

Tea Baseball Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 10, 2024 • 7:30 p.m. • Tea City Hall

MINUTES

Board Members:

Rob Schramm, Rick Willemsen, Amy Smolik, Kevin McIntyre, Mark Jelen, Mitch Smith; Cory Olson arrived at 8:05 p.m.

1) CALL TO ORDER: 7:34 p.m.

2) APPROVE THE AGENDA

Added a discussion on GameChanger to the agenda, item D1. Motion by Rick, seconded by Mitch. Unanimously approved.

3) APPROVE THE TEA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Mitch, seconded by Kevin. Unanimously approved.

4) PUBLIC SPEAKING (5 minute limit per speaker)

Tea Mayor Casey Volker was in attendance to learn more and asked some questions regarding late registrations.

5) REPORTS

A. Chase the Ace — Venmo has slowed with other spring activities picking up. With the April 12 home game, all paid entrants will receive a ticket for a free drink at the Legion valid for that day only. The pot is at \$4,380.

B. Coaches meeting — Both Jake Kerr and Jeff Portner were in attendance for the coaches meeting. Preliminary practice schedules will be release soon as well as the game schedule. SEBA will release its schedule April 20. A MinnDak competitive league (SEBA age group) reached out about playing in their league, which consist of two Dell Rapids teams, Tri-Valley team and two West Central teams. If a coach wants to schedule with those teams, they are welcome to do so in addition to their SEBA schedule.

C. Rosters — Rosters are done with most teams at 11 to 12 players.

D. Batting Tunnels — A few board members met with two City Councilors to discuss batting tunnels and other improvements prior to the board meeting. Board discussion was about finalizing a document with an ask to the City of Tea. More discussion still needs to be had about exact locations and how that matches up with future park improvements. Mitch shared information about the timeline. There is a short window to order items and install in time for use this season. It may be more feasible to install later this year or prior to the start of 2025 season.

D 1. GameChanger — After discussion about various options for streaming Varsity games, the Board suggested having parents continue to stream and scale up from there. This can be revisited in the future.

E. Sponsorship release — The finalized document will be sent to all Board members to share with potential sponsors.

F. Complex update — The City fiscal year is the calendar year so nothing new will be added in 2024. The Council will start doing budget work in August. Long-term there is room to add two Little League fields near the City shop. This addition would allow for Tea to host tournaments.

G. Senior Night — Senior Night is Friday, May 10 with games at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. against Rapid City Stevens. We will move Chase the Ace sales out to the ballfield and do recognition of seniors between games. The Neighborhood Grill food truck has been asked to park at the entrance to the Athletic Complex during the games. Amy will create a Facebook event for Senior Night.

H. Bank ledger — TBA has just under \$21,000 in the bank, Kevin reported. Just under \$21K.

I. Hilly Strong vs. Roosevelt — On April 30 Tea hosts Roosevelt Varsity. A baseball player from RHS was in a car accident last fall and he is still recovering from a traumatic brain injury. Rob would like Tea to do some sort of fundraiser to help the family, which many other teams have done when playing Roosevelt. The Board will hold a 50/50 raffle and sell tickets to people in the stands. Rob will seek sponsors to raise funds (\$5/ball) for every foul ball that leaves the field). Proceeds from both will go to the family.

J. Practice/game schedule — as mentioned, Jake has everything worked out.

6) OTHER BUSINESS/FUTURE OUTLOOK

A. Player fundraising: how can grow our cash prior to the season?

B. 2025 tryout date: for competitive teams will be before SDJF practice and potentially at the end of July. We will want to get on schedules soon so people are aware.

C. Cost to play: consider combining costs for high school/summer players

7) NEXT MEETING DATE: May 1, 7:30 p.m. Tea City Hall

8) ADJOURNMENT 9:17 p.m.

Motion by Amy, seconded by Kevin. Unanimously approved.