



CENTRAL YOUTH FOOTBALL & CHEER LEAGUE

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time	Wed. 02/21/2018 @ 7:00 PM	Meeting Location	Country Trails Lunchroom
Board Members Present	Todd Adrian, Garry Alcorn, Heaven Alcorn, Kelli Biedenbach, Deborah Hamdani, Jaret Hedlund, Tony Mensik, Kurt Naus, Steve Samaan, Agnes Sauseda, Dave Schmidt, Michelle Schmidt, Garrett Teafoe		
Board Members Absent	Brett Naus, Emily Teafoe		
Guests	Brian Melvin, Courtney Hobday, Cindy Rohl, Justine Blundell, Andrew Blundell, Greg Baddick, Erik Schatz, Eric Hartwig, Chuck Crumlett, Artie Andrinopoulos, Tyler Lewis, Bret Pedone, Teresa Perry, Karen Larson, Brandon Bergmann		

AGENDA TOPICS

General

1. Roll Call
2. Handouts: Agenda
3. Call to Order by Dave Schmidt @ 7:00 PM
4. Approval of January 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Garry Alcorn motioned, Steve Samaan 2nd – January meeting minutes approved. Heaven Alcorn to post to the website.
5. Next Meeting: Wednesday 03/07/2018 @ 7:00 PM, Country Trails Lunchroom

Public Forum

Dave Schmidt - Welcome to all guests! We are happy to have parents participating in the meeting and sharing their thoughts. Following is a summary of the comments and questions that were shared regarding the possible conference realignment.

- A statement was made encouraging the existing board to engage in discussions with past CYFL board members during the timeframe that the league was part of the NIFC conference to better understand their experiences. It was expressed that in the past the NIFC Board was difficult to deal with. The primary concern at that time was that the CYFL Board did not have a voice at the conference level. Additionally, the driving distances for travel games was thought to be excessive.
- The question was asked what geographic areas the CYFL would be playing in if we were to switch to the NIFC and how this change would affect the CYFL cheer program? The Board provided information as to where the other leagues in the NIFC conference were located. Additional comments on the specifics of how this change could provide additional competitive opportunities for the CYFL cheer program were also shared.
- A request was made for further details of why the board is considering a move. The question was asked if the board believed that 20% of parents responding to the survey and making comments about changing conferences is reflective of the feeling of all of those in the league. The Board responded and explained the specifics about why they believe it is important to evaluate possible conference realignment regularly and to continue to provide the best program possible for the youth athletes that participate in the CYFL.
- A question was asked regarding whether the NIFC is completely based on grade level or if weight factored in to determining team levels? Additional inquiries were made with regard to understanding the specifics of the petitioned weight limit and process. Also, does the NIFC has an opportunity for exceptionally light kids to play down an age level (older, lighter)? The Board outlined how the team levels are formed in the NIFC based on age level with a maximum weight limit at each age level and provided those detailed numbers. The process for

athletes over that weight limit to petition the board of the NIFC for approval to play at their actual age level was communicated.

- It was asked if some of the other teams in the NIFC do not have a sideline cheer program, will CYFL cheerleaders still be able to perform at halftime when the team travels to an away game? The Board responded that our cheer athletes would still perform at half time of these games and that often teams without sideline cheer programs still have competitive cheer squads that perform during half time as well.
- A concern was voiced about an increase in ball carrier weight at the 9U level. How would the league ensure safety of lighter ball carriers? How will the Board know if the new conference will be more competitive? A general discussion regarding safety commitment to the players of our league followed. The Board indicated that we do not know if the NIFC will be more competitive and that it has evaluated parity in terms of the enrollment size of the CYFL program as it compares to the enrollment size of those programs currently participating in the NIFC.
- An opinion was shared that more resources should be used to provide better training for the volunteer coaches of the CYFL. The Board agrees and is working with Coach Melvin on this opportunity.
- As request was made if the Board could find out how many kids were petitioned for weight limit in the NIFC last year? The Board will follow up with the NIFC.
- The question was asked what would happen if the CYFL changes conferences and it doesn't go well? The Board responded that it's important to assess the conference alignment each year. It was pointed out that the NIFC is growing. The conference has grown from a 5-league conference to a 15-league conference. The MYFC has essentially remained at a 6-league conference.
- What is the timeline for a decision from the Board? The Board responded stating that it is critical to make a decision soon as it does not want to delay the upcoming registration and negatively impact the league.
- Concern was expressed that the cheer program does not move backward. In terms of moving to a competition at the IRFC, it was stated that there could be concern that the CYFL cheer athletes will fail because our current program doesn't have professional trainers and coaches. The thought being that this will prohibit CYFL cheer squads from being able to perform the types of stunts that other teams can perform. The opinion was stated that the cheer level at the IRFC is far beyond our program and CYFL cheer teams would not be able to compete.
- The question was asked, of the 15 teams in the NIFC, how many represent age levels that the CYFL would play against? The Board responded that the NIFC has 11 teams that have 8U – 11U programs that would compete against the CYFL 8U – 11U teams for the upcoming season. This would provide a larger variety of teams to compete against during the season.
- Would different age levels play in the same locations? The Board responded that all CYFL age levels would play at home on the same weekends. On weekends where away games are scheduled, teams may or may not play at the same location. It is not guaranteed.
- The question was asked if the NIFC has any different prerequisites for who can coach? The Board responded that a conference change would not change our coaching policy.
- A concern was expressed that the Board remember that currently the CYFL has 4 votes on the MYFC Board and that the league has had past successes in the MYFC conference.

Coach Melvin's Update

- The football clinic last Sunday evening at the high school was a success. Coach Melvin anticipates doing more skill-based drills now that he knows how many players to expect from the CYFL.
- Summer Youth Football Camp – Coach Melvin asked that the Board decide on times for the CYFL summer camp so that he can get flyers prepared before spring break. He also would like to tie the camp into a coach's clinics so that he can work with and train the CYFL coaches.
- Hudl - CYFL will have one more year of access for Hudl through the high school. If coaches want to save any memories that are currently on Hudl, they will need to be downloaded or burned to a DVD.
- Coach Melvin reiterated that he is extremely committed to training the youth coaches on philosophy, drills, plays, offense and defense and to bring these to all levels of the CYFL.

Executive Board Reports

6. President – Dave Schmidt - No Update
7. Vice President – Kurt Naus – Following up with Rich Gerard for the lease and working on player safety.
8. Treasurer – Todd Adrian – The CYFL ended January with a balance of \$30,888.09.
9. Secretary – Kelli Biedenbach – No update
10. Football Commissioner – Tony Mensik – Encouraged coaches to get involved and get more kids from their teams to participate in the Sunday night high school clinics.
11. Cheer Commissioner – Agnes Sauseda – Meeting with Sheri Mugavero this week and has emailed Megan Marciniec to start building a relationship with the high school cheer program.
12. Field Commissioner – Garrett Teafoe – No Update

Old Business

13. Board Openings - We currently have 6 open board positions. If anyone is interested in stepping up into any of these positions, we would love to have you.
14. CYFL Calendar Additions – All Board members please review and submit any additions to Kurt Naus as soon as possible.
15. Registration Fees/Open/Close – It is the Board's opinion that registration fees can be held steady. Last year, the end of year donation and the treat tickets were included (\$25) in registration fees. The recommendation was made that we do not include these 2 items and do not ask parents to donate for the end of the year event. Parents would be responsible for treat tickets. This change would essentially raise the fees by the cost of treat tickets. The Board agrees with this recommendation. Cheer costs would still be covered if we were to switch to the IRFC competition. Volunteer deposits should increase to \$150 as the \$75 fee was not sufficient to motivate families to volunteer. Currently registration is scheduled to open on 3/15. Typically, it opens on 3/1, however March is the slowest month for registration. Delaying the start by 15 days will give the needed time to launch the new website with Sports Engine. The biggest wins for registration last year were at the Field Days events. The Board will continue to market and emphasize these events this year as well.
16. Tentative Field Days dates – March 18th at 5pm – 7pm (Coach Melvin has a conflict for this date and would really like to be there.) Date and time was still up for discussion. The first event could possibly be held at the high school. The second event is tentatively scheduled April 15th from 2-4pm at PKMS. Weather permitting, this would be an outdoor event. Dates of the events are subject to facility availability.

New Business

17. Capital Improvement Ideas
 - Dave Schmidt commented that he is still open to putting lights up at Panther Field. The Board does have approval from the village. The primary concern is the poles that were donated are not high enough to properly support the lights that are needed. Kurt Naus will contact ComEd to inquire about a possible assistance program they may offer.
 - Fencing in the field.
 - The parking lot is always a concern. Dave Schmidt proposes that a permanent barrier for the access on to Burlington Road be installed.
 - Lights in the parking lot.
 - Any additional requests for capital improvement need to be sent to Kurt Naus.
18. Budget Roll-Out – By end of day tomorrow all Board members will receive actual expenses and the budget from last year as well as a blank budget template to complete for the 2018 budget. Todd Adrian reminded committee chairs to be responsible and conservative with financial needs. Steve Samaan suggested using picture day as an additional fundraising opportunity. The Board would determine an additional markup that would be given back as a fundraiser and that dollar amount would be added to the cost of each picture order.
19. Steve Samaan recommendation the Board add bi-weekly meetings during months that require more action items to prepare for the season. Meetings should be 1 hour to 1.5 hours but need to be concise. Jaret Hedlund commented that due to work obligations, will have difficulty attending both meetings. Bi-weekly meetings will be scheduled as follows. For the months of January, February, and March 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. For the months of April & May 8:00 –

9:30. The next meeting will be on March 7th from 7:00 – 8:30 pm with a hard stop at 8:30. The Board voted and approved this change.

General Board Member (Chair) Reports

20. Assistant Football Commissioner: Steve Samaan – No Update
21. Flag Football: Open – No Update
22. Registration: Heaven Alcorn – The registration portion of the new website is functional and can accommodate the registration process now even if the full site is not ready to launch by March 15th. Heaven is waiting on the shell proof from Sports Engine. It should be back in about 1 week. The Board will need to review the proof and vote on it. The site has been populated and is very close to being ready for launch.
23. Marketing: Open – No Update
24. Co-Cheer: Open – Agnes Sauseda is looking to meet with existing coaches and hopefully fill this spot.
25. Equipment: Jaret Hedlund – Tentative dates of 6/2 and 6/3 are being considered for equipment fittings. Jaret would like all coaches to volunteer with helmet fittings and use this event as an opportunity to reconnect with the players on their teams.
26. Communications: Deborah Hamdani – Working on deliverables such as Facebook posts, e-blasts, league communications etc.
27. Fundraising/Sponsorships: Open – No Update
28. Concessions: Open – No update
29. Volunteer Coordinator: Brett Naus – No update
30. Player Safety Coordinator: Open – No Update
31. Camps & Tournaments: Garry Alcorn – No Update
32. Player Appreciation and Cancer Awareness: Emily Teafoe – No Update
33. End of Year Event: Michelle Schmidt – A date of 5/19 is being considered to hold a Bingo night possibly at the high school.

Motion to move into Executive Session – Garret Teafoe motioned and Tony Mensik 2nd.

Conference Vote

The vote on the proposal to move from the MYFC conference to the NIFC conference was passed.

Adjournment

34. Motion to Adjourn: - Tony Mensik Motioned, Garry Alcorn – 2nd.
35. Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 PM...thank you for attending!!

Important Dates to Remember

- Next Board Meeting - 3/7
- Registration opens - 3/15
- First Field Day Event - 3/18
- Second Field Day Event - 4/15
- CYFL Family Event – 5/19
- Equipment Fittings – 6/2 and 6/3
- CYFL Rocket Summer Camp 2018 - TBD

Action Items

Note: Dave asked that everyone pay close to attention to their action items before the next meeting and provide updates to Kelli before the next meeting if you are unable to attend.

Action Item	Responsible Party	Deadline

* See Playbook requirements for your position	Board	Ongoing
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