

January 7, 2014 MYBA Monthly Meeting

Meeting called to order at McRae Park by Mike Blumenfeld, President, at 6:35 P.M. Present at the meeting are Scott Beazley, Justin Benjamin, Alicia Skow, Elise Fine, Erik Nelson, Guy Cierzan, Bryan Barnes, Christine Jackson, Mike Blumenfeld, Cheryl Sullivan, Scott Zosel and Lori Mittag. Bill Garrison was not present at the meeting but submitted an updated treasury report via email.

Secretary Update (Mittag):

Motion made by Blumenfeld to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer Update (Garrison via email):

Operating account = \$7,274

Travel Director = \$17,668

Cooperstown = \$1,047

- \$15,331 was paid in November to cover game facilities for the 2013 season
- \$16,000 was transferred from the operating account in December to cover tournament costs for 2014 season....Scott is writing checks now
- \$1,952 was paid for insurance in December
- \$400 down payment was made for tryout facilities in December

Travel Director Update (Skow):

Skow had no new updates.

Registrar Update (Fine):

As of 5:30 today, 47 players registered. 7 registered for the Mini-Millers program and of that 7, 5 are new to the program. At 10U, 23 players have registered and of that 23, 12 are new. At 11U, 16 players have registered and 1 is new. At 12U, only one new player is registered.

Asset Management/Equipment Update (Jackson):

Shed will be cleaned out this weekend. Inventory will be held after the shed is cleaned out.

Barnes and Jackson will meet to decide the designs for the coaches' shirts.

Risk Management (Cierzan):

He has received the insurance certificates and will forward to the travel director. He will also be checking on the concussion awareness process and the BCA checks prior to tryouts. Coach certificates for concussion awareness are good for three years so he will need to obtain this from the newer coaches. We still need to consider what our process will be when a BCA check comes back with negative information. Cierzan will consult with Mittag on this.

Coach Coordinator Update (Blumenfeld):

According to Blumenfeld, there are not many changes on the open coaching positions. All positions that were open last month are still open this month.

Blumenfeld did speak with the individual on the Richfield Board that was interested in coaching the 12AA team. However, he is on the Richfield Board of Directors. After speaking with him, the individual indicated he would not come to MYBA this year but it was not a firm "no." Blumenfeld will discuss this coach position with this person again.

Blumenfeld still needs to do coach interviews with Nelson and Sullivan. He will conduct coach interviews within two weeks.

Coach Clinics--In the past, we have paid for a Twins' coach clinic if the coaches wanted to attend it. Blumenfeld is interested in more coach clinics, especially for the Mini-Millers. Question--do we do them ourselves or pay for the clinics? Is there sufficient time for us to conduct a coaches' clinic? The consensus was that there was not enough time to do the clinics in house.

Discussion had about making the coaches' clinics mandatory and MYBA pays for the clinic. Nelson indicated that whether a clinic is worthwhile depends upon who puts the clinic on. He indicated that the Gophers put on a good clinic and it is free. Blumenfeld will talk to Pitch 2 Pitch who has offered to do a clinic for us.

2014 Planning:

Marketing Update (Cierzan and Barnes):

Barnes designed new ads to incorporate the Mini-Millers and has placed this ad in local journals. These ads will be out soon in January. These ads promote our program in addition to the Mini-Millers program. Barnes also produced flyers for the parks. He is looking for volunteers to distribute to some targeted parks. He will do Facebook messages again like last year and update our Google Ad Words as well. Barnes and Cierzan have also been discussing how to improve our website and our masthead. Prices were discussed for design improvement and changes.

Cierzan discussed how we get families and players to spread the word about MYBA. Fine did do an email asking families in the program to forward the email to anyone who may be interested in MYBA.

Parent meetings--We did three last year. January 27th for sure will be a meeting date. Then, possibly January 29th or 30th. February 10th would potentially be the third and final meeting.

The meetings are mandatory for new parents and optional for parents currently in the program.

Locations will be Pearl, King, McRae--whatever is available and central. The time of the meetings will be from 7:00 to 8:00.

Clinics--Skow reported that 26 players were at the South clinic this past Sunday, January 5th. She had to turn players away. The location was at The Batting Cages of Minnesota because the South gym was unavailable.

40 players for 10U and 11U are registered for Sunday, Jan. 12th's clinic at the South gym.

DeLaSalle Clinics--Canceled Sunday's, Jan. 5th, clinic, had only 8 players. She has 9 for this Sunday, 10 for the second Sunday and 12 for the last Sunday's clinic. Some feel the DeLaSalle clinics were not that helpful. Douge Schildgen is considering working with the few players that have signed up for the future clinics.

Tryouts--Skow gave an update on evaluators. She believes she has enough evaluators for the first day but only two for the first make up day. She will send another reminder email to the coaches to see who can help.

She needs 6 to 8 high school helpers for the first day, Feb. 1st.

Nelson wanted to discuss whether we guarantee players spots on the same team for the following season. He was under the impression that this could happen. Directors discussed that this is not the case.

Mini-Millers--Blumenfeld wants to discuss opening up this group to 1st graders. Benjamin believes we open ourselves up to being babysitters at that age group. This age group is welcome to tryout, though.

Nelson discussed the possibility of a developmental Mini-Mini Millers program.

Tournaments--Beazley indicated that all the coaches in our program have their tournaments booked except Olive and Cierzan. He has registered for 24 tournaments and paid almost \$8,000.00 fees for these tournaments. Three of the teams are doing four tournaments and he has floated the money for the 4th tournament. Some tournament costs have gone up, some as high as \$380.00. The average is \$360.00. He has not booked tournaments for teams yet that do not have coaches.

Discussion had about how many tournaments each team can play in that MYBA pays for. Concern is for the team that had only two tournaments and got rained out of one of them. It was suggested that we raise fees for 10U by \$30.00 per player and add a tournament.

Motion made by Fine to add a third tournament for all 10U teams while increasing their fee an additional \$30.00 per player for next season--fees for these players will go from \$275.00 to \$305.00 but they will have an additional tournament.

Mittag seconded. Passed unanimously.

Logowear--Bill St. Manes keeps inventory for the sport that is currently in season. We don't want to fund our own logowear. We did not want to keep the inventory and float that kind of money. So, we went to Bill St. Manes. However, their inventory for MYBA is low because it isn't baseball season. Discussion had about having an online store.

Discussion had about having chairs for MYBA. Sullivan will check on this.

Handbook--Zosel believes the Handbook should not be buried on the website. Barnes will clean up the website. Zosel deleted the extraneous information in the Handbook and made the document more concise. It is currently under 20 pages in the edited version. It is in a MYBA Google Doc.

Barnes will upload the document to the website after Fine and Barnes review the document for tryout procedure and waiver language.

Discussion had about a player that lives in Richfield by four blocks and wants to waive and play in Minneapolis at 13AAA. Richfield allegedly has granted the waiver. MYBA is not interested in granting a waiver. Skow received an email from the father of the player and Skow will respond to the family indicating that we do not grant waivers.

New Business:

Barnes wanted to discuss updating email addresses for the board and having an email address that is tied to our domain. Barnes will look into setting this up.

Skow indicated that the fields permit is due before our next meeting and we still want to do opening day. Once she gets the calendar from MBL and looks into our scheduled tournaments, she will determine the opening day date.

Next meeting is February 4th at McRae.

Motion made by Jackson to adjourn. Seconded by Skow. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 P.M.