



WAA News



Online at: waawoodbury.org

email: waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org

November/December 2007

WAA Calendar

Wrestling: Space available, see website

For More details on WAA go to:
waawoodbury.org

Reminder: Beginning in January 2008, WAA will be switching to an Online registration process. Look for more information in December.

WAA Building
2630 Ojibway Drive
651-731-0100

Office Hours: 2PM to 6PM Monday to Friday

Please remember to Vote on
November 6th Levy Referendum.

Support WAA at CHAMMP'S, THROWBACK'S,

Play WAA pull-tabs at these three locations and support WAA.

Your support goes directly to WAA—
THANK YOU!

From The President

waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org

651-731-0100

Fall sports are over and we are headed feet first into the Winter seasons, hard to think that snow is just around the corner but we could be shoveling by the time you read this. Wow!

Get set everyone, beginning January 1 2008, **ALL WAA SPORTS** will be available for **Online registrations**. The WAA Board finalized the plan at the October Board meeting and we are rapidly approaching the installation point of November 12. After the installation of the software, the people of WAA will spend 5 or 6 weeks training and preparing to go live with the Spring Sport Sign-ups. This should be a major convenience factor for you the members, for the volunteers that run the sports and for the staff at the office who will no longer have to enter the registrations by hand. The data base upgrades that we purchased will allow for computer selection of non competitive teams which should cut down on the stacking issues and the records that are kept will be much more manageable. This process is going to take some getting used to, and there may be some things that aren't perfectly seamless to start. Please be patient and I will try keep you up to date on the progress. We will probably be sending a letter to everyone explaining the new processes.

The cost of the hardware, software, licenses, and tech support are going to be paid for by a bill back to each sport of \$5.00 per registrant, the total cost including everything could approach \$30,000 with annual maintenance costs running around \$15,000 I believe at this time that most plan to pass that cost on to the membership in the form of a fee increase,

From The President

(continued)

(Continued from page 1)

however, that is up to each sport. The good news there, is that there will no longer be an additional fee charged for use of Credit cards.

WAA will be processing all of the registrations as though they are online. When we have registration processes at Remote sites, there will be computers and the registration process will be live with the member responsible for providing the correct information. This should also eliminate many data input errors.

Stay tuned and we will get a you all of the information you need to use the new system and keep your children involved.

The **Traveling tryout** processes cause consternation by many parents when ever they occur. Many times parents feel as though if their child doesn't make the "A" team their sports career. Please understand, that could not be further from the truth, many children that never play Traveling sports develop through the house programs and play High School and even college sports. The real key to your child's improvement, is positive support from you the parent and continued hard work on their part to improve and excel to the level that they are capable of. Traveling sports are meant to be competitive and are intended to allow children to play at a higher level of competition but they are still learning and they can learn on "ANY Traveling Team".

We are working to compile a complete listing of all WAA programs the gives you all of the pertinent information about each program so you can look in one place and know when you need to take action to keep you child involved. We will create a bulletin board that displays the information and also print the information in the newsletter for quick online review.

The Woodbury Athletic Association is held to a

pretty high standard when it comes to equipment that your children use in the programs. That standard is set by the parents and we try very hard to meet your demands. In doing this, there is a large amount of equipment that is taken out of service and replaced. Some of this equipment is still serviceable to some extent. We have over the years donated that equipment to various overseas missionaries that our members are involved in. Lately, we have had some trouble getting rid of it and we began to look at other options. In mid September, we came upon Frank Quilici, the former Minnesota Twins Ball player and Manager. Frank now heads a couple of foundations in Minneapolis and St. Paul that provide services to the respective Cities recreation programs for the children of the disadvantaged. Frank has agreed to take all of our surplus equipment and put it to use in those programs. This will be a very good use of the equipment that no longer meets our needs.

The progress on the site work at Bielenberg is good, the dirt work is ahead of Schedule and the grading of the ball fields is progressing. The City is still in negotiations with the Mesaba Capitol Group to reconfigure the Hockey Arena and Dome situation into a configuration that will suit the City, and all end users well into the future. At the time that I am writing this article, there is a public meeting coming up to discuss this openly and I do not know the outcome of it.

WAA continues to work with the City to insure that our needs are heard and we are identifying the long term field needs. We believe that there is a severe need for 90 foot Baseball fields, and there will be a strong need for additional soccer/football/LaCrosse fields in the North East Area of the City. The City has purchased land North East of Liberty Ridge School that could be converted to athletic Fields in the future.

As a reminder, **WAA requires that ALL coaches be certified.** With the basketball season coming up, please check the Web site for dates of certification clinics and sign up to attend.

Denise Kapler has decided that Six years as the Golf Director has about wore her out, Denise has served

(Continued on page 3)

valiantly and expanded the program to using six different golf courses and including well over 300 children. If you or anyone you know who would be willing to step up and be the **Director of Golf** give the office a call at 731-0100. I am sure Denise will be willing to help get you going and offer support if things come up that you need help with.

South Washington County School District 833 will be holding an excess levy referendum renewal on Tuesday November 6th. This levy approval would allow the School District to continue operating at the current level without making major cuts to programs. If this levy were to not pass, the District would be forced to cut approximately 14 Million dollars from their existing budgets. Elsewhere in this newsletter please see the ad placed by the organization V.O.T.E. (Value Opportunity Through Education)

Have a safe and enjoyable season.

What about the RAIN?

The City of Woodbury offers a convenient way to keep you informed on field closings in Woodbury.

Subscribe to this service today by visiting the city's website at www.ci.woodbury.mn.us and select "In Touch" on the lower left of the screen. You may request Email notification for Recreation-weather alerts/schedule changes and the city will email you when the fields are closed.

Support WAA at

**CHAMMP'S,
&
THROWBACK'S,**

Play WAA pull-tabs at these three locations and support WAA.

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THANK YOU!

2007 WAA Board Members

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BASKETBALL

Minnesota Timberwolves Game

Back by popular demand, WAA Basketball is sponsoring a night out at the Timberwolves game. This year's event is scheduled for Friday, December 21, 2007. WAA players can bring friends and family. Kids in grades 1 – 8 are invited on the Wolves court before the game for a clinic, which runs from 3-4 p.m. Forms are available on our web-site at waa.woodbury.org.

Traveling Tourney Volunteers

The Woodbury Traveling tournaments are January 26-27 for girls and February 2-3 for boys. Please keep your volunteer obligations in mind and do not schedule events during your shift at the tournament. The success and great reputation of the Woodbury boys and girls Traveling tournaments is largely due to the leadership, hospitality, and hard work of volunteer parents. Families will be required to do at least one shift of volunteer time. Our tournaments are another way we keep fees as low as possible and your help is greatly appreciated.

Refunds

The refunds for program changes and cancellations have been completed. Refunds for In-House Grade Coordinators and Traveling coaches will be completed in November. If you believe you have a refund due, please submit a reminder by emailing Steve Pittman for boys (sspittman9214@msn.com) or Jim Basten for girls (jnbasten@comcast.net). Your request will be handled by our Treasurer, Joanne Kletscher. Refund procedures are noted on the web-site. Please include your child's name, grade, and program in addition to parent's name, amount paid, reason for refund, and mailing address.

Gym Notes

As the season begins, please see the gym rules on the web-site. The most common issues we have are unsupervised kids in hallways. All children

must be supervised at all times. Make sure that your child is at the correct practice site at the right time when you drop them off. With the rotating schedule, it is very easy to make a mistake, and sometimes practices are cancelled for whatever reason. Coaches please make sure ALL your players have a ride home before leaving the site.

WAA Basketball pays for damages that we cause and that comes from the fees that you pay. Please help keep fees low by respecting all properties and keeping activities under control at all times.

Thank you very much for your cooperation with the gym rules.

Steve Pittman

WAA Boys Basketball Director

GOLF

The 2007 Golf Season was filled with wonderful stories of renewed friendships and new ones made; of incredible shots; and shots not quite up to par. For many years our children have been enjoying great summers of great golf under the WAA Golf Program. Registrations for the 2008 season will be held in late January.

This coming 2008 season we are seeking a volunteer as the Director of the WAA Golf Program.

In addition to directing the golf program, this position also serves on the WAA Board. This service position plays a pivotal role in responding to the needs of the children and families in our community all while promoting the great traditions and love of the game of golf. If you are interested and would like to learn more, please contact Denise Kapler at dkapler@comcast.net or Gene Johnson, Executive Director at waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org. Thank you for your consideration.

TRACK

Become A Member of the WAA Track Team or The Traveling Track Team!

With fall weather and snowflakes fast approaching, ones thoughts may not be focused on spring and its upcoming track program. However, spring sports sign-ups are just around the corner. Spring sports sign-ups, including track & field will take place in February. Watch for the upcoming dates in the next newsletter. If you are interested in coaching, please contact Corey Johnson at 738-1822 or at igottarun@comcast.net. If you are looking for a more competitive program, please contact me regarding the Competitive Track Program.

WAA Track Program's mission is to enhance the skills of young runners and introduce them to the sport of Track & Field. The club has a goal of developing each person's leadership potential both on and off the track and field. The club is looking for kids who enjoy competing and have some interest in, track and field or just running to enhance their overall fitness.

Practice

Practices will be held twice a week for one hour (in the past practices have taken place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. The season will start in May and run into July as determined by the state meet date for 2008. The practice format provides flexibility for athletes that participate in other sports (i.e. soccer, softball, baseball) or activities (i.e., gymnastics or dance) that coincide with our season. The club asks that you attend all practices that you are able to but does not require attendance at every practice. Also families and athletes often have vacations or other plans that occur during the summer. The club attempts to keep our focus on sport in perspective, recognizing that family comes first.

Competition

Prior to the start of the track & field season, each participant will receive a "welcome" letter on-line, (or hard copy if requested) that outlines all of the available meets for us. Participants pick which meets they will attend, and participate in as many, or as few meets as they choose.

Joining

You may stop in the WAA office during regular operat-

ing hours to register (typically open Monday-Friday from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M.) But call 731-0100 to verify hours.

A Welcome Letter with additional information will be sent out at the end of April.

Coaching Philosophy

The program is based on introducing and refining the sport of Track & Field through a positive feedback coaching process. This process emphasizes fundamentals, fitness, flexibility and form. Most important however, is the presentation of running as a fun, enjoyable, and rewarding athletic activity that can become a life-long healthy lifestyle.

Additional Questions

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at igottarun@comcast.net, or call me at 651-738-1822. I will try to get back to you within 24 hours.

Cost of the Program

The cost of the program for the 2008 season will run between \$75.00 for the in-house program and \$125.00 for the traveling (competitive) program. This cost includes a running singlet & shorts, the coaching, and fees for the WAA home meets.

Coaching

For those of you interested in returning as coaches, please contact me with the age that you are interested in Coaching. For those of you that would like to find out more about coaching or assisting a coach, please contact me as soon as possible. We will be holding our annual Track coaches meeting in January to discuss the upcoming season, its needs and the direction of the program.

Also, please watch the newsletter for upcoming **Coach's Certification classes**. This certification is now a mandatory part of coaching for the WAA programs. If you have any questions regarding coaching, assistant coaching, or the program itself, please contact Corey at (651) 738-1822 or igottarun@comcast.net.

Location

Due to the upcoming start of a full stadium remodel, the Woodbury High School track will not be available for our use for the 2008 season. I am currently working with other nearby schools to determine which area track will best meet the needs of our program. Once this is determined, all returning track participants will be notified of the 2008 season location. For those of you new to the program, watch the next issue of this newsletter for updated information.

SOCCER

2008 Competitive Indoor League

Once again the Woodbury Soccer Club will be hosting an Indoor Competitive League at the Bielenberg Sports Complex, with games being played on Friday nights through Sunday afternoons. Due to a high demand from our membership, we are once again hosting games for the U9 and U10 playing levels to be played on Friday nights. We encourage all of our Spring 2008 Competitive teams to meet now and discuss registering for this league as a team. Otherwise, please read the following information regarding registering for the league as an individual player.

2008 Competitive Session Individual Players

The Woodbury Soccer Club offers a Competitive Session during January and February and would like to open it up to individual players this year. We will be offering a 'Free Agent' registration for all players.

What is a 'Free Agent'?

- Any player that is not part of a Woodbury team that will be participating in the Indoor League is considered a 'Free Agent.'
- 'Free Agents' will be placed on teams that are looking for players.
- If there are enough 'Free Agents' to form a team the directors will try to put together a team that will accommodate that age level.

****Please note that if a volunteer coach can not be found a paid coach will be assigned to the team.****

Where can I register?

Registration is free until the 'Free Agent' is either placed on a team or a 'Free Agent' team is formed. Please visit www.sportability.com

Registration begins October 25th until December 27th.

What is the Indoor League?

• 8 games are played during the weekends
More information can be found at www.woodburysoccer.com and click on the indoor league.

For more please contact Colleen Hase at chase@woodburysoccer.com.

Roar Store

Where can we get Royal "T" shirts, sweatshirts, letter jackets etc???

The ROAR STORE of course!
At Bielenberg Sports Center

Woodbury Sports Foundation (WSF) owns and operates the ROAR STORE at Bielenberg Sports Center, located on the Mezzanine **and** at MAIN-STREET BANK located in Tamarack Village Shopping Center.

You can purchase all your Woodbury Wear during store hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00pm-8:00pm
Or
MAINSTREET BANK
During normal Lobby hours

The Roar Store
Support your
Woodbury Royals

PARENTAL SUPERVISION OF GYMS IS MANDATORY

Please discuss these reminders with your children:

1. Players are not to bring siblings or friends to a practice or game unless they will be under your supervision or the coach's supervision at all times. Siblings and friends must remain in the gym at **ALL** times.
2. Do not allow your children to walk or jump up on the protective padding at the end of the gyms. The schools do not want footprints left on the padding.
3. Do not bring your children to practice too early because they will not be able to get into the gyms. **The throwing or bouncing of balls in hallways or any area outside of the gyms is strictly prohibited.** This is a violation of Community Education's policies.
4. Children are not permitted to open or close locker doors on their way to or from the gyms. This is strictly prohibited.

Remember, WAA basketball players do not have a right to use the gyms. We must obey the Community Education policies. These policies can be found at <http://www.sowashco.k12.mn.us/comed/facility/default.htm>. Please review these rules again with your children. Their practices are in jeopardy if you do not make sure they are followed.

Please keep in mind that gym usage is not guaranteed. The WAA needs to maintain a good relationship and cooperate with the Community Education department in regards to using the gyms that they manage. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this very important matter!

WRESTLING

The start of the 2007-2008 wrestling season is scheduled to begin the week of November 5th. In our quest to improve the overall wrestling experience we have decided to further enhance the structure we put in place last year with an in-house team and a traveling team. Our current plans have the in-house team attending wrestling clinics on Saturday mornings before the Holiday break and practicing one night per week in January and February.

The traveling team will be practicing several times per week throughout the season and will be attending several team tournaments. Also, we are also pleased to announce that David Albrecht will be our traveling team coach. David is a former Woodbury High School wrestler and will provide our youth with a great role model.

If you missed our signups in October you can still join the program. Information about the WAA Wrestling program can be found at www.waawrestling.com.

Support WAA at *CHAMMP's*

Play WAA pull-tabs at Chammp's!
Your support goes directly to WAA—

THANK YOU!

BASEBALL

TRAVELING BASEBALL NEWS

Tryouts / Team Formation:

Roughly 370 kids participated in the WAA Traveling Baseball weekend tryouts. WAA Traveling Baseball will be fielding 31 team at various age levels and levels of play.

Fall tryouts have taken place and players have been assigned to teams. All team information can be obtained at our web site www.woodburybaseball.org.

Future tryouts: The Board will be exploring some different ideas with regards to team formations, player pools and probably going to trying out more by position moving forward. More details will be given as we get things finalized.

Spring Tryouts: All teams with open roster positions will be allowed to fill their rosters with any players who chose to tryout in the February spring tryout. The positions available are very limited and open positions per age level and level of play will be posted prior to the spring tryout. Date of the tryout will be announced in January.

Off season baseball clinic information can be obtained at our web site.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Joe Griesgraber via email: joseph.griesgraber@metroinsurancebrokers.com or phone: 651-245-9443.

**THANK YOU TO ALL
WHO VOLUNTEER**

VOLLEYBALL

Fall Rec Program

The fall recreational volleyball season is wrapping up. It has been a great season with almost 200 girls participating in the league or fall clinic. This fall season was the inaugural season for the Woodbury Fall recreational League. Girls in grades third through sixth have participated in 6 play dates at Woodbury Junior High. It has been a great season and we are excited for next year. Parent and players, if you have suggestions for next year or are willing to volunteer in the rec program next year, please contact Pam Sullivan at volleyballdir@waawoodbury.org.

Woodbury JO (Traveling) Volleyball Registration information

Competitive Volleyball or JO's (Junior Olympic) Volleyball is a winter sport. Tryouts are in November with practices starting in December. League play starts in January. Woodbury teams play in Burnsville at the Midwest Volleyball Warehouse and also participate in the President's Day Tournament hosted by the North Country Region of USA Volleyball. Girls who are interested in playing competitive volleyball should plan on practicing 2 nights per week and play approximately every other weekend. The fee for 12's and 13's is \$500.00 and for 14's, 15's and 16's the fee is \$550.00.

Registrations:

Tuesday, Oct. 16 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Tuesday, Oct. 23 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Saturday, Oct. 27 9:00 to 11:00 am

*These registrations will be **at the WAA Building***

Tryouts: Woodbury Junior High

12's Thursday, November 8th, 6:00-8:00 p.m..

13's Thursday, November 8th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

14's Thursday, November 8th, 8:00-10:00 p.m.

15's Monday, November 12th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

16's Monday, November 12th, 8:00-10:00 p.m.

There will be a practice tryout for all age groups. Prior to each session there will be a parent/player

meeting to answer questions regarding tryouts. 12's, 13's and 14's will be on Monday, Nov. 5th 12's and 13's from 6:00-8:00p.m. and 14's from 8:00-10:00p.m. **The 15's and 16's session will be Monday Nov. 5th from 8:00-10:00p.m.** These sessions are optional, but will give the girls the option of going through what the tryout format will be.

This year teams will be at the following ages:

12's: girls born on or after September 1, 1995
 13's: girls born on or after September 1, 1994
 14's: girls born on or after September 1, 1993
 15's: girls born on or after September 1, 1992
 16's: girls born on or after September 1, 1991

There will be a maximum of two teams at each age bracket. 12's and 16's will have 1 team. Practices will start in December and go through the end of April.

If you have any questions, please contact Pam Sullivan at volleyball@waawoodbury.org or 651-738-7601.

LOST & FOUND

WAA maintains a box of items found during athletic activities. This is done for the help and convenience of our members.

- If you lost it, you can look at the WAA office to see if it was turned in.
- If you found it, please turn it in to the WAA office.

Have WAA equipment?

Please return it to the WAA office during office hours.

SOFTBALL

The fall season ended the weekend of September 23 and 24. Congratulations to the 10U team coached by Guy Hartwig that won the "A" championship bracket.

Fall participation grows every year. This year there were 13 teams playing in the fall in ages 10U through 16U. Fall is a great way to continue playing, work on a new skill, play a new position or get an idea of what traveling softball is all about. Again, as with summer softball and with all sports in WAA volunteers are the backbone. I want to thank all of the coaches that stepped up to coach this fall and to everyone who helped organize the teams.

Keep checking the softball website for clinics for pitching, catching, hitting and coaching. Those clinics will be organized and posted on the website as soon as the dates are set.

Finally, this was my first season as director of softball. As usual when learning a new job there is a learning curve. The softball board and I are committed to making the WAA softball program the best it can be. I welcome any questions, comments and suggestions, so please feel free to contact me. The best way to contact me is at the email address softball@waawoodbury.org. Thanks for your patience as I grow into this job and I will do the best I can.

Support WAA at Throwback's

Play WAA pull-tabs at **THROWBACK'S!**
 Your support goes directly to WAA
THANK YOU!

Woodbury Athletic Association

Wrestling: Space available, see website

Reminder: Beginning in January 2008, WAA will be switching to an Online registration process. Look for more information in December.

Please remember to Vote on November 6th Levy Referendum.

For More details on WAA: waawoodbury.org

WAA Building 2630 Ojibway Drive 651-731-0100 Office Hours: 2PM to 6PM Monday to Friday

American Sport Education Program - ASEP

SPORT NEUTRAL COACHING CLINIC'S

WAA offers ASEP Sport Neutral Coaching Clinics to all coaches of any WAA team. (ASEP training provided by the American Sport Education Program.) If you are planning to coach and have not yet taken this required training, please plan to attend a clinic as soon as possible.

Future dates and times are listed on the WAA website waa.woorbury.org. For your convenience classes are offered in Woodbury and usually at the WAA Building. **Registration is a must**, email waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Class size is limited

Mark your calendar for **future registrations:**

Traveling BASEBALL - September
WRESTLING - October
SOCCER July - Summer Competitive
September - Winter Recreational
October - Winter Competitive
U6-U8 - February
Fall Recreational—May/June

DEVELOPMENTAL BASEBALL - February
SOFTBALL - February, March/Travel Tryouts
GOLF - February
TRACK - February
VOLLEYBALL—May/June and October
BASKETBALL—May/June
FOOTBALL—May/June