

Youth Activities Committee
Wisconsin Elks Association Fall Conference
Fond du Lac Elks Lodge #57
Saturday September 18, 2010

Committee members present: Widzinski, Baca, Wyro, Musolf, Kovatch, Kromraj, Diehl, Schulze and Larson. Also present were guests: Turner, Kollross, Brien, Bittorf, Svoma, Kostuck, Staskal and Gnacinski.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Widzinski at 9:00 a.m. in Fond du Lac. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by member Baca filling in for Chairman McCauley who had recently gotten married and was on his honeymoon. Introductions of those present were made to make everyone aware of who was in attendance. Since the Chairman was absent, the minutes of the last meeting will be reported at the Mid-Winter Conference in February.

A report was given by Kollross pertaining to the State Junior Golf Tournament which was held this past summer. The event was a success and this year's tournament saw an increase in youth participation. Thanks to again to all of the Marshfield Elks for hosting this event.

State Soccer Chairman Baca gave a run-down of what had taken place with regards to the soccer programs within the various lodges around the state. The State Soccer "Shoot" this year will again be held in Wausau on Saturday October 2, 2010. Final touches are being made to make this year's event a success.

Vice-Chairman Widzinski stated that the Association had again been given a donation of free dictionaries by the Dictionary Project to be utilized by our lodges for distribution to schools throughout the State. Any lodge that did not receive free books last year is eligible for books this year. The only stipulation is that they have to be distributed to schools who have not received books in the past. Contact Widzinski for more information.

Kovatch gave a report on the fund-raising efforts in Stevens Point. They have been very successful in getting many youth organizations into their lodge for spaghetti dinners. See him if you need more information on how this program is being run in his lodge.

Various other discussions took place on the many youth activities that are taking place in the lodges throughout the State. It was mentioned that lodges can again submit requests for reimbursement to the Committee for any unfunded youth activity that is taking place. All requests will be considered for reimbursement.

Our Grand Exalted Ruler stopped by and gave a brief speech stating that he was amazed at all of the "good things" that are happening in the State of Wisconsin by the members of our Association. He congratulated all those present on their work with regards to the youth programs of our Order. He stated that he will elaborate more at the banquet on Saturday night.

Having finished our regular business, the Committee adjourned until our next meeting in February.

Thomas J. Widzinski, PSP
Vice-Chairman and Advisor