



WAA News

Online at waawoodbury.org

email: waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org

September/October 2010

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS

At waawoodbury.org

Register ONLINE

**WRESTLING
VOLLEYBALL**

JO Starting Sept 20

BASKETBALL Late Registrations

at WAAWOODBURY.ORG

*Please update household information
Online registration available at WAA office.*

Visa, MasterCard & Discover accepted

FUTURE REGISTRATIONS

**WATCH THE WAA NEWS FOR
UPDATED INFORMATION**

January: Track, Golf, Softball,
Spring Soccer &
Developmental Baseball

May: Summer Sport Camps,
Summer Soccer, Basketball, Fall
Recreational Soccer, Football

Summer: Volleyball

September: Wrestling and
JO Volleyball

Letterman Jackets

at WAA Building

REMEMBER.....WAA it is about the KIDS!!!

WAA Building 2630 Ojibway Drive
Monday-Friday 2:00 - 6:00 PM 651-731-0100

From The President

waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org

651-731-0100

Time flies when you are busy and enjoying life, Summer is over, where did it go? All fall programs are now in session and Games begin this week.

Traveling tryouts for softball next year were held two weeks ago and traveling Baseball tryouts are September 11th and 12th. These traveling tryouts are trying times for families in WAA and all associations. Children are placed on teams based upon the evaluations that take place over a two day period.

Many times the children or their parents feel that their child didn't get placed on the appropriate team because "MY kid is better than that". Please understand that it very well may be true, children sometimes don't perform to their potential at tryouts and get placed where the judges feel they belong based on that tryout. It is a system, although maybe not perfect, it is a pretty good system. We have had our systems analyzed by some of the best programs out there and we continually are told to stay the course and continue what we do to choose the teams and coaches.

The problem that we run into is that sometimes after teams are formed, people choose to take their child and go elsewhere to play ball, this is disruptive because it always leaves a team short of players and then we have to juggle things to try and keep teams competitive.

It really hurts the teams when the person leaving convinces two or three friends to go with them that then leaves any number of young people on a team that doesn't have enough players to compete. Last

From The President

(continued)

(Continued from page 1)

year the WAA Board of Directors implemented a policy to try and stop that from happening. They have created a policy that makes recruiting from WAA teams or programs to another program that competes with WAA a violation of policy.

We will be working hard to try and keep our programs strong and continue to put the best possible coaches and product on the fields for your children. One of the things the WAA does when we make decisions and policies is that we check with many organizations similar to ours and professionals that deal with youth sport psychology .

Fall is the time of year when a couple of the largest spectator sports take place, the High School Football Season brings with it an electric atmosphere for the community to come together and enjoy crisp Friday nights and the really pumps up the community spirit. If you remember that feeling and would like your children to experience it, come on out to the High School Games on Friday Nights. There is really nothing like it in Minnesota.

Fall registrations for Wrestling and house Basketball continue and there is still room. If you forgot to register, you still have some time.

As fall comes and goes, the terms of the members of the WAA Board of Directors come to an end on January 24th, elections to replace members that are leaving are held on the fourth Monday of January. To be eligible for a position, any member of Waa that files a nomination by the 24th of December can run for any position. Nominations are taken by the Vice President. Her contact information is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

BASKETBALL

Basketball Season Begins

September marks the start of the 2010-11 WAA Basketball Season! Thanks to those that registered during the registration dates. Late registrations can be completed on-line. Also, late registrations can be completed at the WAA Office during its hours of operation (M-F, 2 – 6 p.m.). Late registrations in the Travel program carry a \$40.00 rate increase while the 3rd – 12th grade in-house program now requires a \$20.00 rate increase. Our 1st and 2nd grade program – open to boys and girls – does not add a rate increase to its registration fee of \$75.00. Please register as quickly as possible so we can plan accordingly.

Scheduling

Key dates will be posted on our WAA Basketball web site at www.waawoodbury.org

A letter to the parents will be sent out in early September 2010.

Important tentative dates for parents:

- Travel parents meeting (LMS Cafetorium): Thurs., Sept. 16, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- 1st/2nd grade parents meeting (LMS Cafetorium): Thurs., Oct. 7, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
- In-House (3rd – 12th grade) parents meeting (LMS Cafetorium): Thurs., Oct. 7, 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Important tentative dates for players:

- Boy's traveling tryouts (Eastridge HS): Sept. 18 or 19 and Sept. 25 or 26.
- Girl's traveling tryouts (Eastridge HS): Week of Sept. 20.
- In-House 3rd – 12th grade shootarounds begin the third or fourth week in October.
- 1st and 2nd grade begins the first week of November.

Again, please check the website for all scheduling information pertaining to the start of the season in September, October or November.

Traveling Coaches:

Interviews will be taking place in early September. We will contact you with that information as soon as they are set up. Please let us know if you want to be considered for coaching.

WAA Basketball Volunteer Positions Available:

Open Positions 2010-11

- 1st/2nd Grade Coordinator Girl's
- Boy's Tournament Concessions Manager
- Coaching Development
- Girl's In-house Commissioner
- Various In-House Coordinators for Boy's/ Girl's

WAA and the Timberwolves:

WAA and the Timberwolves ran a Timberwolves camp The week of July 19 – 23, 2010. We raised approximately \$1,800.00 for the program. 44 players took part in the camp. They received 25 hours of training (5 hours each day), Water Bottles, Basketballs, T-Shirts, Wolves/Lynx Tickets, Head Bans, etc.

Steve Pittman

WAA Boys Basketball Director

Sport Shack

By the Woodbury Sports Foundation—WSF

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Sport Shack Thanks WAA

2010 WAA Board Members

Executive Dir. Gene Johnson 731-0100
 waaexecdir@waawoodbury.org

OFFICERS

President Gene Johnson 731-0100

Vice President Laura Kallman 398-2083
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Volleyball John Rock 731-9587
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Wrestling Sam Johnson 731-0100
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Office Staff

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Office waawoodbury.org 731-0100

VOLLEYBALL

Summer Camp

Despite some hot August days, the WAA summer volleyball camp was very successful. WAA was fortunate to have a highly skilled coach like RT Luczak leading the training sessions for the girls. I hope everyone felt they received quality instruction and hope the girls efforts pay off as their seasons begin, whether they are playing for a school/community education team or part of our fall recreation program.

For next year's camp, we will be looking at using the gyms at the Woodbury High School if they are available. If you have any other suggestions or feedback from the camp, please send a note to volleyballdir@waawoodbury.org.

Fall Volleyball: There are several changes to the format of our recreational volleyball program this fall. The most significant change is that our games will be played in Woodbury, at either Lake or Woodbury Middle Schools. The past few years, WAA has enrolled our teams in a fall youth volleyball league through the City of Maplewood. While this league has been a nice opportunity to play teams from all over the east metro, I've been concerned about the lack of spectator seating at the Carver Elementary gyms. The other significant change is that we will play our matches against both our own WAA teams, as well as teams from the East Ridge Athletic Association recreational volleyball program. Five regular Saturday matches will be followed by an end of the year tournament on October 30.

If you have not been notified of your team, please contact John Rock at volleyballdir@waawoodbury.org.

There will also be a clinic for 7th and 8th graders interested in improving their basic skills and learning more advanced skills. The clinic is still accepting

registrations.

Winter Competitive or Junior Olympic (JO) volleyball:

This year we will again have teams at the following age levels, 12's, 13's, 14's, 15's and 16's level. At this time, I am uncertain what the fees will be. Last year, JO fees were \$650. We are very hopeful to avoid any fee increases this year, but need to still work out the final details. Competitive volleyball fees include our gym rental, tournament entry fees and paid coaching.

Tryouts will be the first week of November depending on the age group. Registration for tryouts will begin September 20th. There will be a \$25.00 non-refundable tryout fee. The season will start with practices in December and competition starting in January. Teams usually play every other weekend and the President's Day Festival over President's Day weekend. Our teams will participate in the Mizuno Northern Lights Power League. Information regarding tryouts and registration fees will be posted on the WAA website mid-September. If you have any questions regarding JO volleyball, please contact John Rock at volleyballdir@waawoodbury.org.

FOOTBALL

WAA Football information can be found on the WAA Website
www.waawoodbury.org

Support WAA at *Champps*

Play WAA pull-tabs at Champps!
Your support goes directly to WAA—
THANK YOU!

BASEBALL

Hi! For those of you that are normally used to seeing Mark Boatman's name here, you might be wondering who this new guy is? Allow me to introduce myself. My name is John Mahlke and I am the new/current WAA In House Baseball Director. I began my term in February, 2010 when I took over for Mark Boatman. While I am not new to baseball in Woodbury, I may be new to some of you.

The 2010 In House Baseball season was one for the memory books. We started with nice weather in April and battled through rain in the months of May, June, and July. The weather had parents and coaches wondering whether it was more important to pack, Sun Block or Rain Gear? All in all the Coaches, Players, Parents and Umpires persevered through the tough weather to make this season a successful one.

This year we had 114 teams, and close to 1,400 kids participating in our program from Pre-School through 12th grade, not to mention 114 head coaches and over 200 assistant coaches, to help make sure our program ran as smooth as possible. Leading the way to help the coaches and players this season was our In House Baseball Board, which includes our various Grade Coordinators, all of whom volunteer a great amount of time so that kids in our community have the opportunity to play the great game of Baseball. Thanks to the Coordinators, Coaches, Umpires, Players and Parents for making this a fun season!

All of the teams participated in the annual season ending tournament, July 9-11, 2010 at the Bielenberg Sports Complex. It is the first time in a very long time that our tournament has been able to be held at one venue. This was made possible because of the additional fields that were completed at the complex at the end of last season. We are very thankful to the City of Woodbury for the additional fields and look forward to using them for many years to come.

Fans enjoyed being able to watch all of the different age groups play without having to leave the facility

or drive to another facility. Families that had more than one child playing in the tournament really enjoyed being able to go from game to game and not have to worry about finding a place to park. Having the tournament at one facility really made feel like a community event.

Now that the season is over, the planning of the 2011 season begins. Over the next months our Board Members will be looking to see if there are ways that we can enhance or improve our program. It promises to be a busy time as we focus on plans for 2011. If you have any ideas that you would like to share, we would be more than welcome to hear them. You can e-mail your suggestions or questions to me at lkjwm@msn.com. Thanks!

John Mahlke

WAA In House Baseball Director



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TRACK

The 2010 WAA Track season came to an end with our third and final home track meet on Tuesday, July 20th. This meet had great representation from both the Woodbury track clubs and the River Falls team.

A small group of our "Team Woodbury" members advanced onto our national Junior Olympics meet that took place in Sacramento California on July 31st and August 1st. Two of our members traveled to the National J.O's and came home All Americans!

Sisters, Molly Smith and Lauren Smith, daughters of Karen Kobler of Woodbury both competed in the National meet. Lauren placed 6th in the 3000 meter run on Saturday with a personal best time of 10:59 and then turned around on Sunday with sore legs with another personal best in the 1500 meter run of 5:09. This time was good enough for 7th place. Molly placed 6th in the nation in her 1500 meter age division. Molly also ran a personal best time of 5:32.

The girls join a growing list of Team Woodbury All Americans. In 2008, Jacleen Patterson, Kristen Bourne, Aislinn Pomfret and Ainslee Neu placed 8th in the nation in the 4 X 800 meter relay. In 2009, Team Woodbury had two more All Americans when Molly Smith placed 8th in the 1500 meter run and Johnna Patterson placed 5th in the 3000 meter.

Team Woodbury is part of the WAA Track & Field program and has been under the lead of Head Coach John Patterson. The team is also coached by Sam El-Halawani, Felix Versaguis and Anne Fleishhacker. Team Woodbury is the competitive portion of the WAA track & field program. There is also the in-house program of track & field that had over 100 members this season. Both teams are under the direction of Corey Johnson.

While our recreational program coaches athletes as young as 4-years old on the fun and development of running on Tuesday & Thursdays, our competitive

team consists of a co-ed group of participants that not only train with the regular program on Thursday's, but that also train on Monday and Wednesdays.

Special thanks to all of the parents who have volunteered to make our meets successful!

A Big Thank you to the following coaches for all of their hard work and dedication!

Pre-K & Kindergarten	Sheila & Bill Brown
1 st grade coach	Corey Johnson
2 nd & 3 rd Grade Coaches:	Mike Henning
	Jordan Hobbs
	Ainslee Neu
Distance Coach	Erik Grinde & Kim Eastlund
Sprinter Coach for 4 th grade & up	Brock Eastlund
"Team Coaches"	John Patterson
	Felix Versaguis
	Sam El-Halawani
	Anne Fleishhacker

Special thanks also to our meet officials and volunteers, including, but not limited to Lynn Sedlack, David Brady, Bill Brown, Kathy Schakel-Carlson and Gerard & Nancy Browne

Our programs would not be the success they are without all of their hard work and dedication to our kids! Thanks Coaches and Parents!

Remember to watch for track sign-ups/registration for the 2011 season opening in early February.



WRESTLING

Registrations for the 2010-11 WAA Youth Wrestling season will begin in early September, when practice schedules are finalized. We're looking forward to having a lot of fun in what will be our ninth season of youth wrestling in Woodbury. All WAA wrestling coaches are USA Wrestling Copper or Bronze certified.

This season we will again offer two sessions, Introduction to Wrestling and Folkstyle Wrestling.

Introduction to Wrestling

This is for wrestlers who have one year or less of experience to come in and try wrestling. Emphasis will be placed on development of appropriate skills, learning rules and having fun. Wrestlers who enjoy introduction to wrestling may have the option to register for folkstyle wrestling which starts in December. The fee for these five practices is \$35.

Folkstyle Wrestling

Wrestlers with one year of experience or more, are encouraged to sign up for folkstyle wrestling. Emphasis will be placed on development of appropriate skills, strategy and technique. Physical fitness and conditioning will also be stressed in this session.

Wrestlers are strongly encouraged to participate in open tournaments on the weekends and to take advantage of other wrestling opportunities. Open tournaments are held nearly every weekend around the Twin Cities area.

The fee for Folkstyle Wrestling is \$75. Practices will begin in early December.

Wrestlers who register for Folkstyle Wrestling may also participate in practices held for Introduction to Wrestling, which begin in early November.

If you have questions about wrestling, please contact Sam Johnson, Wrestling Director, at (651) 245-3891 or johnsonswdbj@comcast.net



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Woodbury Athletic Association

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS

At waawoodbury.org

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GOLF

The WAA Golf Leagues finished up a great summer of play! Seven leagues played on five courses in the Woodbury area. Great fun was had by all.

I would also like to thank the following people who made it all possible:

Coaches: Eric, Jessica, John, Kathleen, Samantha, Sarah, Steve, Tom and Trevor.

Country Air: Nicole and Joe

Cimarron: Celeste

The Ponds of Battle Creek: Brad and Joe

Oak Marsh: Steve, and Kelsey, Nicole and Steve

Eagle Valley: Dan and Chris

And most important the Parents and kids of Woodbury; Thanks for a great summer

SOCCER

For WAA Soccer information
Go to the WAA Website
www.waawoodbury.org

Woodbury Public Safety Board
10th Annual
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Tuesday, September 14, 2010
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Prom Center