

Blaine Area Traveling Baseball
November 12, 2014
Blaine Baseball Complex, Blaine 7:00pm

Board Members in attendance: Sarah Anderson, Kathy Coello, Rick Fanning, Erik Fenn, Jaymi Greseth, Al Gottschalk, Traci Payne and Jason Vogel
Board members absent: Jim Conlee, Justin Kehner, Scott Gagnon and Matt Westlund.
Visitor: Jerome Balisimo

Call to order: Rick called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Secretary minutes approved via email: One change – Kathy Coello was in attendance.

Welcome: Rick Fanning/President

New Business

MYAS Coaches Meeting

- Rick welcomed everyone and introduced Jerome Balisimo who joined our meeting to report on the MYAS Coaches meeting. The biggest discussion at the meeting was the discussion of pitch count v inning. However, it ended up not having any resolution to it, even though it was a long discussion. The main issue is the games and continuity during the weeks M-Th vs Fr-Sun. Another issue discussed is starting the league year a few weeks later. With the field issues we have, two weeks later becomes bigger issues. Teams can schedule when they want – up to individual teams. Consensus is everyone wants to be done the end of July? No go into August? Our feeling is just to extend to end of July. Playoffs not so spread out, but MYAS said not really possible.
- Conversation also discussed teams and players playing down – we were complimented on how we handle.
- In conclusion, all things discussed, there is nothing in two hours that was changed. Thank you Jerome for attending and filling us in.

Player refund

- Rick presented an issue with a 14AA player that registered and did pay the \$100 deposit but after getting on the team, he has instead decided to play for another team. They would like a refund. We agreed as a board to take these issues on a case by case basis. Rick and the board unanimously were ok with issuing refund. Al moved that we refund the check, Jaymi seconded the motion.
- Next question is who was cut on the team and who should take this player's place? Rick will call Brent and have him review the tryout results to determine the replacement player.

SBAA Building Time

- Soderville is starting to schedule times for building use. We need to let the coaches know ASAP. Can we as an organization take it? SBAA Board decided that we will take Mon, Wed during the week. Fast pitch can have Tues, Thur. We will put out to our coaches and then schedule the times. Time slots – SBAA is juggling three groups.

Treasurer's Report

- Rick gave a general update since Matt is not present. Balance is about \$35,000. Rick and Matt will need to sit with Ernie and Karl to go over some details in full. Board would like to have a better financial idea going forward. Would like to also have the Soderville Board Budget/Quarterly report. Matt is transitioning with Karl/Ernie. Desire is to have the budget by end of the year. Thanks Matt for all your work!

Committee Reports

Policies – Rick Fanning

- Went through Bylaws and he thinks it will be approved by SBAA. Sat with Corinne at Soderville and looking at it all to flow together. Not expecting there to be any problems. Sarah, Rick & Jason are working on enhancing our policies.

Development – Al Gottschalk

- 54 hours allotted from NSC. Not great hours. \$120/hr on average a little over \$6,000. It would be clinic/academy style for 10s 11s 12s 13s 14s. Coaches and Assistants will have a heads up on what is going on.
- Looking at 8-10 hours total per team. 9-10 pm Sunday nights at Expo center. A few other nights listed are Feb 6 and Feb 13 kick off which is two Fridays in a row. Introduce drills and take what we have and utilize it as best we can. Wed at 5 pm Friday at 5 pm. Times vary but mostly Tues and Sun nights. Once a week and we will rotate.
- Al will talk to Tom/Line Drive. \$60/hr. \$333/hr for hitting with the Twins...\$20/kid – tabled it, just not feasible. Jason looked into Anoka/Ramsey, it is booked.

Fundraising Erik Fenn

- Jaymi has some fantastic ideas and experience. Matt and Rick will get together on a budget, then we will have a better idea for what we need for fundraising and will get a plan together.
- Some ideas: Brunswick Bowl with a spaghetti dinner then Silent Auction;
- Use Survey Monkey to get other ideas/feedback from parents/coaches. Need them on board and excited.
- Raise tournament fees?
- Bagging groceries volunteering?

Kathy Tournament

- The tournament committee had a meeting right before the board meeting. Ideas include having a semi-invitational where we send an invitational letter to 15 of the top organizations. Wording would include "...we are sending you an invite for this weekend, would love to have you at our high level ball tournament." Deadline would be until the first of the year at which point we will open it up. Most teams are saying Invitational means open tourney except one that said

“discretionary”. When searching on the web, we found New Ulm and Big Lake are the only two on our same weekend May 29, 30, 31.

- Any value adds to include? Something to draw interest and entice in? How it will be worded – prestige?
- Fees – everyone has raised tournament costs– most are \$375-380.
- Registration is due Nov 17 2015 to qualify at MBT. We can put on the website just can’t list as qualified until accepted.

Equipment – Jason Vogel

- Emailed info to the board on the \$7,100 quote from Dave’s Sports. There was a slight modification on shin pads. Baseball cost is the biggest difference.
Breakdown of cost:
 - Half of the cost is baseballs. We will be adding a couple teams so some catchers gear is necessary. Not getting new helmets. Equipment needed by early January.
- Received quote request from Dave’s Sports and Tahoe. Cost wise in 2013, we spent \$6000 but we added a couple new teams; 2014 there are four new teams \$1000 more, approximately \$7,000.
 - Four teams XL3 bats
- Discussion on baseballs, could we do with a dozen less balls and get more wiffle balls?
- Al motioned approval on everything else approved except for baseballs. We agreed as a board that Dave’s budget for balls is approved – Jason can sub out as necessary. Kathy seconded the motion, all approved.

Uniforms

- Al presented sample uniform tops and two hats.
- For the hats it was between Richardson/Pukka. Board agreed unanimously on Pukka – multiple letters available semi fitted caps that are breathable.
- Option for tops are between Silkscreen - Twill – Sublimated. Board agreed nicer top Twill Jerseys. Will go with twill and grey braiding will be the colors. Cost will include dry fit shirts and one pair of pants. Second pair optional to buy – pants are nicer.
- Since the quote from Dave’s is what we liked, Jason and Al will double team the equipment/uniform quotes and go back to Dave’s.
- Looking at \$101 total.

Traveling Directors report

- Jim Conlee and Justin Kehner both absent. Will update next month.

Communications

- Veterans Day welcome by Rick on website – very nice!
- Coaches pages/Teams not updated.
- We need to remind Coaches to have a team meeting – parents need to contribute.
- Team managers – in conjunction with Coaches meetings

- Add historical/resume adds and Alumni page?
- Facebook discussion tabled for this month

Volunteers – Jaymi Greseth

- Sarah and Jaymi will meet to compile spreadsheets
- Jaymi will make a good effort on communication and getting people involved
- There are free volunteer sites available including DIBS through SportNgin

Other

- Temperature in the room at BBC Concessions office was around 42 – very icy!
Other options for us to meet is at the City Council, Bank by Bunker on Main Street meeting room, City Hall?
- Will evaluate in December. Traci will make arrangements if needed.

Upcoming meetings: Meetings are second Thursday of the month.

Thursday December 11, 2014

Thursday January 8, 2015

Thursday February 12, 2015

Thursday March 12, 2015

Rick motioned to adjourn, Kathy seconded

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Traci Payne, Secretary.