

# ARAA Fastpitch Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

7:30 PM

Elm Crest Park, Ramsey

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenny Olson, <i>Commissioner</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Colford, <i>Treasurer</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sonja Abrahamson, <i>Secretary</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Moore, <i>12-16U Director</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> OPEN POSITION, <i>6-10U Director</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Henry, <i>Tournament Director</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> Melanie Dusterhoft, <i>Fields/Umps Director</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenny Flickinger, <i>Communications/Sponsor Director</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Thinnies, <i>Uniform/Volunteer Director</i> |
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**COORDINATOR MEMBERS:**

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zach Hunter, <i>Equipment Coordinator</i><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sonja Abrahamson, <i>Player Development Coordinator</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN POSITION, <i>Try-outs/Assessments Coordinator</i><br><input type="checkbox"/> OPEN POSITION, <i>Volunteer Coordinator</i> |
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OTHER'S PRESENT: Jeff Spiess, Mark Arjes, Chris Bangle

Topic	Minutes (Action items in BOLD)
Jennifer called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM	
Previous Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sonja motioned to approve the February Minutes, Jennifer seconded, Board approved</li> </ul>
E-mail Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ARAA Booster president, Jeff Rustom, rescinded request for donation for field maintenance</li> <li>• Postponing project</li> </ul>
<b>Commissioner Report – Jennifer Olson</b>	
Green Valley Gift Cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 900 cards have been ordered, 10 per family to sell</li> <li>• 21 players have opted out</li> <li>• Those who sell more than 15 will receive and embroidered sweatshirt</li> <li>• Jen to be at LOL at practices for gift card pick up</li> </ul>
<b>Uniform/Volunteer Director Report – Karen Thinnies</b>	
Uniforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen displayed sample uniform all liked</li> <li>• What to do this coaches shirts?</li> <li>• Keep jersey logo only smaller and possibly maroon collared shirt</li> </ul>
Swag Store	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swag store to open this week</li> <li>• Will have samples for practices on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Need a couple of weeks after close to receive items</li> <li>• Close store April 9<sup>th</sup>, can do second round later in season for Fall Ball</li> </ul>
<b>6-16U Director – Kevin Moore</b>	
Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessments went well</li> <li>• Should consider moving assessments to fall</li> <li>• Space is available and fewer conflicts</li> <li>• Teams would be formed early and could offer dome ball</li> </ul>
Coaches Clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like to get something set up for coaches</li> <li>• March 31<sup>st</sup> Twin's Coaches clinic is a great option</li> <li>• Will have Coaches meeting next week</li> </ul>

<b>Player Development Coordinator – Sonja Abrahamson</b>	
Winter Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All went well!</li> </ul>
Ideas for Next Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With first year 10s assessing and needing to bunt for assessments would like to offer some exposure to 2<sup>nd</sup> year 8s</li> <li>Would like to bring bunting and fly balls to winter clinics</li> <li>Could we perhaps bring in some pitching/catching to 8U practices? <b>Sonja to reach out to Peyton Zak and MaKenzee Stone</b></li> </ul>
Youth First	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark Arjes founder/director of Youth First attend the meeting to promote program</li> <li>Youth sports today should be kids first but have become adults are first</li> <li>Youth1st encourages associations to look at development and love of the game and how to reclaim those as priorities</li> <li>3 operating principles: Conduct, Character, Community</li> <li>Conduct: Coaches and parents to model best conduct and encourage positive interactions</li> <li>Character: Recognize the right behaviors of coach, players, and fans</li> <li>Community: Spreading these principles throughout the community</li> <li>Currently Youth1st is in every park and rec program in Owatonna</li> <li>Youth1st has resources to help guide associations (Junior Twin's)</li> <li>Junior Twins is a \$5000 grant over three years to grow and sustain programs – how to get coaches, umpires, etc.</li> <li>Suggested contribution would be \$1000/season</li> <li>Board discussed if worth the investment – all agreed</li> <li>Sonja motioned to partner with Youth1st for the 2018 season, Ann seconded, Board passed.</li> <li><b>Jennifer to follow up with Mark</b></li> </ul>
<b>Try Outs/Assessment Coordinator – OPEN POSITION</b>	
<b>Tournament Director – Jeff Henry</b>	
Dirt Devil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violet Victoria, Air Brush, Cotton Candy, and PhD has committed</li> <li>Dumpsters and portables have been arranged</li> <li>Have contact information on overflow parking</li> </ul>
Women's Gopher Softball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>40 tickets have been purchased for May 5<sup>th</sup> vs Penn State</li> <li>Will round up to even 100</li> <li>Jennifer to hand out tickets and collect cash for tickets on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at LOL practices</li> </ul>
<b>Secretary – Sonja Abrahamson</b>	
<b>Communications/Sponsorship Director – Jennifer Flickinger</b>	
Sponsorship Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 sponsors are spread out over 8 teams</li> <li>Working on sponsor to cover 2 8U teams</li> <li>Karen has logo and banners have been ordered</li> <li>Jackets and banners will be here around time of uniforms</li> <li>Will use uniform sizes as guide for jackets</li> <li>Each sponsor will get plaque and picture of sponsored team</li> </ul>
<b>Treasurer – Ann Colford</b>	
Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47 players paid full price for registration</li> <li>21 players bought out of fundraising</li> <li>3 players bought out of volunteer hours</li> </ul>
<b>Fields/Umps Director – Melanie Dusterhoff</b>	
<b>Equipment Coordinator – Zach Hunter</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sold 5 helmets and 7 bats at winter clinics!</li> <li>Discussed pricing for equipment</li> <li>Due to purchasing new catcher's gear last year for 10 and 8U, will purchase 2 sets for 12-14U.</li> <li>Board chose to order 2 sets of 12-16 standard Allstar gear</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Board chose to order 15 boxes of 11 inch balls and 25 boxes of 12 inch balls at the price of \$54/dozen</li><li>• Zach to get more information on Tees and warrantees</li><li>• Jennifer authorized the order of 4 tees not to exceed \$80/tee</li><li>• Zach recommend purchase a couple of rakes – Jennifer to confer with Baseball</li><li>• Jennifer has the first aid kits and will get them ready to disperse</li></ul>
<b>Misc</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sonja motioned to adjourn, Kevin seconded, Board approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM</li></ul>