

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Minutes**  
**2015, April 12**  
**St. Anthony Village Pub – 6:30 PM**

Call to Order:

President Al Bates called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

Attendees:

Al Bates, Lamar Brendemuehl (left early), Danielle Bogucki, Scott McCleary, Rossi Cannon, Jerry Welch, Kirsten Stendahl, Dirk DeWester (arrived late).

Meeting Ending Goal:

Al shared a goal of ending the meeting around 8:00 pm.

Approval of the Prior Meetings' Minutes:

Rossi moved, Scott seconded, to approve the minutes from last regular meeting (3/25/15).

Motion passed.

Rossi moved, Scott seconded, to approve the minutes from virtual (online) meeting (3/31/15).

Motion passed.

Budget Update:

Rossi moved, Scott seconded, to approve the final 2014 Budget and Actuals report, submitted by Al. Also supported by absentee email vote by Rick Ballot & Dirk DeWester, the motion passed.

Al reported the 2015 Budget is still under construction, with Revenues from 103 Players.

Registration Update:

- 14U – closed, 11 players
- 12U – closed, 21 players
- 10U – closed, 30 players
- 8U – closed, 33 players
- 6U/Intro – closes April 18, 8 players

Coordinators Updates:

- Uniforms – Al – have been ordered; Archer is the style for 10U & up.
- Equipment – Al – most equipment on hand has been handed out (except 8U). A lot of new stuff has been ordered, and is yet to arrive. Lamar will have some bats for SABSA use.

- Online Store – Al - w Tahoe Sports is scheduled to remain open thru April 13. Kirsten asked if it could stay open until Wednesday. Al to follow-up.
- Yard Signs – Danielle – Has collected signs and will give them to Al after the meeting to go to storage in the Community Center’s Booster Sports Storage area.
- Field Scheduling - Rick – unable to attend but sent an update: 10U has been posted for what has been finalized; Bollaert & Tekautz need to finalize their schedules. 12U is posted and ready to go. Will post 14U (and HDC 18U) when he gets the schedules.
- Umpires - Dirk – unable to attend the earlier part of the meeting, sent an update: has received Coach contact info incl. cell phones, made contact with Umpire scheduler Tim Klein, needs team schedules as they finalize.
- Facebook – Danielle – has received 68 “Likes”; is a good vehicle to share announcements and tournament information.
- 8U Tournament – Rossi – originally envisioned as a mid-season tournament for 8U, it has become a season-end Jamboree on July 25, with July 26 to be a backup rain-out date. Likely to be organized into two pools of 3 teams each. We are going to need a lot of volunteers!
- 8U 2015 League Development – Danielle & Al met with Irondale (Tom Peterson), Spring Lake Park (Lori Lightbody), & Fridley (Augie Rodero). A 6-team “Northern League” is being formed, with 3 St. Anthony teams participating. It will use the Softie 11” ball, and will be “machine pitch”, at least for the first half of the season. Al is working on the writeup of rules. Asked if the rules would be available in the coming week, Al expressed doubt due to time constraints.
- First Aid Kits – Al will be restocking these; they are not in team bags yet.
- Villagefest Parade – Danielle – nothing yet, but Rossi will also be in town to help.

#### Player & Coach Development Update (Al):

- A Coaches Clinic, run by S&C Sports was held on Sunday, March 22; 16 Coaches attended! The cost was \$600; we are requesting underwriting from Huskies Diamond Club at their meeting tonight; Dirk DeWester is representing SABSA at the HDC Meeting. We discussed making this an every-other year event, perhaps with in-house delivery of the “off years”; perhaps Lamar (who had left by this point) could help deliver these?
- Coaches Preseason Mtg – TBD – coming soon! It was asked if we could hold the meeting during the next week; Al expressed doubt due to time constraints.
- Requirements for Coaches have been announced:
  - Background Check (Sports Boosters)
  - Background Check (Suburban League) ... yes, again!
  - ACE Certification (Suburban League)
  - Concussion Training (within last 3 years)
- Fundamentals Clinics are being held Tuesday Nights in April (TNiA Clinics) again. The first week’s sessions went well. 27 paid players. Most attended the first sessions.

#### President's Update (Al):

- Suburban League Coach/Scheduling Meetings were held at the Hopkins VFW on Monday, April 6 for 10U and 12U Coaches – attended by Al & 10U, 12U coaches. The 14U & 18U meetings are next Monday, same venue and times.
- Reminder: SABSA night at SAVHS Varsity in Central Park is scheduled for April 30. Al will contact Baseball's Concessions Coordinator Paul Peterson to set up the traditional popcorn giveaway.

#### Fundraising:

- Basketball Tournament – Al will be compiling the split between SABSA and the HDC for the December & January funds raised by “softball” volunteers.
- Jersey Mike's – Al: Jamie Larson will again be coordinating a fundraiser weekend with Jersey Mike's. Thanks, Jamie!
- DQ – Danielle reports this will likely be a straight donation, but DQ also can provide cards for coaches to give out for “special recognition”.
- Spirit Wear – Danielle will likely be submitting the final order this week, and hopes to have spirit wear back before the April 30 SABSA night at Central Park SAVHS Varsity game. Kirsten will follow-up on a potential separate headband order.

#### Scholarships (Al):

We had two scholarships this year, at the 50% level, but we don't have a designated “Scholarship Fund”. Should we? Consensus was yes. Should we solicit Donations to ‘fund the Fund’, perhaps in conjunction with a solicitation for an Equipment Fund? Consensus was no – for 2015, but rather through Registration beginning in 2016. Danielle moved, Rossi seconded, to fund the Scholarship Fund at \$300 for 2015, from the proceeds of the Spirit Wear fundraiser, with a long-term goal of a \$500 fund. Motion passed.

#### Pitching Assistance:

There appears to be a need for Pitching Clinics/Coaching, but at what levels and how? Consensus was that the need is immediate at 10U and as soon as possible for 8Us. Unfortunately, Coach Bill Broneak, our volunteer Pitching Coach extraordinaire last year, is not available this year. Can we find another volunteer? Al will ask around, but expressed uncertainty. Can we get a field? Probably – Friday nights at Central Park, or most nights in April at Silver Point. Dirk is presenting a request to the HDC tonight for 50% rebates for a professionally-coached clinic, probably through MFA. Reducing the price to parents of novice pitchers seems to work well to elicit good numbers of Pitchers turning out.

#### Goodwill gesture to the City/Groundskeepers (Rick):

No report.

### Potential joint gathering with the HDC:

The Huskies Diamond Club has approached us with interest in a “joint meeting”. There was general consensus that getting together to get to know each other and understand how we can work better together is a good idea. But, an official meeting sounded like perhaps not the way we want to go with this. Timing was discussed, and it was agreed that SABSA is really busy right now, and perhaps fall would be better.

### 8U in-season tournament:

Danielle expressed interest in an in-season tournament for the 8Us. As this is unbudgeted, Al suggested that a “pay-to-play” tournament, of interested Players from across the teams, might be the way to approach this. The 12Us did something similar a few years ago, and it worked pretty well. Consensus was to have the Coaches poll the players and get back to us; we can help with the language of a polling of interest, should this come about.

### Facemasks:

Al read a text from Jenny DeMars, mother of St. Anthony Softball SABSA & SAVHS Alumna Sarah DeMars, who currently pitches for Hamline University. The text expressed appreciation for (our) continuing to advocate for facemasks. Sarah just got hit so hard in the mask that it is dented and probably has a concussion, but (they) can’t imagine where we would be without the facemask. Al shared this with the Board to express gratitude for the early stance SABSA took to mandate facemasks for all Pitchers.

### HDC Liaison Report:

Dirk DeWester arrived after the conclusion of the HDC meeting he attended as SABSA Liaison, and reported:

- The SABSA request for \$600 HDC underwriting of the Coaches Clinic was denied. A subsequent motion to support \$300 of the expense was granted, and Dirk presented a check.
- The HDC reimbursed SABSA for the upfront Suburban League 18U team fee of \$595, paid by SABSA.
- Dirk advocated for the 50% rebate on a Pitching Clinic for younger players; the HDC expressed interest, but wanted more information before they make a decision. This is a difficult proposition, as SABSA parents want to know “the deal” before they commit and HDC apparently wants to know how many players will attend before they agree to structure “the deal”.
- The HDC again expressed interest in a joint meeting... sooner as opposed to later.

### Next meeting:

The next meeting will be Sunday, May 17 at 6:30 at the Village Pub.

Meeting adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm. Thanks to all for their time!

Respectfully submitted, Al Bates, President