

# Hopkins Royals Boys Basketball Association

## June Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 16, 2016 7:00 p.m.

Minnetonka Community Center

Meeting Attendance:

Bobby Ciatti  
Andrea Rauser

Tony Corwin  
Jean Stout  
Joan Frenz

Tim Omdahl  
Amara Chesson

### 1. Call to Order/Minutes/Agenda Review

- a. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
- b. The Minutes of the May 2016 Board meeting were reviewed but not approved due to a lack of a quorum.
- c. Guest - None

### 2. Reports/Critical Discussions

#### a. Treasurer Update

- i. \$27,739.41 in bank at end of May.
- ii. Apple Valley still has not cashed its check.
- iii. Budget - The budget for the upcoming season was briefly discussed. Bobby cautioned that we will need to be conservative when planning the next fiscal year. Admissions and concessions this year were better than expected. We also had some healthy personal contributions that we cannot expect to have in the next fiscal year as about half was from a family whose son has aged out of the program. Bobby will try to have a reviewable budget at the July meeting.
- iv. Tax Update – Tim is working on the Association’s taxes. The due date was in May, but as our fiscal year end is the end of May, we obtained an extension until August.
- v. Sponsorships – Gregg is working on getting sponsorships for shooting shirts and signage at tournaments.

**b. Uniform Update**

- i. Conrad hopes to have samples available at the July meeting. He has looked at different suppliers and companies and is currently leaning toward Badger.

**c. Picture Night**

- i. We need someone to take the lead on this. Tony offered to reach out to the photographers, but as Joan has the information and contracts, she will work with Conrad on selecting the photographer.
- ii. Date/Location: We cannot reserve a space with the district until August 17. Subject to availability, we will try for Monday, November 7.
- iii. There will be no practice on picture night.

**d. Coaching Update**

- i. Bobby has created an application for coaches and board members. This will put us in compliance with our own policies and help with insurance as most applications ask whether the organization has applications. The application was reviewed and suggested changes will be made.
- ii. The issue of coaches' pay and the need to change our structure was very briefly discussed. One board member suggested we develop a pay matrix that sets a range, with actual pay depending on factors like experience overall, time with the organization, team level of play. Tony will work on this.

**e. Registration Update**

- i. Online Registration - This year we will really push for online registration. A laptop will be available at open gym for families to register. The issue is how to accept payment. We can also set it up for installment payments. We will continue to accept paper registration but will offer an incentive for early bird online registrations.
- ii. Flyers - Joan designed an advertising flyer, which Bobby passed out at the Hopkins camp.
- iii. Fees

1. There was considerable discussion regarding the need to raise fees. Fees have been raised only \$10 over the past 9 years. Costs have increased dramatically (e.g. Gym time is up 50%, Royal Cuisine's cut has gone up every year, insurance costs, and we are required to have paid trainers and EMTs at both tournament sites). The options for cutting corners (e.g., cutting down practice nights, going to all volunteer coaches) are not desirable. If anything, we need to raise coaching stipends, particularly at the entry level.
2. Our fees are significantly less than those of neighboring associations, some of whom either do not pay coaches, require players to purchase uniforms, or practice only two times a week.
3. The following proposals were made, were subsequently submitted to the full board via email for a vote, and passed by the board:
  - a. **Registration fees** – Registration fees for 2016 will be increased to \$450 for grades 5-8; \$325 for 4th Grade players; \$125 for scholarship players.
  - b. **Installment Plans** - Registration fees for all players may be paid in installments, with 50% due at the time of registration, 25% due by the Saturday of the first tournament, and the remaining 25% due by the Saturday of the last tournament before winter break. Players with unpaid fees will be ineligible to play.
  - c. **Online registration** – See above discussion regarding online registration.
  - d. **Early bird discount** – Families who register early (at least one week before tryouts) will be given a discount of \$25 off the registration fees. The early registration discount will be available to all program participants not already receiving a discount.
  - e. **Fourth Grade Program** - Two tournaments will be added to the 4th Grade program, bringing the total number of tournaments to 8 per season.

**f. Tryout Update**

- i. Dates: **September 17 and 18**. 4th and 5th graders are being reduced to 1-1/2 hours. Grades 6-8 will stay at two hours. Extended tryouts for 4th and 5th graders will be 9/25, 10/2 and 10/9.

- ii. We will endeavor to be clear on the landing page that these are tryouts, how many spots we are projecting to have available and that there may be cuts. The site will also explain how money will be returned if a player doesn't make a team.
- iii. We discussed how tryouts will be run, and what the process for team selection will be. There will be separate "administrators" and "evaluators" who will have clearly defined roles prior to the first day of tryouts.
- iv. We discussed that board members, including coaching and development directors, cannot participate and should not be present during tryout/team placement discussions for their son's grade. At our next meeting we will need to further discuss and make decisions regarding whether board members (including coaching and development directors) can act as administrators or otherwise be in the gym during their son's grade level tryout. The concern is that even if the board member has no involvement in team selection discussions, there is always the potential that the parent could (consciously or not) run the drills or match up players in a way that favors their son, and we would like to avoid all appearances of favoritism or impropriety.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07 p.m. Next meeting July 20, 2016 at 7:00 at the Minnetonka Community Center.