

Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association BBBA

November Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 17, 2025

Meeting Time: 5:30 pm Central Time

Meeting Location: Brainerd High School Large Conference Room

President Corey Johnson called the regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:32 pm

Present: Corey Johnson, Nate Olson, Ashly Gilson, Trent Grams, Andy Campbell, Matt Means, Jeremiah Piepkorn, Kristine Kottke

Absent: Mike DeRosier

Approval of the Minutes

There was a call by Chairperson Corey Johnson to approve the meeting of the previous meeting held October 13, 2025. A motion to approve was made by Nate Olson, seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.

Approval of and/or Additions to Agenda

A meeting agenda was distributed to all attendees via email prior to the meeting. Additions were made prior to the meeting. A motion to approve was made by Nate Olson, the motion was seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.

Open Forum: CJ Woodrow with Pitch 2 Pitch

CJ Woodrow, with Pitch 2 Pitch, a new baseball facility that is being built in Baxter, attended the Board Meeting via Google Meet. CJ shared progress and intentions for the facility in our community. Ashly, Corey and Jeremiah have toured the facility.

A soft opening is scheduled for December 14, 2025. There will be 12 mobile cages, 2 bullpens, monitors, display boards and a variety of other equipment for use by the public. There will be many options for use; high school teams, our Association use etc.

The first few weeks of soft opening will be for open houses and they hope to start instruction the first week of January. Instructors are in the process of onboarding. There will be a variety of membership models as well.

CJ shared there will be room for our Association teams with the opportunity for discounted bulk team time. He wants to make sure we are getting what we need and want, and shared he wants to be connected to the community all the way down to youth levels.

Questions from the Board:

What will team time look like?

\$50 per hour for an individual, teams will get 20-25% off that rate. Our association can use the time how we want if we rent it out. There is a possibility our Association can use the space for tryouts in the future.

Would our Association be able to use the facility for our skills nights? Yes! This is an option. We just need to share what our needs are and it shouldn't be a problem.

What do individual memberships look like? There are 3 levels: cage rental, membership(unlimited access) and training (unlimited access plus the machines). There will also be lesson options.

The Board thanked CJ for his time and we look forward to working with him and his facility very soon!

President/VP Report – Corey Johnson and Nate Olson
None, only New and Old Business and noted in minutes.

Treasurer's Report – Matt Means

- Our Association is sitting with a health balance of approximately \$116K. We have received and will receive donations from local organizations for our batting cage project will be very helpful!

Secretary's Report – Kristine Kottke
None

Old Business:

- New Batting Cages for Bane and Jaycess
 - The construction continues without problem.
 - Turf has been received and stored at CLC until spring.
- Team Gear Storage
 - All teams have stored what they want and can continue put what they want in the shed when they are ready/as needed.
- 2026 Uniform and Clothing
 - Ashly is still waiting on two more proposal options. Uniforms estimates are coming in around \$150 from most proposals. Uniform packages include 2 tops, 1 pair of pants, hat, socks, a belt. Based on previous years issues, the

Board would like to uniform packages to include two pairs of pants for all teams going forward.

- Tournament apparel for our home tournament will be made by Range Printing going forward, as they gave us the cheapest option. They are also local.
- 2026 Skills and Tryouts
 - Winter skills nights are coming up soon.
 - All skills dates have been secured at the Forestview Middle School Gym.
 - Could we possible do our skills nights this year at Pitch 2 Pitch?
 - We currently pay \$100 per night at FMS and it is our understanding that Pitch 2 Pitch could match or beat that price.
 - Corey will enter into negotiations with Pitch2Pitch about skills nights for the 2026 year. We can cancel our dates at FMS if/when needed.
 - Corey will also talk with Pitch 2 Pitch on additional times for January, February, March and April when Association practices are in full swing.
 - Email votes can happen on this if we need to because of time constraints.
 - March 21, 2026, has been as a tryout date with no makeup date.
 - Could we do tryouts at Pitch 2 Pitch? We could ask more of that space in the future if it works
- Board of Directors Nominations
 - Applications have been received and the date application closed at the date of this meeting. Four applications were received.
 - Corey Johnson re-stated his intention to re-apply for Present for a 1 year term. Nate Olson stated his intention to re-apply as Vice President with no intention of transition to President. Matt Means stated his intention to re-apply for the Treasurer position.
 - Bylaws will be suspended to do the vote and change term length of some positions. This will allow for staggered turnover of Board members so as to keep continuity and maintain experience on the Board at all times. This is in the best interest of the Association and the Board. There will be three, 3-year terms up for vote and two, 1-year terms. .
 - Board elections will be held at the start of our next meeting, December 8, 2025.

New Business:

- 2026 Battle of the Lakes
 - 73 teams currently registered for this tournament. 2 spots remain in 10AA and 11AA. Other divisions have more room.
 - 14AAA is a wood bat only division.

- 13AAA will be on 60x90 fields.
- Oskar Kristopherson Park will be used for only two weekends.
- Our Association applied for our MBT qualifier but we have not heard back yet. The tournament will also most likely be approved as a MYAS qualifier
- Corey stressed that a better system needs to be set up for your home tournaments regarding Tournament Managers. This is a very involved position and needs to be allocated to a new person each tournament. The Tournament Manager should not be the Board President. The Board agreed with this distinction.
- 2026 Big Event and Scholarships
 - BPSF has reached out to the association about donations for this year's fundraising event. Last year we did two registrations and five \$1000 scholarships.
 - A motion was made by Nate Olson to match that donation for this year. The motion was seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.
- Executive Board Nominations
 - Executive Board positions for President, Secretary and Treasurer are open for the 2026 calendar year. Corey Johnson opened the floor for nominations to these positions.
 - Nate Olson nominated Corey Johnson for President.
 - Ashly Gilson nominated Kristine Kottke for Secretary.
 - Ashly Gilson nominates Matt Means for Treasury
 - Nominations were then closed
- B. Johnson & Associates accounting and tax services
 - Matt would like us to get a quote from B. Johnson, with the potential of transferring our Association books from where we are currently. Matt proposes approval of that move if the quote is at or near \$2500.
 - A motion for approval was made by Jeremiah Piepkorn and seconded by Ashly Gilson. The motion was carried without dissent.
- Addition of another home tournament
 - Trent Gram anticipates that the 12U grade level would like to host another home tournament. Would that be possible?
 - Considerations:
 - Availability of fields
 - Possible fundraiser?
 - Finding open weekends
 - Style of tournament....brackets, round robin etc.
 - What assistance would the Association be able to give?
 - The Association is very interested and will pursue this option, looking for open weekends and all level interest or participation.
- Individual Team Fundraising for Tournament Travel

- The question about team fundraising for travel tournaments was posed. There was discussion on proper protocol and how the money should be handled when raised by a team.
- Treasurer Matt Means requested money raised by individual teams come in and then be distributed once for travel expenses only. Examples of travel expenses included but are not limited to gas, hotel, and/or tournament entry.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by: Nate Olson

Seconded by: Jeremiah Piepkorn

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm

Addendum to Minutes: