



BLOOMINGTON FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION

Monday, August 4th, 2014 7:00 PM

- I. Call to order
Karen Johnson called to order the regular meeting of the Bloomington Fastpitch Association Board at 7:04PM on Monday, August 4th, 2014.
- II. Attendance
The following persons were present:

Board Members: Karen Johnson, Cathy Currier, Sarah Johnson, Craig Johnson, Mark Pearson, Grant Effertz, Carol Effertz, Gary Hanson, Stacy Acketz. Tony Acketz,

Other Attendees: Mary Tracy
- III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (July 2014)
Motion to approve by Stacy Acketz, 2nd by Craig Johnson.
MOTION APPROVED
- IV. Old Business
 - a. FAQ's
 - i. 10U and up – September update
 - b. 2014 Grant Awards
 - i. Update: \$3500 process to access funds (Stacy) Inform
No update from John Stutzman. Karen and Stacy to coordinate time to meet with John Stutzman regarding process to receive grant funds.
 - ii. \$1,200 BASH Elite tourney
 1. Sarah Johnson sent submission for grant funds; no response yet to submission.
 - c. Code of Conduct (September agenda)
 - i. Board, Coaches, Parents, Players
 - d. Process Guideline to fill open roster spots when short players (September agenda)
 - e. Storage Shed Update
Submitted letter to Greg Boatman outlining proposed plan to construct storage shed and source of BFA funding for construction. Greg will take letter with recommendation to ERAC meeting & city counsel meeting. Greg to let Craig Johnson know date of meeting.
 - f. Indoor Practice Options
Mark reported that JAC request for same schedule as prior years was submitted. Additional indoor space available at Game Changers for 1 evening per week at a cost of \$200. Grant, Tony , Bob, Mark to work together to determine how to utilize Game Changers space and Board Approval of use and cost in September.

V. New Business

a. 8U League Fall Ball

i. B. Lindberg Email Update

Total 12 Associations with about 16 teams participating Fall 2014.

Associations in process of finalizing number of teams

Schedule will be completed and distributed to associations by Aug 11/12

League schedule 6pm Sundays and tournament schedule Sunday 9/28

communicated to all associations.

Submitted Field Tournament request form the 8U one-day tournament on 9/28.

Requested fields 2, 3, and 4.

BFA joint practice will be Tuesday 8/12 from 6pm to 7:30. Bob will put together practice plan but will need volunteers to run stations.

Will try to have BFA teams formed late 8/12 or 8/13.

Team rosters to go to Grant to be posted to website team page.

Consideration will be given to friend requests and day of week conflicts

b. Summer 16U Team

- i. Coach issue arose when assistance by a parent and prior BFA coach became more than assistance under the direction of the 16U head coach. Statement was made that Board approved the parent to take over the team. Board had not discussed and had not approved a coaching change. Confrontation occurred at the last practice (Thursday) before State tournament, head coach left field. Karen Johnson spoke to the former BFA coach and parent involved in the issue and the current season coach and assistant coaches. Karen Johnson also called every family on the team on Friday and spoke to at least 1 parent. Results 5 families very dissatisfied with head coach 8 families ok with head coach. Conference call with Cathy Currier and Tony Acketz reviewed all information collected potential fall out retain coach vs release coach. It was agreed that the timing (last week of the season) and manner (should have met with coach and assistants) in which the former coach and parent were introduced could have been handled differently and as an organization BFA could not support the statement that the Board approved a head coach change.

c. Sun Current – Who's Who in Bloomington

Gary Hanson reviewed an opportunity to include BFA in Sun Current special edition Who's Who. Board agreed level of visibility and timing did not justify cost (\$500+ for ¼ page exposure) compared to submitting to Sports Shot section for a fraction of the cost.

d. Catcher Conditioning

Grant Effertz presented request to BFA to extend catcher clinics from 5 weeks to 6 weeks and rotate catching with catcher specific conditioning. Cost will increase from \$40 to \$60. Board supportive of conditioning component but requested that Grant review conditioning plan with another BFA coach that is also a physical therapist. Grant further requested BFA acquisition of equipment to support the conditioning work and circulated copy of the requested equipment list. Motion by Tony Acketz to purchase equipment subject to review of conditioning exercises with physical therapist to finalize program and equipment list for BFA to purchase. 2nd by Mark Pearson.
MOTION APPROVED

e. Treasurer's Report (Sarah) Inform

- i. Sarah distributed preliminary results to board members prior to meeting.
- ii. Notable items: (a) concessions profit margin improved by 24% compared prior year reporting (b) NAFA U10 concessions planned and managed by Mary Tracy. Strong inventory management resulted in minimal post tournament inventory (i.e. sold all meat items with the exception of 1 package of hotdogs).
- iii. Question asked if Tony Angrimson had been paid for providing ice as agreed with Bob Christiansen for Elite Bash. Sarah confirmed payment was made per amount agreed.

f. NAFA 10U (Karen) Discuss

- i. Post Tournament Debrief
 1. Thank you to Mary Tracy for time commitment to manage concession planning and tournament oversight and inventory management. Excellent job. Increase in profit margin, highly organized and worked with Sarah to initiate purchasing and inventory management that made for minimal inventory remaining at tournament conclusion and very little food waste.
 2. Tested grill placement in the wheel in place of grilling at #3 with grilled foods stored roaster warming trays. Only negative was smoke around the bracket boards on Friday.
 3. On two occasions tested limited concessions (beverages/berry blends) at #3 for outer field coverage. Even on Saturday with high heat and humidity minimal sales at #3 did not support staffing outer field concession so closed and handled all concessions from wheel.
 4. JHS received complaint from a neighbor about music level noise and parking. Cars parked in cul de sac were parked legally but resident very vocal. Increased tournament size (78 teams) requires organized parking management especially as it relates to use of Jefferson Highschool for opening ceremonies.
 5. Combination of heat and player injuries resulted in 3 ambulance calls to Dred fields (2 for players injured in play and 1 for older adult suspected

of heat exhaustion). NAFA does not provide but all board members agreed need to discuss importance of an onsite medic.

6. Further discussion regarding high percentage of NAFA staff that were paid versus volunteer and potential options to increase number of volunteers to staff tournament.
7. Tony Acketz will follow up with Tony Angrims regarding agreed compensation for making and delivering ice for NAFA tournament

g. Summer Coach Evaluations - Survey Monkey

Survey issued via email of link to Survey Monkey: Coach Evaluations, Player Evaluations and Parent Evaluations.

h. All Star Teams

- i. Unable to secure teams for planned 8/9 round robin hosted in Bloomington.
- ii. 8/2 Hudson Tournament: the 12U and 10U All Star teams both won championship for their age level.
- iii. Good start for first year; will work to further improve for next year.

i. Fall 2014 Season

Registration" Carol Effertz ready for registration on 8/7. Tony has evaluators in place. Karen has received several emails from parents that kids are at camp or family on vacation. Majority will not be back to share fields with Clutch to do an 8/9 make up date. Would need to conduct make up evals week of 8/11 which does not allow sufficient time for team formation and practice scheduling prior to first league game on 8/24. Approved use of summer season coach skills evaluation for fall team formation if player unable to attend evaluations

Team registration fees due to the league 8/4. Cathy registered teams and league fee was paid based on estimate of 7 teams – 4 @ 10U; 2 @ 12U and 1 @ 14U. Brad Currier attended 8/4 Fall suburban league meeting on behalf of BFA. Adjustment will be addressed as done prior years after BFA fall registration complete and teams identified.

All agreed need to do Fall registration and evaluations earlier. Karen Johnson asked if we really needed to wait until after NAFA. General agreement no reason to wait and that tryouts between State and NAFA would capture maximum evaluation attendance.

Team Selection: Registration notes deadline to receive evaluations is 8/9. Goal is to complete evaluations score entries, collection of coach reviews for players not at evaluations and final PO Box check Monday 8/11 for team selection Monday evening 8/11.

j. 8U Fall State Tournament

- i. Confirmed BFA will host an 8U Fall Tournament on 9/28.
- ii. Mark submitted field request for fields 2, 3, and 4.

k. Dome Ball

Winter session begins in October. Early registration is 9/15 to returning teams for guaranteed spot. Karen Johnson will send email to all 12U and 14U parents providing basic Winter Session information and note interested parties can sign contact sheet that will be at registration or send email to Karen Johnson. Carol Effertz will have Winter Session sheet for interested parents/players to sign up for more information.

l. BFA Current State / Future State

All agreed this is a full and separate session independent of regular business that needs to be addressed in monthly board meeting.

Special work session scheduled for 9/13 at 11:30 AM. Location to be determined and confirming meeting notice sent.

VI. Director Reports

- a. President: Karen Johnson (no additional report)
- b. Vice President: Cathy Currier (no additional report)
- c. Treasurer: Sarah Johnson (no additional report)
- d. Secretary: Melissa Walter (absent)
- e. Commissioner: Craig Johnson
Need to collect equipment bags. Cathy to tell coaches to bring equipment bags to 8/7 registration. Craig to collect and stock to reissue to fall coaches.
Asked for detailed list of equipment for purchase so he can get equipment purchase bids. List needs to identify specific product, brand and size as well as quantity, i.e. "bats: is too generic.
- f. Facilities Coordinator: Mark Pearson (no additional report)
- g. Player and Coach Development: Tony Acketz (no additional report)
- h. Tournament Director: Open
- i. Communications Director: Grant Effertz (no additional report)
- j. Member Services & Membership: Carol Effertz (no additional report)
- k. Marketing: Gary Hanson (no additional report)
- l. Fund Raising: Stacy Acketz
All Catch the Fire prize level items were dispersed in July and top 2 team pizza parties are scheduled.
- m. 8U Director: Bob Lindberg (8U league report submitted via email)

VII. Open Comments

None

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Karen Johnson to adjourn at 9:46pm; 2nd by Tony Acketz.

The next board meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 8 at 7:00pm** at the Bloomington Center for the Arts