



BATBA Annual Board Meeting

October 10, 2019 at 7pm
Blaine Baseball Complex – Concession Building

Board Members Present

Jeff Amelse – President

Al Gottschalk – Vice President

Jim Conlee – 12-15u Traveling Director

Luke McLain – 9-11u Traveling Director

Rick Fanning – Facilities/Equipment Director

Andrea Puder – Secretary/Communications

Board Members Absent

Tom Jensen-Treasurer

Visitors Present

Kevin Bross, Samantha Thomas, Randy Thomas, Brent Ferdig, Brian Sterner, Laurie Curnow, Krista Lindstrom, Bryan Guse, Julie Verhulst, Jason King, Chris Olson, Nanette Behnke

7:00 Call to Order and Welcome: Jeff Amelse

Recognition – In order to provide a high-level traveling baseball program experience, thousands of volunteer hours were given this past year by our Board Members, Coaches, Team Managers, and Volunteers – THANK YOU ALL!!

2018-2019 Highlights:

- **Teams** – Our teams enjoyed great success on the fields. Several teams won state qualifying tournaments and their GSBL leagues. Throughout the Summer we had numerous teams ranked in the top 5 (Gopher State rankings) in their respective ages & levels. The collective regular season record for the Blaine 9u-14U teams was 134-34
- **Finances** – **We maintain reasonable member fees with these fundraising efforts:** Season Kick-off, our Blaine Invitational and donations. We continue to research different ways to raise funds including AmazonSmile and employer donations.
- **Facilities** – We continue to invest to provide high-quality resources:
 - The Peterson Batting cages were fully functional this Summer largely realized through the dedication and oversight of Rick Fanning. These cages will be a great resource for years to come.
- **Organization**- SLP teams were divested from BATBA- this was always the vision from the time SLP players joined BATBA. In 2019 the timing was validated by the number of SLP teams coupled with a sufficient number of individuals willing to lead the SLP organization.
- **Development**
 - Continue to use The Cages in Ham Lake and the NSC for player development.
 - Piloted Winter pitching program with Gophers
 - Miracle League of Blaine – partnered with this group to give our players the opportunity to share their love of baseball with ML players. A huge success for all!

- **Blaine Invitational Tournament** – The 2019 tournament hosted 60+ teams. The tournament was cancelled after pool play. We were able to award berths based on the pool play results. Opportunities persist for greater volunteer participation.
- **Coach and Team Selections** – Combining an on-line application process and in-person interviews, we believe we selected very positive coaches to represent BATBA and lead their teams. For the 2020 Tryouts we used an app (Team Genius) and rented ipads. The intent of these technologies is to improve speed and accuracy of player evaluation and tabulation.

2020 Preview:

- **Teams** – We will have 11 teams in the 9U-14U ranges; 2-9s, 1-10s, 2- 11s, 12s, 13s and 14s
- **Development-** We will continue to identify and deliver value and add experiences for our membership.
- **Miracle League** – After a very successful second year with ML, BATBA will look to continue teams' involvement in 2020.
- **Decouple from hosting 14AAA GSTC and the All-Star Series:** Financial imposition and lack of volunteers.

Financial Report:

- Current Balance
- Financial Highlights

Open Forum: Current Board members

Election of 2019-2020 Board Members:

- Expectations of Board Members
- Explanation of By-Laws
- Board of Directors (Voting Seats) with ending year and term.
 - President – Jeff Amelse (2020; 3-year term)
 - Vice President – Al Gottschalk (2020; 3-year term)
 - Treasurer – Tom Jensen (2020; 3-year term)
 - Secretary – Andrea Puder (2020; 3-year term)
 - Blaine Traveling Director – Jim Conlee (2020; 3 year term)
 - Blaine Traveling Director- Luke McLain (2019: 2-year term): running
 - Facilities – Rick Fanning (2019: 1-year term): running
- Voting was held for the candidates who completed an online application.
- The following candidates were elected to the BATBA board:
 - Kevin Bross-Administrative Director
 - Rick Fanning-Equipment/Facilities Director
 - Bryan Guse-Treasurer
 - Jason King-Tournament Director
 - Luke McLain-9-11u Traveling Director

Adjourn: 7:43, Jeff Amelse