

Silver Bullets Board Meeting 11/18/2015

Present: Greg Fletcher, Sarah Flood, Pat Mahr, Amanda Welle, John Wlazo, and Anne Thomas (Admin.)

1. Team formation process: Decided to revise bylaws regarding team formation process. For the top team, the top ranked 8/9 players, depending on whether the team will have 10/11 players, will be selected. The coach then has two more picks out of the top 20. Of the 10/11 players, two pitchers and two catchers must be designated as primary if there are more than two of each on the team. The parents of players who are not considered primary will be notified and asked whether they want their child placed on that team with the understanding that pitching/catching time will be limited. If they want their child to pitch/catch more, they may request to be placed on the next team. This process will be followed for each leveled team. The levels of play at which teams will be fielded will be determined every year on a case by case basis depending on the talent pool.

To ensure that the primary pitchers and catchers are being utilized in that way, coaches will be asked to report weekly the number of innings pitched/caught by each player who has time at those positions.

2. Open gym pilot program: New this year is free open gym time for girls at each level. These workouts are independent of winter workouts for registered players. Volunteers will staff the open gym and work with girls on pitching/catching and defensive skills. Signup will be via NGIN.

Friday nights

8U: 6:30-7:30, pitching and catching, limited to 20 girls * Jan. times may change*

10U: 7:30-8:30, pitching and catching, limited to 16 girls * Jan. times may change*

Saturday afternoons

12U: 12:30-1:30, hitting, defense, pitching and catching, limited to 15 girls

14U: 1:40-2:40, hitting, defense, pitching and catching, limited to 15 girls

3. Reviewed St. Kate's Clinic flyer which will be sent to families in December
4. Winter pitching clinic with Nicole Weigman update: 8U/10U is full. 12U/14U/16U still has open spots. These will be Wednesday nights (12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3).
5. Tryouts: Dates have been set.
 - 10U: February 14, 11:30am-5:30pm
 - 12U: February 10, 5:00-9:00pm
 - 14U: February 17, 5:30-8:30pm
 - 8U (evaluations): February 28, 11:30am-4:30pm
6. Independent evaluators and registration fee increase: To offset expenses associated with hiring independent evaluators for tryouts, registration fees have been increased by \$10. Independent evaluators are trained professional evaluators. In addition to the independent evaluators, John Wlazo will also evaluate the players; his scores will NOT count toward the players' rankings but will help us gauge whether the additional expense of independent evaluators is worth it.

7. 2016 paid coach interviews: Interviews are scheduled with three paid coach candidates. The interview panel will consist of the entire Silver Bullets board. They are still actively scheduling interviews with other candidates.

Also, members of the board did a follow up with Caity Dewitt (last year's 12U-A coach), and she expressed that Becky Whaley (former Admin.) checked in with her on an almost *weekly basis*. Caity also reported that if there were any problems she would have definitely reported that to her during those conversations. *Caity had an overall positive account of last year's season*. She reported that she had a great time, and thought the players did as well. She also said that if given the opportunity to coach again she would have loved to come back for another season, but her school is now too demanding of her time.

8. Equipment list: reviewed an equipment list proposed by one of the board members to help families know what kind of gear is expected/required at each level of play. An edited version will be made available on the website.
9. Vice President of Silver Bullets vacancy was discussed. A new VP must have been a softball board member as a league rep for two years to be considered. More information about a vacancy on the board will be available soon.