

# **Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association BBBA**

## **January 2025 Board Meeting Minutes**

### **MEETING DETAILS:**

Date: January 13, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm Central Time

Location: Brainerd High School Large Conference Room

President Corey Johnson called the regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

Present: Corey Johnson CEO, Matt Means, Nate Olson, Andy Campbell, Jeremiah Piepkorn, Mike DeRosier, Ashly Gilson and Kristine Kottke

Absent: Trent Grams

Quorum present? Yes

### **Approval of the Minutes**

There was a call by Chairperson Johnson to approve the meeting minutes of the previous meeting held on December 9, 2024.

The motion was seconded 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. No additions were made. After brief review, a motion to approve was made by Andy Campbell. Motion was seconded by Nate Olson and carried without dissent.

### **President's Report – Corey Johnson**

- Battle of the Lakes Update
  - The Tournament is almost completely full with some available spots on the 9'U, 12AA, and 14U.
  - Only 9s, 12AA and 14s can still sign up as of date of meeting.
  - There is a wait list for some levels.

### **Treasurer's Report – Matt Means**

- Treasurer Means noted he is in the process of building a full financial update within the Association shared Google Drive. He advised he will update us as he finalizes his reports.

### **Secretary's Report – Outgoing Andy Campbell**

- Scoreboard Update

- Andy Campbell gave a brief update about his recommendations regarding going with Daktronics for scoreboards over Nevco.
- In conversations with reps from both companies, Campbell received more indication of support from Daktronics. Daktronics has conveyed their ability to be more hands on and helpful throughout the installation process while Nevco has communicated a more “hands-off” approach.
- The Daktronics estimate for the 4 scoreboard systems is \$26,948.
- President Johnson stated the full scoreboard plans would be discussed and voted on later in the meeting during Old Business.
- Andy Campbell will also inquire with Daktronics about pricing for an additional scoreboard for potential use at Mills Memorial Field.

### **New Business:**

- Vote for Executive Board Members for 2025
  - The Secretary position is open. The position was described and Ashly Gilson and Kristine Kottke expressed an interest in the position.
  - There was a nomination to elect Kristine Kottke as Secretary by President Johnson. A motion was made by Nate Olson and seconded by Andy Campbell. The motion was carried without dissent.
- 2025 Committee Assignments – More to be added to this list when Teams are set at each level.
  - Fundraising/Finance
    - Chair: Matt Means
      - Fundraising: Corey Johnson
      - At least one volunteer will be needed at each Player Level 9U-14U
  - Uniforms/Equipment
    - Chair: Andy Campbell
      - Equipment: Mike DeRosier
  - Tournament
    - Chair: Corey Johnson
      - Umpire Coordinator needed
      - Team Managers for each level should be “Go-To” person
        - We would also like the team managers to enter all Sports Engine updates during the tournaments.
  - Team Managers/Volunteer Coordinator
    - Chair: Ashly Gilson
      - Nate Olson
  - Player Development/Tryouts
    - Chair: Jeremiah Piepkorn
      - Trent Grams and Matt Means

- High School Coach has expressed interest
- Media/Marketing/Recruitment/Retention
  - Chair: Trent Grams
    - Kris Kottke
- Scheduling
  - Chair: Ashly Gilson
    - Gym Scheduling: Jeremiah Piepkorn
- Grievance
  - Chair: Corey Johnson
    - Kris Kottke, Andy Campbell and Mike DeRosier as needed by situation.
- Executive
  - Corey Johnson, Nate Olson, Matt Means, Kris Kottke

### **Old Business:**

- Full Scoreboard Update and Motion for Funds Approval
  - President Johnson will be meeting with the new Brainerd Public Works Director, Michael Habighorst, on Thursday, January 16, 2025, to finalize the terms of our agreement regarding sponsorships at the parks in which our Association is providing new scoreboards.
    - Corey will also start a conversation with Habighorst about the Mills Memorial Field scoreboard. What are the plans for updating that system?
  - The general understanding is that our Association will provide 4 new scoreboards and Brainerd will give us 8 years to sell sponsorships at those parks to recoup the costs paid by our Association for said scoreboards. Our understanding is that we can sell as many sponsorships during that time as we are able.
  - The total estimate for the 4 Daktronics scoreboards is \$26,948 plus any materials, which should be very minimal, needed by HyTec for installation. HyTec will donate the labor for installation.
    - A motion was made by Nate Olson to move forward swiftly with purchase of the 4 Daktronics scoreboards, enter into a contract for said scoreboards and approve funding of those scoreboards for the bid price of \$26, 948, with any reasonable additions to that bid for materials used by HyTec.
    - Motion was seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.
- Winter Skills Update –
  - The first skills night for 9U and 10U was held last Wednesday, January 7, 2025, at Forestview Middle School. It went very well and the new format seems to be desirable.

- A question as to location of the Association pitching machines. A consensus was reached that they are located at Bane Park within the concession building.
- Tom Fairbanks continues to be point of contact for Forestview gym scheduling.
- We need to touch base with Jeff Flaatan about a key to the girls' locker room where some of our Association equipment is stored.
- Cardboard in the shed needs to be disposed of. Mike DeRosier may try to work on that this week if it warms up.
- Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association Board Meetings
  - Will continue on the second Monday of every month at the Brainerd High School large meeting room until further notice.
- 13 to 14U BBBA transition
  - The transition from 13U to 14U is an evolving discussion. There are concerns with when 14U tryouts occur as it affects the tradition of a 14U extended trip tournament and the requisite fundraising attached with that trip.
  - Proposed Solutions
    - 13U tryouts will set the 13U *and* 14U teams.
    - Earlier 14U tryouts
    - Earlier tryouts for all age groups
  - The 13U to 14U transition needs to be tabled for a later date.
- Donation by the Association to Brainerd Public Schools Foundation (BPSF) for their Big Event Fundraiser.
  - A motion was made by Nate Olson to donate two registrations, good for 2 annual 9U-14U registrations, to the BPSF silent auction. Motion was seconded by Mike DeRosier and carried without dissent.
- YMCA update from Andy Campbell
  - Andy has reiterated the Association's desire to work with the YMCA of Brainerd to work on a new recreational space together. The Association would like to use space for pitching, batting, catching and other drills and contribute to equipment in exchange for that space usage. No agreement has been reached and that conversation will continue.
- City of Baxter
  - To recap, our Association received a bill in the amount of \$6,273.55 for "services rendered during our home tournament" during our home tournament weekends held at Oscar Kristopherson (OK) Park summer 2024. This the first year our Association has received a bill from The City.
    - A more formal agreement going forward needs to be reached with the City of Baxter regarding our use of OK Park for tournaments, practices and double headers.

- In previous years, our Association has made a sizable donation (roughly \$3,000) in return for field usage, including but not limited to, scheduling and maintenance
- Ashly Gilson expressed interest in pursuing this conversation with The City and updating the Association.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by: Corey Johnson

Seconded by: Kris Kottke

Meeting adjourned at 6:59

Next meeting: February 10, 2025

*Addendum to Minutes: N/A*