

Farmington Girls Fastpitch Association
Board of Directors Meeting- Open Session
January 10, 2021 - HLS Outdoor – 2015 Silver Bell Road, Suite 110, Eagan, MN

Board Members in Attendance:

Christine Schweich – President
Kim Boyd – Secretary
Eric McAbee – Vice President
Corey Schweich – Off Season/Program Development
Chad Redman –Travel Director
Katie Melby – Fields and Facilities
Matt Johnson – Communications
Sara Perkinson – Tournament Director
Jeff Buck – Equipment
Robin Leonard – Volunteer Coordinator
Neena Wilcox – Fundraising
Lindsey Schepers – Treasurer
Susan Taylor – Assistant Tournament Director (via phone)

1. Welcome and call to order by Christine (Chris) Schweich.

2. Approval of December meeting minutes

Jeff B made a motion to approve the December 2020 meeting minutes, Robin L seconded the motion, the board voted, none opposed. The board approved the December 2020 meeting minutes.

3. Board Member/FGFA Membership

Kim will make sure bylaws are updated and signed.

Section 3.1, Membership. An individual(s) shall be considered FGFA members by payment(s) made of any yearly program registration fee(s). The membership year will be defined as commencing October 1 and terminating on September 30. Members must reside within the boundaries of Independent School District 192 or have a child attending an Independent School District 192 school. *An individual(s) shall also be considered an FGFA member if they run for and are elected to the Board of Directors regardless if they have a child in the program. These individual(s) also must reside within the boundaries of Independent School District 192.*

4. COVID-19 update

Games can begin on January 14, 2020. See open gym and clinics below.

5. Frenzy Tourney Posting and Registration

The Frenzy is scheduled for June 4-6, 2021. Friday, June 4th 14U will start. Empire will be used for 14U and 12U, Boeckman will be used for 10U and the high school will be used for 8U (Saturday only with Sunday at FES as a backup). Sara P asked who needs to be involved in the planning of the tournament as far as registration and postings. Where are the best places to post to get the word out about the tournament? Start with getting it on MN softball. 14U is always under the lights both Friday and Saturday night. For registration we will plan for 10 team at the 8U level, 16 teams at the 10U and 12U

levels and 10 teams at the 14U level. The tournament will be for A/B/C level teams and first come, first serve (registered and paid). All registrations will be handled online. There will be Gold, Silver and Bronze brackets and a four game guarantee. Cost - \$400 10U-12U - \$200 8U - \$400 14U – and two game balls for 10-14U teams and one game ball for 8U. We need to know who the team is registered with to ensure we are not allowing MN club teams to register. We will try to go live with registration by February 15, 2021. Medals for 1st and 2nd place teams.

6. Open Gyms & Clinics

The pitching clinic resumed on Monday night January 4, 2021. Open gyms resumed Tuesday, January 5, 2021. The pitching and hitting clinics had to be split due to gym space so we are finishing the final three weeks of pitching clinic first then will finish the hitting clinic (Monday nights). As the other gym space opens we will see what the need is for space and reserve the other side of the gym if needed. Due to the shutdown we will most likely not have time to do a second set of clinics this year.

7. 8U/10U Registration and Tryouts

We need to get the 8U and 10U registration opened soon. Matt will build out the registrations and send all communications. 2021 8U registration cost is \$150 and 10U registration cost is \$350. We will try to hold tryouts on March 6 or 7 but will look at the next weekend March 13-14 as a backup. We will do one day of tryouts with 8U from 8am-10am, 10U pitcher and catchers from 9am-11am then 10U tryouts from 11am-5pm. 10U players can sign up for two tryouts.

8. Parent Meeting

The Parent Meeting will be completely virtual this year. Chris and Chad will work on a PowerPoint and then send out a link to the presentation to all parents. Uniform try-on will be held one of the nights of open gym. Other sports are collecting volunteer and fundraising checks at tryouts. For the 12U and 14U teams one parent or coach on the team needs to be designated as the person to collect the checks and then turn them in at one time. That same person could bring them to tryouts and also take the fundraiser cards that the team needs and distribute back to the team.

9. 12U & 14U Team Spending of Funds

We should make sure that the 12U and 14U teams are spending their off season money now that things are opened back up. Someone asked where is the best place to find winter tournaments? S&C Sports Facebook page has local dome tournaments and other tournaments posted. Sean Hall is a great resource or monitor their Facebook page. Send something out to the coaches as a reminder to use the funds.

10. Fundraising Options

We have discussed, in the past, that we think the membership would be interested in other options for fundraising. Money cards (winner wins money) were discussed rather than discount cards. Neena did find a March Madness fundraising card. Even if COVID were to impact college basketball the system still has a way to payout the winnings. For these cards we would need to sell 75 cards before FGFA would make a profit (selling cards at \$20). This would require 15 players to sell the cards before any profit (if we require the players to sell five each). Since 12U and 14U are already established we could see if they would want to sell the cards but we are toeing the line of having enough players to sell. Our biggest concern is the short timeline for selling. The board decided to stick with the fundraising discount cards that we have done in the past especially since there are so many unknowns right now as

we are nervous of taking any more hits like we did last year with COVID. We could think about having 12s and 14s do a money card fundraising option in the fall next year after their tryouts. The board also discussed keeping the opt out option for the current fundraising cards at \$60. As a reminder the cards are \$25 each and the parents who choose to sell them pay \$100 for four cards and then sell them for \$25 to get their money back. We hold the checks for approximately a month to give parents the time to sell the cards. Neena will look into the cost for purchasing less cards than we have in the past so that we don't have as many leftover cards at the end.

Directors Reports:

Corey S – Off Season/Program Development – Nothing more to add at this meeting.

Matt J – Communications - Matt will build registration, and get out communications for registration, Frenzy, Parent meeting and get all events updated on the calendar.

Chad R – Travel Director - There is a Tri-County Softball meeting tomorrow night Chris and Chad plan to attend. Chad will work on getting the evaluators and helpers for the tryouts. Fields are all ready to go we just need some final confirmations from Empire and the school.

Jeff B – Equipment - Jeff will start ordering equipment based on the budget that was approved. Eric will include information in the coaches email for contact info for Jeff so coaches can get equipment

Lindsey S – Treasurer – Lindsey is still working through the accounts and QuickBooks. Current FGFA funds are \$66,000. Lindsey is working on doing more automation with QuickBooks. Chris and Lindsey will work with Don to figure out the credit card situation.

Neena W – Fundraising – As of now there will not be a Parents Night Out this year due to COVID restrictions if anyone has ideas for a fundraising event send them to Neena. We did make \$164 with the Panda Express day.

Katie M – Fields and Facilities – Katie has not been able to confirm future meetings at Celts yet, once restaurants open more she will be able to confirm. Katie will check on gym availability for tryouts and get final confirmations on Empire field use.

Robin L – Volunteer – Nothing for this meeting but will have more once we start collecting volunteer checks.

Sara Perkinson – Tournament Director - See Frenzy section above.

Kim Boyd – Secretary – Nothing more to add for this meeting.

Chris S provided a directors report for Sarah Preston – Concessions - We still need an assistant concessions coordinator so that they can be involved this year and get an understanding of the position. We may still need to follow up with Empire to see what limits we will have on concessions or what change will need to be made for COVID protocols. We will also need to figure out what changes will need to be made for our Boeckman shed concessions too.

Chris S provided the directors report for Tara L - Apparel – Tara would like to get jersey numbers for the 12U and 14U players. We may need to follow up with coaches. Chris will follow up with Erin G (former Apparel Director) and Chad will look in the tryout bin to see if he can find the paper we used to confirm numbers during tryouts in the fall.

Chris S – President – Chris has been talking to Paul Harrington regarding high school softball. The tryouts for high school will start March 29, 2021 and the second week of tryouts will be the week of Spring break. The 9th, 10th and JV seasons will end on May 28, 2021. Varsity playoffs will start the following week. The season will be extended a couple weeks. Player Parent Coach meeting will held mid-March. Youth night and mentoring will be skipped this year due to COVID. High school has a few projects they would like to complete this year. They plan to extend fences on two fields add slats in the dugout fence and increase storage. They asked if FGFA like to increase storage space at the high school fields too. Eric asked if there would be any changes with 14U scheduling since softball is going later? Chris said they may know more after the Tri County meeting. There should only be a couple weeks of overlap.

Eric M – Vice President – Eric said the background checks should be completed on everyone and Eric has already received his card. There was one coaching change at the 12U level but that has all been taken care of.

11. Upcoming FGFA Meetings and Events

Dates for Open Board meetings –

February 21, 2021 6pm at Celts (change from February 7 – need confirmation)

March 14, 2021 6pm at Celts (not confirmed – may need to be changed depending on tryouts)

April 11, 2021 6pm at Celts (not confirmed – TBD)

12. Adjourn Meeting

Jeff B made a motion to adjourn meeting, Matt J seconded the motion, the board voted, none opposed, meeting adjourned.