

Blaine Area Traveling Baseball Annual Meeting

October 12, 2014

Blaine Baseball Complex, Blaine

7:00pm

Board Members: Ernie Johnson - President; Rick Fanning - Vice President; Carl Nyberg - Treasurer; Sarah Anderson - Secretary; Pete Riola - Blaine Traveling Director; Doug Kaltved - SLP Traveling Director; Jason Vogel - Equipment Director; Carrie Folstrom - At Large; Erik Fenn - Fundraising; Scott Gagnon - Uniform & Apparel Coordinator; Kathy Coello - Tournament Director; Justin Kehner - Assistant Tournament Director

Board Members in Attendance: Ernie Johnson, Rick Fanning, Carl Nyberg, Sarah Anderson, Pete Riola, Jason Vogel, Carrie Folstrom, Scott Gagnon, Kathy Coello, Justin Kehner

Board Members Not in Attendance: Doug Kaltved, Erik Fenn

Others in Attendance: Jim Conlee, Traci Payne, Mike Henderson, Jaymi Greseth, Matt Westlund, Scott Sonmore, Mike Nelson, Al Gottschalk

Call to Order: 7:03 pm by President, Ernie Johnson

Welcome & 2014 Season Recap: Ernie

- We fielded 17 teams in 2014.
 - We had field pressure issues for games and practices.
 - We utilized Peterson East, West, Airport and Ham Lake but did not get all teams 8 home games.
- NSC Workouts were successful.
 - We spent about \$10,000 for Spring Training sessions for all teams.
 - Will experience more pressure at NSC this year due to demand on their schedule.
- Season Overview/Weather.
 - Opened season with a lot of rain. Some teams had tough time getting make-up games scheduled.
 - We broke Blaine Classic into two weekends of tournaments this year.
 - 1st Tourney went off well as weather cooperated.
 - 2nd Tournament had many challenges due to weather.
 - We had a fan struck by lightning in Ham Lake, but we are happy to report positive outcome for the victim of that incident.
 - With a lot of work by many, we got most games in. Thanks go out to all for help.
- Regular Season
 - Our teams had a successful season with over 70% wins association wide. Consistently getting stronger.
 - Coaching gotten stronger.
 - NSC Times and training helped to give teams a “head start” on spring training.
 - Tournament outcomes were strong by many teams throughout year.
 - Tournament highlights included the association’s first state tournament championships as well as strong state tournament showings by many teams. A Special congratulations to the following teams:
 - Spring Lake Park 11U AA won both the MBT and GSTC Championships (Head Coach, Justin Kehner)
 - Blaine 10U AAA won the GSTC Championship (Head Coach, Matt Westlund).
 - Overall parent feedback on surveys was positive.
- 2015 Preview
 - We will have 19 teams for 2015
 - Had over 247 players at tryouts this fall.
 - Field pressure will be extra tight this season and we need to continue to look for options.
 - Major Board changes this year with many terms ending.

- Long Term
 - Goal to make it easy for parents, families, players and coaches to easily play baseball by providing the best possible organizational support.

Financial Report:

- Current balance of \$21,093.39
- Financial highlights from 2014:
 - We donated approximately \$6,000 for assorted field improvements this year.
 - Equipment and uniforms approximately \$21,000.
 - Administrative Fees approximately \$867.
 - League and City Fees were approximately \$17,830.
 - Field rentals to schools and NSC were approximately \$12,500.
- Income highlights:
 - Pizza Feast is one of our main fundraisers for the season with pizza ticket sales and drawing.
 - Blaine Classic Tournament is our other important revenue source each year.
- We will have over \$38,000 once Registration fees are deposited.
- Group discussed volunteer fees and buyouts and how that money is used to pay for teen help at tournament and tryouts.
- Carl feels we are financially in “good shape” as we head into 2015.

Open Forum: No topics brought to the floor.

Outgoing Board Member Farewells

- Pete Riola
 - Pete thanked the Board and asked that we continue to “Put the kids first” when making decisions.
 - He gave update on current plan for 2015 training at NSC.
 - We currently have 30 hours at NSC (spend about \$8,000 in training).
 - Will need to discuss scheduling more time there or at other training facilities for this winter/spring.
- Carl Nyberg
 - Carl thanked the Board and wished the organization well. He wished the new Board the best and offered to help with questions as needed.
- Carrie Folstrom
 - Carrie thanked everyone for the years of hard work and shared her enjoyment of being part of the Board over the years.
- Ernie Johnson
 - Ernie thanked everyone and shared thoughts on his years of service. He wished the new Board much success as the organization grows and evolves.
- Assorted Board members shared their thoughts and memories of working with the outgoing members. Thanks was given to them for their many years of service.

Election of New Board Members:

- Explanation of Bylaws.
- Following are the Term Conditions of the Current Board of Directors (**8 Ending Terms noted and Bolded**):
 - **President – Ernie Johnson (2014)**
 - **VP – Rick Fanning (2014)**
 - **Treasurer – Carl Nyberg (2014)**
 - Secretary – Sarah Anderson (2015)
 - **Blaine Traveling Director– Pete Riola (2014)**
 - **Spring Lake Park Traveling Director – Doug Kaltved (2014)**
 - Fundraising – Erik Fenn (2016)
 - **Volunteer Coordinator– Carrie Folstrom (2014)**
 - Tournament Director – Kathy Coello (2016)

- **Assistant Tournament Director – Justin Kehner (2014)**
- **Equipment Director – Jason Vogel (2015)**
- Uniform/Apparel Coordinator – Scott Gagnon (2014)

Board Elections

- Nominations were made for the following individuals. Each accepted their nominations and then introduced themselves with a brief overview of what they can offer the organization.
 - Justin Kehner
 - Was a 1 year Term Board Member last year. He came from BALL a year ago. He is also a coach in program. He wants to continue to see program grow.
 - Rick Fanning
 - Wants to continue to grow program and stay involved. He was Vice President with Term that just ended.
 - Scott Gagnon
 - Was a 1 Year Term Board Member last year. He has coached and brought first SLP team to organization. He would like to stay involved and see organization evolve.
 - Al Gottschalk
 - Al has been a successful coach in our program for 5 years as he brought our most recent 14U AAA team up from 10's. He has also helped mentor teams and coaches during this time. He is excited to take the organization to the next level.
 - Traci Payne
 - Traci was involved with BALL and comes from Spring Lake Park side of organization. She is very excited about the level of play. She has an administrative background and would like to get involved.
 - Jim Conlee
 - Jim has been involved in area programs for 10+ years. He also has a strong baseball background. He has been through the program with his older son and will now be leading our 10U AAA Team. He is interested in development and growth.
 - Jaymi Greseth
 - Jaymi is a solutions driven individual. She has been very involved in the wrestling and football programs in our community and has held many leadership roles. She has two boys in the program.
 - Scott Sonmore
 - Scott is a coach in our program and wants to see things continue to grow. He is happy to help where needed.
 - Matt Westlund
 - Matt is currently a coach in our program and would like to get more involved in the program. He has a professional financial background, including working with non-profit organizations.
- Voting was completed and the following individuals were elected to the Board:
 - Rick Fanning
 - Matt Westlund
 - Jim Conlee
 - Scott Gagnon
 - Justin Kehner
 - Al Gottschald
 - Traci Payne
 - Jaymi Greseth

Annual Meeting was adjourned by President, Ernie Johnson

Call to Order: Meeting of the new Board was called to Order by Rick Fanning.

Board Position Votes

- Board voted on the following positions (Terms to be reviewed at next meeting):
 - President – Rick Fanning
 - Vice President – Al Gottschalk
 - Secretary – Traci Payne
 - Treasurer – Matt Westlund
 - Blaine Traveling Director – Jim Conlee
 - Spring Lake Park Traveling Director – Justin Kehner
 - Communications Director – Sarah Anderson
 - Tournament Director – Kathy Coello
 - Fundraising Director – Erik Fenn
 - Uniform & Apparel Director – Scott Gagnon
 - Equipment Director – Jason Vogel
 - Volunteer Coordinator – Jaymi Greseth

New Business

- City Hall Meeting
 - Rick will attend the City Hall Meeting Thursday. Our donation for field improvements will be acknowledged.
- Field improvement project at Peterson will be starting and Rick will solicit volunteer help. Watch for emails.
- We will be looking for a new coach for the 12U AA Team. Rick will set-up interviews with potential candidates.
- Tournament will be one of first priorities for new Board. Rick will confirm dates and we will set-up committee to support Tournament Director. We can get lots of work done early.
- Registration /policies
 - Board needs to review and make changes to Policies and Bylaws. This will be on next Agenda.
- Fundraising needs to be reviewed and possible committee formed.
- Additional Topics to address, possibly by committee in near future:
 - Player Development.
 - Blaine/SLP relationship.
- Teams/Fields/NSC (run more as development camp).
 - Sharing fields may be possibility for practices, training, development
- Tryouts.

Future Meeting Schedule

- Board agreed to meet the 2nd Thursday of every month. 7pm start time.
- Next Meeting – Thursday November 13, 2014 at BBC at 7pm.
- Special Meeting – Board agreed to add a special meeting in October to get an earlier start on some projects.
- Tournament Meeting – We will schedule once we have dates finalized.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm by President, Rick Fanning