

January 9, 2024
OSA Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Davida Suiter
Erik Lillejord
Cami Dahlstrom
Anne Hess
Sara Clausen
Toby Tyler
Cale Johnston
Matt Palm
Brandon Howe
Matt Katterhagen
Jamie Bishop

Not in attendance
Brette Esterbrooks

Davida motions to approve Dec. minutes. Matt seconds.

Erik- Fundraising Update

- Independence Field Project- The architect can't get the original file as we are waiting for the engineering firm to release it. Pioneer Creek Fields is the official name. Erik is going to move forward looking for a new image. The images will be used for advertising and marketing purposes. To eventually share a vision for the new field.
- Anne shared the communication document that we would include in the registration process, and we want to add a specific person to contact for large donations. We agreed Toby would handle large private donations. We need to determine an address to send checks to and set up a venmo for donations. Venmo will take a percentage over a certain amount.
- We need to talk to baseball and see if we should set up a joint account. The joint account would formalize our fundraising relationship with baseball.
- We need to vote on a second bank account being opened up. Two softball and two baseball accounts. Toby makes a motion to open a second bank account to help fund all the donations that are specifically targeted to Pioneer fields. Davida seconds.

Toby- Finances

- December was a relatively slow month. 31,500 in our checking. A little up and down, but pretty steady. We have a little revenue coming in from winter clinics. We are a couple thousand dollars over our budget, from a surplus standpoint. We ran a pretty tight ship from a budget standpoint in 2023.

- Tournament and league fees are going to go up. There was a discussion about registration fees for 2024. Our total expenses went up about \$17K, but we had more teams, more equipment etc. Last year we spent beyond our equipment budget, but aren't anticipating that much equipment this year.
- Toby's estimation is that our expenses will increase by about 10% next year. Even if we can get \$20K in donations and grants, Toby is recommending a 7-10% fee increase for registration. We can move 10K to savings and start the year with 20K in our checking, same as last year.
- We need to raise fees, and we need to determine if we are going to increase to cover costs and/or to fundraise for the fields. It is easier to increase fees and have a separate donation button to track where the money is going. The donation button can be a tax write off. Need to have some type of marketing or advertising to a flier with information about the fields.
- Matt K makes a motion to increase registration by \$50 per travel program and 20% for REC and \$25 increase for coach pitch with an option to donate to the fields. Erik seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Brandon Howe- Player Development

- Winter clinic update-numbers were good even with the date change. 41 total players for the first session. Feedback was good on the coaching and the programming. Practice plan was a little delayed, and Cami volunteered to put something together just as a backup. Brandon wants all the coaches to sign up for volunteering as well.
- Winter dome ball- 3 Orono girls- A good experience. We want to think about having a 10U or a 12U option for next year. It would be nice to have a practice facility to pair with a dome ball option.
- Hit Dawg Clinics have been successful and have had a good turnout.

Matt Palm: Equipment

- Matt is planning on attending a vendor show for equipment.
- We need to reach out to the new Head of Grounds at OPS and find out about the cages at the discovery center. Another member of the grounds crew has not heard anything about an insurance claim, but Matt was going to email Ross L. and see if he knows anything.
- We also discussed nice bats per team and L screens.

Cale- Inhouse and Fields

- Davida volunteered to help on Try Softball Night with Cale. The event runs from 6:30-8:00 on 2/8. We need to get some marketing information out to kindergarten families ASAP.

Fields Update

- Cale needs to submit indoor reservation requests for April. Hit Dawg, middle school, and OAC. We need to reach out to OBA and see if they have any availability for indoor practices. We could also talk to Vortex and see if they have any open space for us to use. We should also reach out to P3 and see what is available. Reserve the school as a backup because you can cancel for free.
- Practice starts 4/1. Cale needs to book M-F.

Jamie- Uniforms Update

- Jamie has received sample sizes for pants and uniforms. These will be available for girls to try on at pre-tryouts and tryouts. Anne is going to run uniforms at pre-tryouts because Jamie is out of town.
- Uniforms have been designed. We will have one new t-shirt jersey and keep the tank top. Girls can order the tank if they need a different size or want a new one. There will only be two tabs on the order site. One for 8-14U and they will enter their age group at the end. One for 6U, and we kept the uniforms and socks the same from last year.
- We are going to do two separate stores this spring. A store for uniforms and one for swag. The uniform store will close the Monday after tryouts. Then our plan is to push out communication about the swag store that will run for two weeks. We can't combine the stores because then jerseys will be delayed if items are on backorder etc.
- We thought it would be a good idea to run the swag store again in early April as practices start. We are going to include all the goods- bags, sweat sets, t-shirts, baseball hats, etc. We also have a store that is always open so we will push out both links.
- Jay is going to send Jamie some sample ideas for coaches shirts if anyone has any thoughts or ideas they want. We agreed we would use a unisex shirt, and the board gave feedback about colors, designs, and materials they liked. We also want to get coach pitch coaching shirts.
- Jamie is going to ask Jay to add a 15% markup on the whole order. We also are going to include an option for people to donate funds for players or families that need financial assistance in purchasing extra clothing.

Miscellaneous

- Matt Palm has taken over social media. Lindsey will continue to help.
- Jamie is going to find out who runs PeachJar. We need to advertise Try Softball Night ASAP and softball registration. We need to utilize social media- facebook groups (parent and official), instagram, and we would like to reach out to the AD and see if he can post about it.
- We need to get registration open by the 1/22 and close for 8U and up travel and REC on 2/23. Coach pitch will stay open until 3/22.
- Davida motions to pay up to \$600 for coaches training reimbursement.

Cami- 14U and Coach Development

- Vote stands as is. Girls can play on the team that aligns with their decision to not move up. We do not think there will be any problems with league and tournament play based on the new age rules.

Davida- Travel Updates

- You have to either have to attend Orono schools or live within the Orono School District to play OSA in the Spring.
- 8U Registration- We agreed to limit friend requests to one per player, and we want the request to be mutual.
- 8U experienced team- Jamie motions to approve the new bylaw language, Matt seconds. All in favor. The new language reads as follows:

OSA may field an experienced team for those players with birthdays that will age to 10U the following Fall Season and have at least 1 year of spring and fall 8U experience. OSA polls families to determine interest. Evaluations will be held if:

- Individually: A specific player does not have 1 year of experience and is aging to 10U the next season.
- Those who are moving up to 10U and interested in experienced team is greater than the target number of 10-12 per team.
- Girls with minimum 1 year 8U experience (both spring and fall) If the number of those interested is below 10; girls with minimum 1 year 8U experience (both spring and fall) will be **invited (use the work able instead of invited)** to participate in evaluations. Priority will be given to girls that will age to 10U.
- Davida is going to clarify language for pitching and positions at 10U/12U.
- All tournaments have moved up to before the 4th of July. We need to modify the language to state how long the season lasts April - the end of June. We are going to clarify how many tournaments each age level is going to attend.
- Evaluations- going to use St. Kates for 10U/12U and Hit Dawg for 8U. Davida broke down how the evaluation process works. Evaluations, scoring process, and team formation.
- Upcoming dates for the travel subcommittee 8U 3/12, 10U 3/13 and 3/14 12U
- Team Formation meeting 3/19 6:00-9:00 OAC and 3/22 3:30 teams posted
- TBD on March meeting
- Below are the approved fees for 2024 Spring Season

MOTION	Approved Fees	
\$50 For Travel	8U	310
20% for Rec	10U	425
Coach Pitch \$25	12U	460
	8U Rec	240
	Coach Pitch	145

Davida moves to adjourn the meeting, Sara seconds