

BRAINERD BAXTER BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BBBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Sunday, March 20, 2022

Meeting Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting Location: (Virtual) Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

7:11 pm

Present:

Co-Chair	Steve Hanson
Treasurer	Matt Castle
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Eidenshink
Secretary	Ann Scheinost
Director	Phil Berg
Director	Wade Haapajoki
Director	Matt Means
Director	Jeremiah Piepkorn
Director	Chris Valesco

Absent:

Co-Chair	Troy Rushmeyer
Director	Mandy Vanek

OPEN FORUM

Time allocated for non-members to bring matters not on the agenda to the attention of the Board. Time limits may be imposed.

Question was posed: Late-comers to meetings – How do we handle? Meeting will be paused to allow for non-members to address the Board.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA / APPROVAL OF AGENDA / APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1.) Coach involvement in tryouts
- 2.) Discussion pertaining to cut-off birthdate for team/age-level eligibility
- 3.) Board meetings – Open vs. Closed
- 4.) 11U Assistant Coach Application – Chris Valesco

Motion to approve this agenda, the requested additions, and the 2/21/2022 meeting minutes was made by Wade Haapajoki, seconded by Matt Castle. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Education Rec baseball requirements.
 - a. CRBR insurance to be offered to all BBBA participants – Community Ed is allowing BBBA players to be covered on their insurance.
 - b. Community Ed will allow BBBA info to be posted to their website

BRAINERD BAXTER BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BBBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- c. Finalized registration fees for those who choose not to participate in Rec Ball. Parents need to let us know if their player will or will not be participating in the Rec baseball program. Rec fees are as follows:
 - i. \$69 ea. for 9-10
 - ii. \$74 ea. for 11-12
 - iii. \$79 ea. for 13-14
2. Fundraising University
 - a. Steve spoke with Nick Jelaci. They are excited to work with us.
 - i. Donation Based Fundraiser (all age groups) has been chosen. Reps will be at our parent/player meeting on March 31st at Forestview. Fundraiser will be run during the last 10 days of April. Specifics and a game plan are in the works. Coaches have been given an awareness of what this is and how it works. Fundraising Coordinators will help facilitate with each team to track and ensure that the teams keep what they should, and the association retains what is due.
 - b. Participation is mandatory for all members
3. Skills clinics – Steve, Jeremiah, Matt Means: Any updates
 - a. Pre-tryout skills and try-outs dates and times established; location is Forestview. (Information in the Dispatch was not correct, which has been experienced in the past. Rec and Travel programs were blended. Steve has received inquiries.)
 - b. Registrations
 - c. Evaluators and station help briefly discussed
 - d. Provide lunch/beverages for participants – did not address
 - e. No participants left behind – discussions (multi age teams, participations in clinics / practices, back-ups, etc.)
4. Tournament Updates (Chris and Steve)
 - a. Volunteer requirements - Dibs (Update on this – Steve and Mike) Will be shared also at team tryouts/parent meetings
 - b. Concessions, Food trucks (Chris) – Once teams are established, and team managers selected, scheduling can and will take place
 - c. Marketing guide/plan: (Wade)
 - i. Banners at fields for display during tournaments
 - ii. Lodging capacities for potential increase of team #'s per tournament (MYAS is concerned with this for 15UAAA state tourney specifically). Arrowood has reached out to Steve, but he and Chris have not circled back with them. See “Visit Brainerd” line item below.
 - iii. Grill burgers/hot dogs, sell pizza, etc., for sale during normal Baxter and potentially Brainerd rec games. – Steve is waiting for the City of Baxter to get back to him on an approved special events permit. City and Community Ed are meeting to discuss the recent changes we made to our program to determine how they are to manage that. (Insurance, etc.) Their discussion pertains to how they will work with in certain areas such as paid field usage. One thing to note: Our email communications will no longer be processed through their email distribution system.
 - d. Corey and Heather Johnson had expressed willingness to be involved in volunteer and fundraising capacities – any further discussions with them at this point?
 - e. VISIT BRAINERD (Matt) – They can help us contact hotels to assist to see what is available for lodging for our tournaments. They can also provide bags with coupons to area

BRAINERD BAXTER BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BBBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

businesses. Contact at Visit Brainerd is Mary Devine. Chris/Matt will circle back with Mary to finalize a plan. Steve will check with Dick's Sporting Goods to give them first dibs on a goodie bag. (They are a \$500 sponsor.)

NEW BUSINESS

1. All Revisions needed for BBBA By-laws and Handbook (New board member info/bios – submit for website) – changes per recent discussions related to coaches, players, parents, registration fees, volunteer requirements, bullying policy etc.)
2. Met with Dave Rozinka related to potential umpire bottlenecks – Need to focus on clinics and marketing/soliciting for potential new umpires to help fill qualified voids for our community. (Phil Berg, Mike E., Chris V. and Troy)
 - a. BBBA to assist with marketing, umpire equipment and clinic costs as needed to make the known the need for umpires now and in the future. Phil to look at booking an April date hosting of an umpire clinic. (Phil indicated that Dave Rozinka would also be willing to help.)
 - b. BBBA to again pay \$1000 fee for umpire coordinators for the tourneys and summer games – work directly with scheduler. Tabled the vote to carry this fee forward to 2022.
3. Treasurer's report
 - a. Sports engine \$749 – annual fee paid by Steve, and he was reimbursed.
 - b. Skills clinic invoice will be paid this week
 - c. Financial Status
4. Coach involvement in tryouts – Should coaches be there? Consensus is that coaches can attend but cannot take notes or evaluate. May be leveraged to help with batting practice and fungos. We need to take care to ensure that coaches are not demonstrating favoritism or bias among players.
5. Discussion pertaining to cut-off birthdate for team/age-level eligibility. Players wish to play with their grade, and players with May/June birthdays could be “bumped down”. State, Regional and World Series regulations do not allow a player with a May 1st birthday to play up. The Association allows for exceptions, but the dilemma comes about when it comes to post-season opportunities. The Association allows players to play up with their grade or play with their birthdate. Players and parents will need to be made aware of this potential issue and make the call.
6. Meetings – Open vs. Closed? Handbook states board meetings are open. Board agreed that, apart from the Open Forum, meetings are closed. The Handbook will be updated accordingly.
7. Chris Valesco's 11U Assistant Coach Application – vote to accept and approve. Motion to approve was made by Wade Haapajoki, seconded by Matt Castle. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Equipment (Steve) – all ordered equipment, except for three bats, has been received and most distributed to coaches.
9. Scheduling for teams – Coaches were asked to send us a preliminary practice schedule for gym/field scheduling.

NEXT MEETING

Meeting Date: Monday, April 11, 2022

Meeting Time: 8:00 pm

Meeting Location: TBD

**BRAINERD BAXTER BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BBBA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

ADJOURNMENT

9:00 pm

Motion to adjourn was made by was made by was made by Phil Berg, seconded by Wade Haapajoki. Motion passed unanimously.