

BPAA Baseball Association Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2011

Attending: John Vylasek, Mark Jessee, Amy Loughrey, Jim Claussen, Chris Olson, Bob Schnobrich, Brett Hulke, Cory Paape, Al Bloodgood, Brian Borgenson, Tony Kiminski, David Norby, Cory Leaf, Trevor Pederson, Mark Stein, Jeff Klemm, Deven Dubuque, and Mark Lorentzen, Terry Englund, Tim Kulla, Jeff Wolff, Dayne Doebler, Michelle Chen, Mark Azure, Chris Wiles, Brian Blake.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2011 m/s/p.

Board Reports

Equipment – Bob Schnobrich had nothing to report.

Vice President – Mark Jessee reported that he is in the process of working out the details with potential guests and asked for feedback on whether it is worth paying someone from the Twins to attend Opening Day.

Traveling – Jim Claussen reported that the board is considering fielding a 9-U team as a MYAS 10A squad. More info to follow. Jim also reported that the board has voted to change the mandatory traveling league selection from 6-6 to 8-4. An immediate appeal is available to coaches with board vote during the draft where needed.

Tryout Director – Chris Olson reported that 2012 Tryouts will be modified to include pitching in the overall score to help accommodate a more representative sample to coaches during the draft. Chris also reported that we will be evaluating options for enhancing the pitching machine consistency during the tryout. Chris also reported that the board is testing an active cancellation notification solution which, if feasible, could be used in addition to the passive website cancellation notification mechanism.

Head Commissioner – Amy Loughrey reported that she has been working with Mark Jessee to prepare for the coming season scheduling.

Secretary – Deb Heisler reported in absentia that the next board meeting will be our annual “Registration Envelope Stuffing” event. The date is January 8th, 2012 in the Brooklyn Park Community Activity Center.

Treasurer – Jennifer Tutt had nothing to report in absentia.

President – John Vylasek reported that Brett Hulke, Jen Tutt and Amy Loughrey have volunteered to lay out proposed parameters for board consideration regarding excessive heat preparation and cancellation policy. The goal of this is to refer our guidelines against a widely available forecast source to make the determination by 4PM that games will either be played,

not played, shortened, or whatever we come up with that makes sense. John appealed to the Association for input into the process so the benefactors have a voice. John also reported that the board is discussing having both New Coach and Advanced Coaching clinics. More information to follow on this subject. John also reported that the board has decided on a uniform template for Trevor Pederson to plan logos around and that the organization will buy the new jerseys in order to maintain consistency of the look over the course of successive years.

BPAA Report – Deb Heisler reported in absentia that we should review our fundraising practices in order to be sure that we preserve and protect our organizations 501(c)(3) status. More information to follow as we learn about the required parameters as determined by BPAA and ensure we are following them as well as we believe we are.

Old Business

- A. Open Positions** – Registration Coordinator, Database (website) Coordinator, others listed on website. John Vylasek encouraged involvement.
- B. 2012 Season Dates** – Saturday, May 5th.
- C. Twins/Hennepin County Grant** – Submitted, awaiting approval or denial. Submitted Safety Fencing Estimate of \$18K.
- D. Excessive Heat Cancellation Policy** – Covered in President’s report.
- E. New Cancellation Notification** – Covered in Tryout Director’s report.
- F. Traveling Uniform Update** - Covered in President’s report.

New Business

- A. Registration Envelope Stuffing** – January 8th, 2012 Association Meeting!
- B. Traveling Player Selection Changes** – Covered in Traveling Director’s report. Mark Stein expressed the view that at later ages the 8-4 approach may be problematic. John Vylasek acknowledged that perspective and pointed out that the underlying goal is to open up the process more so new blood has a realistic and plausible shot at making the traveling teams in future seasons even if they didn’t make it in the current season.
- C. Coaching Applications** – Covered in Traveling Directors report. Applications for all leagues are due to BPBA Secretary Deb Heisler by 12/16/2011.

Open Discussion

- A. Concession Stand Coordinator** – Michelle Chen reported her intention to serve for one more season at most as Concession Stand Coordinator. Michelle admonished

the board to pursue selection of a new Concession Stand Assistant or Coordinator so she can train the new personnel and proctor a smooth transition as she transitions to bright future opportunities with her business. The board recognized Michelle for the outstanding job she has done and is committed to working with her on this transition.

- B. MYAS 10A Traveling Team** – Trevor Pederson suggested the coach pool could be diminished by this move. Mark Lorentzen suggested that with training our system might develop more coaches by allowing for more spots open to remaining parents of 9 year olds.
- C. Number of Fielders in House Leagues** – Mark Lorentzen suggested to the board for consideration that 3 outfielders may be better than four. Mark believes the formation of 11 player teams rather than 12 may help the formation of the MYAS 10A team currently under consideration. The board has taken this idea under consideration.
- D. Tryout Date Conflicts** - Chris Wiles advised that the tryout date may clash with some other sports and asked if an additional (do-over) tryout would be available to kids who might have been tired and have a bad tryout. John Vylasek said no but the board did advise that there would be a tryout makeup date to help accommodate these situations and that the player should choose a session to attend.
- E. Coach Mentoring / On-boarding** - Mark Stein suggested that a new coach mentoring program may be beneficial for the on-boarding of new coaches. The idea is to run a practice or two with the assistance of an experienced coach to help get new coaches into the groove of what works well. John Vylasek has seen this work well in the past as a “grass roots” effort and would like to find a way to make it more formal.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next Meeting: Sunday, January 8th, 2011 7 at BPCAC.