

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

All present except: Chrissy

Meeting Begins at 9:25am

November Meeting will be set for November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at YSB

#### Bi-Laws

- Need to be looked over and revised

#### Senior league

- Pee -wees being moved to Tuesday, Thursday night?
  - Want to expand the rookies program to be similar to the majors and minors.
  - Longer game times
  - More practice time available if they want it
    - Open field times on Fridays and Saturdays
  - Need to check with umps to see if they can handle more games on those nights
  - Maybe put t-ball back to Monday and Wednesdays

#### Umps

- Need to get out that there is an umpire training program trying to get more high school kids involved.
  - Find out what age/grade level can ump
- Maybe consider raising the ump fee by an extra \$5 or \$10 to try to get more umps here
- Do we switch over to Dave or stay with Jay/Frank?
  - Had to call Dave a few times this year to help us out when our umps did not show up through Jay
  - Is Dave more organized?
    - Not sure yet, but it cannot get any worse than it has been
  - When we had no umps for Tri County, Jay did not return any call or emails
  - Do we have to stick with just one?
    - We need to find someone that has enough umps to guarantee we will have umps for all of our games
- Switching over to Dave this year

#### SEML

- Would we like pitchball to join the SEMML league
  - Survey parents to get their perspective
  - Maybe asking parents to drive too far for a pitchball game, if they have to drive to Oakdale
  - CGAA only had 5 teams last year, would give them more teams to play
  - Maybe see if there can be an end of the year tournament where they all get together, but keep the season the same
  - Need to communicate to the parents that there is a chance for traveling
  - Rec-State Tournament
    - Good introduction into traveling, the kids have a great time
    - July 28<sup>th</sup> in Buffalo

- Would love to offer this for our girls
  - 1 All Star team and the highest finishing Cottage Grove team from the end of the year tournament for pee wees
- Potentially pushing back the start time of majors
  - Hopefully get more girls playing as they will be playing 9<sup>th</sup> grade ball
  - Keep in house the same
    - Let the coach decide what they want to do
- Rules
  - No code of conduct, or rules
    - Plan on taking ours (CGAA) and helping them put it together (Elizabeth)
    - Make sure to put in no new inning after 8:00pm during school and 8:15 summer, and if they cannot win there must be a drop-dead time at 8:00pm/8:15pm

#### Tri-County

- Set for July 7/13 through 7/15
- Have 10 fields to offer
- Need to enforce the foot in the box rule
  - Bring up at tri county meeting

#### Try outs

- October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> for all age groups
  - Need to get it on the calendar as soon as we get it locked in
  - Send out reminder email
- Need to schedule Bielenberg for all 3 days,
  - Consider doing the West rink for pitchers and catchers on Friday to save money
    - Rent it out from 5pm to 10
      - 5:30-7:00pm, 7:00 – 8:30pm, 8:30pm until done
- 1 day or 2 day try outs?
  - Should give the kids 2 days, just in case they have a bad tryout one day
  - 1 day would save money and try to cycle the girls through 2 times
    - If they have a bad day, they don't have a day to redeem themselves
    - Not worried about money, \$45 try out fee and we need to do what's best for all of the girls

#### Fall Ball

- Go back to age level when it comes to assigning teams
  - First year, second year

#### Coaches

- Coaches survey mid-season, end of summer league season and end of fall season after fall ball
  - Try to solve problems mid-season and make corrections if needed, and confront coaches if needed

- Try to eliminate girls just quitting because they had too many issues but never addressed them until end of year
  - Maybe give the survey results to the coaches, good and bad
    - Help the coaches try to fix the problems that the parents have seen that they may not realize that they are doing
    - Sit down with coaches at the end of the year and go over their year and the parents feedback
- Trying to check on coaches, send out a person they may not know (secret shopper), and watch how they are coaching when it comes to game time, without them knowing that someone is watching
  - Send out a grandparent, or a random parent with a list and a notebook to take notes on how they are doing; good and bad.
    - Able to help them, and correct things if there is anything that needs to be corrected
    - Have a culture keeper to help reinforce to make sure all coaches, umps, parents are displaying good behavior and if not, they confront them and take further actions if needed
    - Red flag site, where a person can anonymously report anything they may see during any games or practices that they don't agree on and problems and be address and fixed
- Coach interviews are set for Tuesday October 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday October 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Maybe not designate a head coach, especially at younger age, but have the 3 coaches rotate the head position.
  - Survey monkey so it is all anonymous,
    - More people are willing to open up and share now that their name is not on them
- DP Flex needs to be used at 14u state and national tournaments, should have coaches do DP flex for tournaments during the year so they know what to do for end of the year tournaments
  - Need to get all coaches dialed in so they know what they are doing when it comes time that they have to use it.
  - Inform parents how it works and try to explain to them what happens
- Coaches meeting set for November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30pm at west rink meeting room
  - Get a power point set up
- Coaches Training
  - Consider Making all coaches get ACertified, instead of just 2 of them
  - Coaches training for all in house and traveling coaches
    - Try to build the bonds closer between the two sets of coaches
    - Want the inhouse being taught the best they can be with coaches that have more knowledge and have support of other coaches
    - There will not be a fee for any of these clinics
- In the younger ages especially, as a coach you need to be rotating all the girls in every position during regular games. When it comes to tournaments you can play them in their stronger positions, but no girl should ever sit a full game.

- Need to start really pushing the girl's development in the outfield at a very young age

#### Fields/indoor

- CGMS #4 and #5 will be Prides fields
- Schedule for armory pitchers and catchers
  - 2 days a week, in January we will switch to 3 times a week
    - Monday and Thursday – November and December, adding Fridays starting in January
    - Last year armory cost was \$3,000 for the entire winter
    - Start getting pitching/catching coaches booked for armory time
      - Try to keep budget under \$1,000
- Turf time/indoor training
  - Book any Sunday nights at the activity center starting January and February
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> week in March turf time will open up
    - Try to grab as many Sunday nights as we can get right now
- Considered putting up pitching mounds next to fields 3, and in between field 4 & 5
  - Would be a great option, talk to Jim to see if that can be done
  - Could be done for under \$100.00 per mound
- Dug outs
  - Fields 3, 4 and 5
  - Need to get permit from Bob Labrosse
  - Talk to Zach Doctor about working together and getting both Lamar and Grey Clouds dug outs done at the same time.
- Talk to Troy to build a better frame for the batting cages
  - Price should be around \$75.00 and he can use his work to be put towards dibs hours

#### Pride

- Make a winter dome ball league at the age of 10's and 12's for potentially training them and recruiting them for when they are 14's and 16's.
  - Something like future pride players, get the Pride name out there more
  - Need to find a few coaches willing to coach
  - Make available for surrounding communities to form a team
  - This will not be available until winter 2018
  - Contact local communities about their interest in the dome ball team, and Try to set up a survey with surrounding communities and see how many people are interested.
    - Contact local community
    - Pride committee will take this on
- Should we put a name on the Pride committee so people know who to contact, other than having it come from pride committee, no names
  - If a parent is upset with something, who should they call, they want to talk to someone instead of email.
  - The committee must talk and decide on everything before there is a response to the parents

- Mary is in charge of everything that happens on field, players, etc. Financial questions should be the only reason they need to contact us.
- Need to put pitcher request on fast sports

#### Clinics

- Talked to Bob Loschek about upcoming clinics
  - Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> and Dec 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Tim and Dan will set up another meeting with Bob to get more information with him about these clinics Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup>
- Want to make sure all our girls are learning the same way and techniques from every coach from an early age and up.
  - Building the fundamental and always teaching the same way
  - Teach them the proper way starting from t-ball and never change the way we have taught them
  - Requiring all coaches to teach the kids a certain way- talk with bob and see how he wants them taught, so when he gets them in high school, they should have been learning his way from an early age.
  - Start putting together a practice plan to hand out to coaches, start putting up a pre-game protocol as well
  - In house should be learning the same stuff as traveling
- Talk to Mary about asking her to come and help out and work with the girls
- Fast pitch factory –
  - Affiliated with the Irish team
    - Can be used for recruitment
  - option to get outside help
  - Payment comes from parents, and have to understand the time commitment
  - They come to us and will train at any of our facilities
  - Any cottage grove players are welcome, any age, any team, in house or traveling

#### Face mask

- Should we enforce the face masks to be worn in the outfield
  - Parents can choose if they want their daughter in outfield wearing it
  - If coach wants to deal it the back lash from parents, they can choose if they want to make their own rule about the face mask being worn in the outfield.
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**\*\*\* Kayla motions to approve August Meeting Minutes, Brad seconds, all approve\*\*\***

#### Financial

- Would like anyone who uses the softball association check card to download the app, Office Lens to scan their receipts in as soon as they can and email them to Kayla at

[kayla.seerup@cgaasoftball.com](mailto:kayla.seerup@cgaasoftball.com). Kayla would still like the paper receipt as well, but this will help from losing or misplacing any receipts.

#### Communications

- Trying to individualize the groups into traveling, in house, etc.
  - Will eliminate the amount of emails all the parents get

#### Fundraising

- Made around \$10,000 on raffle tickets
  - Numbers have been slowly going down each year
  - Fundraiser by teams
    - They can opt in or opt out; each team gets what they earned
    - Pizza, raffles
    - Have an opening and closing ceremonies at the fields as a community event with food, vendors and some softball games
    - \$20.00 raffle ticket card, payouts being \$9,000 and we get \$9,000.
      - Must sell 900 tickets
      - Check in with junction 70 or Carbone's about running a beer fundraiser that we can share the profits on. Pulling 90 numbers, people will be there for awhile
- Looking into changing some prizes for the regular raffle.

#### Promotions

- Go with a sublimated jersey verses screen print this year.
  - Boombah then will do all the printing there
- All teams must order a blood shirt, it is not an option, it is covered with each girl's registration fee.
  - They will be a dry fit t shirt that can be used as a 3<sup>rd</sup> jersey option
- Schedule a fitting in December
- Brad will bring binder that has the sizes the girls ordered last year
- Set up a cleat station, where someone comes in and has samples to try on and order cleats right there  
Rusty 651-387-3469
- Set up stations to make it easier to

#### Equipment

- Need to get tri pod ball holders back from the coaches and put back in the cages (we have 3 total)
- Take inventory at the fields and see where we need bat racks and where
- Consider replacing the lockboxes at some of the fields
  - Contact Jim or Zach and see if they are the ones that replace them
- We need to order new base plugs for all fields
  - Jim does not like the orange ones, they get caught in the machine and are being destroyed
  - Black foam ones will cost around \$100.00
- Need to order a whole fence worth of poles, 32/33 and caps – bsnsports.com

- Purchasing for 2018 season:
  - 30 - 11" Dudley, 40 – 12" Dudley, 3 – 12" Jugs,

#### Tournaments

- Pip tournament
  - Usually the weekend after Mother's Day, would land on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>
    - Consider moving the date into June
    - Maybe keep the date and add 8u to try to get more teams to attend
      - PIP will then be for ages 8u – 12u
      - PIP part 2 tournament for 16u and 14u on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>
        - Consider games under the lights

**\*\*\* Jason made the motion to add 8u to the PIP Tournament, Elizabeth seconds the motion, all approve, motion carries\*\*\***

- End of the year tournament
  - Set for July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018
  - T-ball, pitch ball and pee wee and senior league all star
  - A lot of complaints that it always lands on fourth of July weekend
    - Need to get on calendar that this weekend is our end of the year tournament and date cannot change
    - SEML does not like Collins field
      - Feel that they are not included in the tournament
- They have suggested that they want to rotate between Cottage Grove and Woodbury
  - Woodbury already hosts senior league tournament
- 14u Tri County tournament
  - July 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Not sure if we have state tournament yet, but there is a good chance we will get it
- Fall Ball
  - If we want a state tournament at the end of the year we need to host games throughout the fall season
  - Consider finding places that want to volunteer as a fundraiser
    - Band/Choir
  - Right now, we will plan on hosting Fall Ball, but will relook at it on a further date
- Tournament Help
  - Need to make a plan where we take some responsibilities off of Tim
  - Make a schedule once our team schedules come out and then appoint who will be at the fields for our tournaments

#### Funds

- Need to reach out to city to look into money they have previously said they have set aside for softball this year

#### Concrete Pad

- Need to hire our contractor and get it going before the winter freezes
  - River side contracting, should be around \$4,000

**\*\*\* Brad motions to approve up to \$5,000 to put in a concrete pad at the batting cages, Jason second the motion, all approve, motion passes\*\*\***

#### Softball Booster

- Last year we donated \$750.00
- Maybe bring it up to Bob Loschek that the more he helps the more we will give to the booster

#### Batting Cages

- Women's league has been wrecking things in the batting cages, they have broken 2 wheels so far.
  - They keep using the hard balls and ruining the wheel
- All teams need to go through mandatory training and will not get the code to the batting cages if they have not completed the training

#### Bylaws

- Bylaws have been revised and will be published in a few days

**\*\*\* Motion made by Jason to adjourn meeting, brad second, all approve, meeting adjourned at 6:33pm\*\*\***