



**Board Meeting Minutes – Approved 1/15/2024
Monday, November 20, 2023 – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Apple Valley Community Center**

Board Member/Representative Attendees:

Jason Petti, Peter Beaumont, Doug Beddies, John Coleman, Mary Coleman, Dave Freed, Jon Guba, Gerri Laska, Travis Lee, Jude Miron, Jeremy Resler, Brad Yamanaka

Programs Represented: Baseball, cross country skiing, football, soccer, softball, volleyball, wrestling,

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

Approval of minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the October 2023 EVAA Board meeting.

REVISED MOTION: To approve the minutes from the October 2023 EVAA Board meeting with the additional verbiage provided by the president regarding the recent lacrosse decision.

The revised motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Review of Action Items

Previous action items were reviewed to ensure board members are kept on task. A list of itemized actions assigned to specific board members will be provided in a separate document to all board members.

MOTION: All programs will formally adopt the baseline safety policy set forth by the safety director; each program may modify as needed to tailor to the individual sport

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Lacrosse Bylaws Approval

An electronic vote was cast for all board members to approve the new lacrosse bylaws. The new bylaws were approved by a majority vote.

Lacrosse Update

EVAA has been in contact with the high school lacrosse coaches to establish joint clinics. The plan for the spring is to have professional lacrosse players conduct clinics with the assistance of the high school players. Ideally, EVAA will co-op with the Valley Athletic Association (VAA) as well as the Eagan Athletic Association (EAA) for the girls' teams. The vacancy posting for the new program director and board will be published so recruitment can begin to ensure the program will be up and running for the spring season. Potential board members will need to submit their resumes to the nominating committee, interviews will be conducted, then the top candidates will be sent to the board for review/approval. Ideally, the new program director (and board) will be selected prior to the EVAA board meeting in January. To ensure uniformity across all sports, this process will serve as the standard for all programs going forward.

Community Sampler

All EVAA sports should plan to participate in the community sports sampler on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at the Apple Valley Community Center gym.



Board Vacancies

The roles of marketing and fundraising will be combined going forward. A new paid facilities director position was previously approved but needs to be on-boarded. As it was decided at a previous board meeting that there cannot be a sport without a program director, directors need to be found for cross country running, tennis, and lacrosse. In addition to the bylaws being updated, job descriptions will also be created to ensure proper succession planning and transparency.

Equipment Storage

There is still not a unified storage center for all EVAA sports; there is still the option available to rent the teen center for storage. There are varying issues for each sport so it may be difficult to consolidate, e.g. vehicles, proximity to fields/venues, and sharing with other sports/associations. No decisions were made.

Program Updates:

Baseball

Baseball is currently in their off-season and preparing for the next season. The fields are in order for next season, and they will be using the Cages and the Rosemount Dome for tryouts in February.

Wrestling

There are about 80 kids registered, with many being older this year. The groups will be redistributed so the kids will not have so many in a group. The outlook for the second session is very positive as there has been a lot of buzz about it.

Basketball

Traveling basketball is in midseason right now; in-house is working on their skills program. There are good numbers for both traveling and in-house. There was an issue concerning a player that was suspended from school being allowed to play, but as there is no policy it was left to the parents and decided that they would not be suspended from EVAA play unless the suspension related to the sport.

Softball

There will be 2-3 teams for dome ball, the winter clinics are full, and softball will be using the facility in Savage. There are about 40 girls in the 8/10u and 40 in the older division. These numbers could increase if more coaches are hired, and there is hope to expand the program in the future. One possible way to increase numbers is to partner with VAA to play in the South Metro League. Softball has co-opted with VAA for ten years but need to have the registration be more inclusive of both VAA and EVAA with a joint SportsEngine site. The new website makes it look more unified instead of leaning towards EVAA. Softball has a full board with about 15 members, and is currently revamping their bylaws.

Football

Football had a great year with regards to conduct this past season; there was only one issue that went to the league board.



Volleyball

Tryouts were held in October with about 100 girls, there are 70 in the program (which is more than the previous year), there are 14 coaches for 7 teams and volleyball used Facebook advertising to help recruit coaches. There will be clinics in December, in-house registration opens in January, the season will start in March, and there will be 4 tournaments in March. There is still an issue acquiring gym space so the program is swapping space with other programs; Hope Fieldhouse has refused volleyball court time. There is not a team for the higher end kids; both VAA and RAAA had to turn away ~70 kids each due to lack of gym space and coaches. Volleyball has a full board, and will have a new program director in about 6 months.

Cross Country Skiing

The 2024 budget was recently submitted, and the program is working on getting registration open, which will be limited to 30 kids.

Soccer

Soccer recently had a 2024 planning session, which included developing a vision and core values. The current challenges include a lack of volunteers and declining pre-k/kindergarten participation. All key dates for 2024 are set, and in the off season soccer will be documenting processes, revising bylaws, and developing job descriptions for the board members. The referees were excellent for 2023, and there were only issues getting referees for 2 games. The culture is to have a safe environment for referees, especially the younger ones that can be mentored. There were a couple issues in the season with parents yelling at the referees which were taken care of by the board. A survey was also sent to the referees (in addition to parents and coaches) to ensure any potential blind spots are being addressed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved at 8:02 p.m.