is not the case at other venues.

**Venue - Catering**

* There was limited food options available at UWA due to cafes not having a good selection or enough staff – again due to Uni break.

**Recommendation #1**

**UWA was a serviceable venue. No major complaints from schools about any issues. If necessary to hold it here in 2024 I don’t think schools would be against it. I did not receive any complaints from teachers or parents.**

**As a coordinator, getting some daily assistance with set up would be my priority.**

**Loftus could be an option as they allocate staff to set up etc.**

**Fixtures – Duty teams**

* Generally teams were reliable with doing duty, although many did not provide a 2nd (net) referee.
* Duty teams not staying or not arriving to do the first duty occurred on a couple of occasions.
* D division split between the 2 venues worked quite well, although I  got the impression that some teams did not like having to come to UWA from HBF Stadium. Interestingly, 4/6 of the D division teams were no better than teams in E division in both the boys and girls. In fact I thought 4/6 E division boys were quite strong with a good standard of Volleyball being played.
* Recording the results worked well with ‘Jaro’ this year.

**Rules – Game results**

* Implementing the ‘Golden point’ worked well and alleviated the historic problem of draws

**Recommendation #2**

* **One issue - The Coordinator at HBF decided to discard point #3 when deciding on placings**:

*QUALIFYING ROUNDS*

*Qualifying rounds to decide finals ranking:*

1. *most number of points, then*
2. *total number of sets won; then*
3. *successful team in previous clash, then*
4. *total points scored from qualifying games*

**This needs to be discussed and amended in the rules if it is not to be used.**

**Recommendation #3**

**Teams arriving late -** **A rule addressing the penalty for lateness needs to be discussed and added to the Volleyball rules.**

**Referees**

* 6 student referees from Greenwood College were reliable, respectful and helpful.
* They organised their roster into half days which worked well for them.
* I feel they could have been a little tighter on double hits but they did allow rallies to happen and generally everyone was happy with the refereeing across the divisions.
* They knew the rules and sought clarification from me on anything that arose.
* I have sent a message of appreciation to the Volleyball Coordinator at Greenwood College and would be happy for the support to continue.

The VWA staff visited and spoke to several coaches and the Greenwood refs – this was helpful.

**Recommendations are in blue.**

**2023 COUNTRY WEEK – HOCKEY REVIEW**

**SSWA**

* Pre-tournament meeting provided all the resources required plus the opportunity to ask and clarify the organizational , operational responsibilities
* JARO computer program is fantastic for the organizer, schools and parents
* SSWA executive to the tournament each day for a hockey update and to assist with any issues that needed a decision

**UWA SPORTS**

* Connor Higgs was extremely helpful in arranging extra cleaning and bin emptying days to ensure the facility was maintained to a high standard
* Provided keys to allow the co-ordinator to have access to the turf facilities
* **CONCERN:** They need to ensure there are no double bookings with the PSA schools afterschool hockey training

**UWA HOCKEY CLUB**

* The UWA club have been a wonderful partner for the tournament
* Thank you to UWA Hockey board members, Peter Churack and David Albrecht, for allowing the schools to use the clubrooms and staying each day provide hot food, hot/cold drinks
* Access to the clubrooms was a welcome refuge for the schools and parents from the very cold mornings
* Having Peter and David on-site helped us solve our IT access to the internet, as the SSWA provided User Name, Password did not work at the hockey turf rooms
* This partnership with the UWAHC should be fostered in future years

**UMPIRES**

* Ruby Guilfoyle, umpire co-ordinator, has done an amazing job in selecting young quality umpires
* Ruby should definitely be used as the umpire co-ordinator at future country weeks
* Umpiring roster provided to the Hockey co-ordinator each evening prior to the day’s play
* Umpires controlled the timing of all games with no problems
* School hockey co-ordinators have regularly commented to me at the high quality of the umpiring throughout the tournament – far superior to previous years
* The high quality umpiring has resulted in higher standard games and minimal incidents of poor player behavior

**SCHOOLS**

* Player behavior on the field was of a high standard by all schools
* All players well presented in their school playing uniforms
* School coaches communicated regularly with the Co-ordinator which ensured all minor issues were dealt with efficiently
* Coaches did an excellent job submitting the team sheets before games

**FIRST AID**

* Provided a first aid officer each day
* Incident reports completed for the major injuries
* Ice supplied by the first aid provider

**Country Week Basketball Review June 2023:**

1. **Referees** were top Quality due to Sharon Spinner’s Knowledge of the local referees available in Perth. A couple of Country referees were source who were also of an excellent Standard.
2. The ruling with regard to **Technical Fouls and send off rulings** needs to be looked at. Some school were not clear on what happens with the Technical foul, send off ruling and exclusion from the game rulings. Sharon would be a good source of knowledge to extract this information from.
3. Teams were **excellent in accepting the computer results** on the school sport website. We only had one query with regard to the fixtures for the final day. **More explanation** is required in the handbook with regard to teams that tie in the round robin part of the competition to clarify for the finals.
4. **Venue staff were excellent** in have the courts prepared for competition each day. **Special thanks to David** from the Bendat Stadium staff who had the courts, and timing ready to go from Day 1 to Day 5.
5. **Big problem this year was sand coming in on student footwear.**I will make sure it is included in my talk with the coaches at the beginning of the Carnival. But I still believe it needs to be mentioned in the handbook. Teachers need to be vigilant with students entering the stadium. I believe if we don’t do something about this problem, we may be charged extra, in fact there may be a charge this year.
6. We have **overcome a huge problem with the results being published immediately after each game**. Coaches would let me know immediately if the results were incorrect. Finals with Alex’s help in entering data was well appreciated by me. Hopefully all school will be well informed with regard to teams finishing on equal points to work out final positions for the finals next year.
7. **Thank you to the dedicated office staff** for their prompt attention to detail in running a smooth and efficient 2023 Country Senior High School Carnival.

**TOUCH FOOTBALL REPORT**

**Recommendations**

* Request that line markings are thicker and darker as they were very faint by the end of the week
* Need better communications with coaches. Touch Football WA would like to have a pre-event Webex to discuss rules and guidelines with coaches
* Fixturing – allow 50 minutes per game slot rather that 45 minutes. Allows more time between matches.

**Rule Changes**

* Finals Result
  + Direct result
  + Then, drop offs
* For lowest division only, ensure that try’s with girls directly involved in the play be rewarded 2 points

Jeremy and Kathleen