



**Board Meeting Minutes – Approved March 18, 2024
Monday, February 19, 2024 – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Apple Valley Community Center**

Board Member/Representative Attendees:

Jason Petti (president), Peter Beaumont, Doug Beddies, Kevin Brandt, Mary Coleman, Kevin Drometer (representing softball), Mark Espena, Dave Freed, Gerri Laska, Jude Miron, Jeremy Resler, Paul Zachery

Invited Guests: Ben Griffin, Bryana Klofstad, Shane Myre

Other Attendees: Lindsay Bradford, Mike Johnson Tony Lynch

Programs Represented: Basketball, cross-country skiing, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present

Approval of minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the January 2024 EVAA Board meeting.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Review Action List

A list of action items from the previous meeting was reviewed and updated. All board members should review the list and complete their assigned items before the next meeting.

Finance Update

All of the 1099s for 2023 were sent out on January 28 (a 1099 is required for those who are paid \$600 or more). As a reminder, the treasurer recently switched EVAA accounts to higher yield CDs, and they are already receiving interest around \$1500/month (as opposed to the previous \$10/month). Programs are able to have 2 credit cards, and checks are still able to be issued as needed.

Discussion about EVAA Apparel

Ben Griffin from Rambow was an invited guest to discuss spirit wear and other equipment needs for EVAA. The board received a demo on the types of clothing and other spirit wear options that are available. Rambow would create a store, have everything created in-house, individually wrap the items, and either ship them to one location or the customers can pay for individual shipping. In addition, EVAA would receive \$2-3 dollars back for each item under \$50 so it can be reinvested into the programs. All major brands are available and only in-stock items are available (no back order). In addition to spirit wear, Rambow can offer discounts for equipment, and the individual sports were encouraged to contact Ben Griffin to see what discounts might be available.

Rugby Program

Similar to the trap program, there is a district 196 rugby club. The rugby program is growing at the high school level with 60-80 kids playing. There are both girls and boys leagues; both have been state champions and scholarships at the collegiate level have been awarded. There is also a middle school team with 25-35 participants, and a K-5th grade program with about 100 participants. There is a desire to grow the rugby program with the assistance of EVAA. The goal is to target football, wrestling, and soccer



players and hopefully other sports as interest increases. There are currently not enough players for EVAA to have its own program, but ideally EVAA may have its own teams next year where they can play against those who sign up through EAA (whose registration is currently open). There are options for grades k-12, and it will be a spring sport (March – June).

Tennis Update

As tennis has been without a program director for some time, EVAA leadership has filled the role in order for the sport to continue. There is a candidate for a new program director; the new standard interview process will start for this candidate.

Fundraising / Sponsorship

EVAA is always looking for sponsors; they are approved through the board. Through various sponsorships, EVAA has been able to provide over \$7,000 in scholarships to EVHS athletes last year. Play It Again Sports is willing to offer EVAA a discount on equipment, and as such EVAA has agreed to put their logo on the website as an official sponsor.

Operations Roadmap

There is a new operating model that will replace how the EVAA board and programs act with regard to each other. The new model serves more like a franchisee system, with the EVAA providing certain services (such as insurance, SportsEngine, etc.) and each program will then provide a proper board, budget, etc. The EVAA board will then be able to better support the programs, as there will be set roles and obligations.

Program Updates

Football

Football is in their off season but will be meeting in March. There is a SSYL meeting on February 22.

Lacrosse

Lacrosse registration is open with 50 kids signed up so far. Hockey is also promoting lacrosse to help get the word out that EVAA still has a lacrosse program. The program is in the process of getting coaches right now by recruiting former EVHS players; parents will be the coaches at the younger level. They are also looking into tournament options, as well as co-oping with Eagan and Inver Grove Heights for the girls' teams if possible. The budget is just about set and is based on 2023 numbers. There likely will not be a box option this year, but there will be both spring and summer seasons.

Basketball

There are 3 weeks left in the season; there are still state tournaments for the traveling program and also in-house tournaments.

Volleyball

There are a couple of months left in the season, and it's been a good season. They are preparing for the big tournaments March 9th-10th and 16th-17th with 64 teams participating in this fundraiser. In-house registration is full, due to lack of space and coaches.



Cross-country Skiing

There were 30 registrants, which is the maximum for the sport. Participants were able to ski the past couple of weeks in Bloomington (as they made snow). There is currently one week left in the season, but there is hopes of launching a summer program as well.

Softball

There are currently 23 board members, which involves many committees, and there are also several parents getting involved. The program is growing with 26 teams last year and 32 teams this year. There are serious concerns over the lack of pitchers, fields, and the safety of the batting cages.

Safety

The safety director will be ensuring that concussion and background checks are up-to-date for the spring. This position will soon be vacant and will be accepting nominations for a replacement.

Soccer

Registration for the spring season opened in January and will close in March. The registration numbers are currently on track and the entire spring season has been planned and scheduled.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved at 8:22 p.m.