



WHITE BEAR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING

AGENDA & MINUTES 2021

Dec 20, 2021

1. Vote on signing with Wheelhouse umpires
 - a. Unanimous approval to sign the Wheelhouse contract - Joe delivered signed contract to Jordan on 12/21
2. Uniform ordering/planning - Megan
 - a. 456 hats will be pre-ordered for traveling, North Star, coaches, and to sell for fundraising. We pay \$14, will sell for \$25 - unanimous vote
 - b. 365 hats will be pre-ordered for in-house - unanimous vote
 - c. Samples are being sent for jersey material so we can make that decision in January
3. Financial review - Ryan
 - a. Updated docs delivered to all board members and budget line items assigned
 - b. We need to approve budget and set registration fees on Jan 10th
4. Tournament planning - cost, registration, volunteers, etc - Bill/Chris
 - a. \$400 tourney fee is set - 4 teams already registered
 - b. Chris to have MYAS change name to White Bear Opener
 - c. 12u parents expected to help as volunteers - Greg will ensure those teams don't register for their own tourney that weekend
 - d. Derek to track umpire needs with Wheelhouse
 - e. MYAS bid to be awarded sometime in January, will need to pay once we are informed
 - f. Dena to explore logo options for tourney t-shirts/rings
5. Coaches clinic with Brian Raabe
 - a. Tuesday January 25th at Stadium from 7:00 - 9:30
 - b. RSVP form needed - Joe to create and share - Greg, Blair, and Keith to share with coaches

Dec 6, 2021

1. Wheelhouse Umpires joining us to present/review contract - Jordan Voit
 - a. East, NE metro umpire group
 - b. 3rd year as owner with his brother Taylor
 - c. They do all of their training - 5-hour classroom training, plus on-field
 - d. Arbiter sports is the scheduling system - coaches and administrators have access

- i. Audit trail
- e. They will provide recruiting content for soliciting new umpires
- f. Umps will be at least 4 years older than the age they are umping
- g. All umpers over 18 have a background check every 2 years, concussion certified
 - i. Documentation coming from Jordan - put in contract
 - ii. Independent contractor agreement covers insurance
- h. Jordan to provide revised contract with tweaks, Joe to distribute, vote on signing on the 20th
- 2. Finalize winter training pricing/planning/packages so we can launch registration
 - h. Do we need gym time for throwing leading up to tryouts? Blair/GY to discuss
 - i. Sundays at Blizzard 10:00 - 1:00
 - j. \$15 per session per kid, capped at 25
 - i. Board approved the vote 10-1
 - d. Michelle to put out communication on when registration will start, and also making people aware of tryouts
- 3. Tournament submission to MYAS
 - d. Bill and Chris will be submitting our bid soon
 - e. Brian is going to register 9AAA - 14AAA for Brainerd tourney
 - f. Greg has signed up several teams for Ice Breaker Classic in Elk River
- 4. Time for Megan
 - d. Greg and Keith need to project number of teams this year so that Megan can come up with a hat order estimate
 - e. Orange bill black hat - Megan will order no later than end of month. Payment not due until they ship

Nov 22, 2021

1. Code of conduct - revisit it - use MYAS template
 - a. Joe to circulate link, Michelle to update page
2. MYAS North Star League trying to expand to 9-12
 - a. No-go, board is not interested. Sticking with our in-house program as is
3. Winter training planning
 - a. Sunday mornings only - 9:00 to noon are our hours
 - b. \$525 per week is what Blizzard charges us
 - c. Todd Wanka will call Mario at Fieldhouse to check Sundays from 7-10 am
 - d. Three, 1-hour sessions
 - e. More discussion needed during the meeting on Dec 6th
 - f. Joe will get with Nick for list of coaches to start scheduling
4. Equipment research discussion
 - a. Jesse to continue research pricing for mound/fences
 - b. Roughly \$6k per field for mound, fence, foul poles... pending other supplier options
 - c. Catcher's gear - Jesse taking inventory and examining pricing
 - d. Joe still waiting on the city for costs around safety netting around backstops at Lakewood
5. Up-coming meeting schedule/location
 - a. Stick with Monday nights at Stadium - try to avoid 2nd Mondays if possible as they conflict with school board meetings
6. By-laws/documentation discussion/review
 - a. Policy document - more specifics around
 - i. Code of Conduct

- ii. Board positions
 - iii. Board reimbursement
 - iv. Grade-level policy
 - v. Jesse & Ryan to look into this
7. Traveling coach selection update
- a. 13 interviews conducted on 11/20
 - b. All AAA coaches assigned and accepted
 - i. 9U; Gregory 5-0 vote
 - ii. 10AAA; Dettinger 5-0 vote
 - iii. 10AA; TBD pending tryouts
 - iv. 11AAA; Alexander 4-0 vote; Alexander abstain
 - v. 11AA; TBD pending tryouts
 - vi. 12AAA; Hawes 4-0 vote; Young abstain
 - vii. 12AA; TBD pending tryouts
 - viii. 12A; TBD pending tryouts
 - ix. 13AAA; Kolb 4-0 vote; Kolb abstain
 - x. 13A; TBD pending tryouts
 - xi. 14AAA; Humphrey 5-0 vote
 - xii. 14AA; Altringer 5-0 vote
 - xiii. 15AAA; Reeves 5-0 vote

Nov 8, 2021

1. Review/Approval of traveling coaches' selection committee – Greg/Joe
 - a. Traveling Interview Committee: Kolb, Fredrickson, Anderson, Eckerle, Alexander, Young. Approved by the Board.
 - b. Interviews on the 20th.
2. Umpire update - moving forward with Wheelhouse – Joe/Derek
 - a. MN Umpire Association call went well but they are not equipped with umpires in the north metro. We would need to recruit our own and they would schedule. Not ideal.
 - b. Wheelhouse has verbally committed to us, and us to them. Contract is forthcoming
 - i. References from East Ridge, Woodbury, and Hudson all checked out.
3. Review tournament dates and details
 - a. May 13th - 15th
 - b. Stick with 14AAA, 14AA, 13AAA - Straight-8 bracket
 - c. Bill to submit application for MYAS bid
 - d. 12u families pitch in and volunteer
 - e. Luke Kohler - Joe will reconnect about his solution for covering dugouts
4. Uniform input/discussion - Megan
 - a. Signature concepts - starting discussions in November
 - b. In-house jerseys: stick with 2 cotton or 1 dry-fit with different colors per team. Megan will analyze.
 - c. Do we place a big order this year to ensure extras? Or try to order only what we need? TBD, more info needed.
5. Winter training planning - Joe
 - a. Starting January 9th, eight Sundays, no SB Sunday (Feb 13th), no Sunday first week of Spring Break (March 6th).
 - b. Specific hours and rates are still forthcoming - Greg will chase
 - c. Do we want to do a dome day if we can find space? Ryan will check schedule with Ramsey County

- d. Nick will start reaching out to coaches in December
- e. Michelle & Dena will get Square site set up once we have times and rates
- 6. Plans for Lakewood Hills - quote on backstop netting, portable mounds, etc - Joe
 - a. Backstop netting is top priority - Joe waiting on quote from city
 - b. Jesse will look into portable mounds
 - c. Other considerations: temporary outfield fence? Amount of storage space? Utilizing "press box"?

Oct. 11, 2021

1. Vote on board member elections
 - a. Unanimous approval for all open positions (2-year terms):
 - i. President - Joe Eckerle
 - ii. Treasurer - Ryan Allshouse
 - iii. Website/Communications Director - Michelle Allshouse
 - iv. North Star/Senior League Director - Keith Anderson
 - v. Team Manager Director - Nikki Farrington
 - vi. Equipment Director - Jesse Kook
 - vii. Fundraising Director - Dena Edmiston
 - viii. Apparel Director - Megan Fredrickson
 - ix. Player Development Director - Nick Dettinger
 - x. Umpire Director - Derek Larsen
2. Feedback for Jon Anderson inquiry
 - a. What is the impact of charging for indoor space usage for WBBA? Likely minimal impact but Ryan will seek more details on what Jon has in mind. Will need to understand specifics prior to finalizing registration fees.
3. Umpire update - Joe/Derek
 - a. Wheelhouse has provided a quote for all traveling games as well as North Star & Senior League
 - i. Joe and Derek will move forward with reference calls (Woodbury, East Ridge, and Hudson)
 - ii. Will seek an official contract/proposal to be considered during November meetings
 - iii. They are not interested in doing our games for 9-12 in-house. We will need to rely on our ability to recruit teenagers like we did last year
 - b. North Metro Umpires - they are not interested in taking us on.
 - c. MN Umpires Association - call set up with Derek and Joe for Sunday October 24th so we can discuss/gather some more information. South metro-based group.
4. Volunteer dinner update - Joe
 - b. Current registration stands at 50 people. We have decided not to open it up to plus ones.
 - c. Goal is to spend \$2500 or less for food, beverage, tax, and gratuity
 - d. Joe will work out specific plan for beer/alternate beverages with Becky in the next two weeks
5. Traveling coaches application/interview planning - Greg
 - b. Application online/email blast before volunteer dinner
 - c. Deadline to apply will be Nov 12th
 - d. Interviews will be Saturday November 20th

Sept. 27, 2021

1. Review umpire situation/discussion
 - a. Board is overall in favor of contracting with an umpiring association. Joe was impressed with the conversation/approach from Wheelhouse Umpires. Waiting on formal proposal from them.
 - b. Joe will reach out to another association and get quote/sales pitch
 - c. Joe will ask Wheelhouse for a reference or two (other than Mahtomedi)
 - d. Joe will see if Wheelhouse is willing/able to come to a board meeting to present
2. Review ballot and vote to approve
 - a. Ballot for upcoming board elections was approved by unanimous vote
 - b. Official vote will take place during the annual meeting on October 11th
3. Financial/budget update
 - a. Ryan reviewed 2020 taxes and they were unanimously approved for submission to state
 - b. Financial situation is very solid due to fundraising efforts and tournament proceeds
4. Two new doors at Babe Ruth Fields were installed at no charge by Chris Berendt
 - a. Chris will be on list of gift card recipients at volunteer dinner. Brian to coordinate.
5. Turf install still on track for weekend of Oct 8/9, weather permitting. Rich and John (and others) will take down batting cage nets on Oct 5th at 5:00.
6. Tryout dates update
 - a. John has secured TCO Fieldhouse from 7am - 5pm on Sunday, March 20th, 2022
 - b. Greg is still confirming Saturday the 19th with Blizzard
 - c. Joe has Bethel as a potential back-up but nothing concrete

Sept. 14, 2021

1. Turf install at Babe Ruth batting cages (discussed with Blair/Rich offline)
 - a. Targeting Oct 9/10 for install, nets can be removed at any time prior
2. Intros for new attendees and review of board member roles
3. Finalize board positions for ballot for annual meeting
 - a. Joe will get draft of ballot ready prior to next meeting
4. Pick Howard's brain on role and responsibilities of umpire director
 - a. Losing 5 (of 8) really good umpires for next year
 - b. We may need to consider having coaches ump 9/10 in-house games
 - c. Could potentially use MYAS for ump scheduling for all traveling games
 - d. Joe will look into other ump associations as a possibility
5. Finalize 2022 tryout dates
 - a. March 19th and 20th
 - b. John checking in with field house
 - c. Joe to check with Bethel
 - d. Greg to check with Blizzard
6. Board would like to continue the WB Classic in 2022 and going forward
 - a. Bill Capocasa open to the idea of running it again but not committed
 - b. Jason Hilderman needs to be asked about his willingness to run concessions again

Apr 5, 2021

1. Budget/Financials update - RA
 - a. Interpreter needs to be factored in - JP4 may help
 - b. In-house down but still tracking well
2. Registration transfers/totals for in-house/North Star/Senior League - MA/KA/BO

- a. North Star - close registration on April 16th
 - i. Uniform fitting on the 18th with Melinda
- b. In-house closing on the 9th - Blair to form teams soon
 - i. Pictures are May 8th - parents will need to pay on their own (Podvin)
- c. Senior League - we will wait and see.... May not form teams until May
- 3. 15AAA tryout update - JA/GY
 - c. Scorers and volunteers are ready if we can get enough kids
 - d. Hotel block for Fargo expires May 11th so we need team formed by May 1st
 - e. Reservations for next year's tryouts? Not taking reservations yet. John will call to try and reserve whole facility for March 19/20 of 2022 (either Sat/Sun).
- 4. Turf installation update/planning - BO/RJ
 - c. Still no firm delivery date - Rich checking with vendor, will communicate with Blair
 - d. Blair's crew foreman is ready to go
 - e. Joe to send note to get water turned on at Babe
- 5. Sponsorships update - JE/RA
 - c. 6 confirmed, one still yet to pay this week
 - d. Summit/Viverant?
- 6. Tournament progress - BC
 - c. Concessions inspection on the 8th
 - d. Parent volunteers - need to notify
 - i. Joe will send email blast to all traveling coaches asking for volunteers (46 shifts at 4 or 4.5 hours each)
 - 1. Need sign-up/dibs set-up so the shifts are managed properly - Michelle & Bill to coordinate
 - c. Waiting on payment from Coon Rapids - Ryan to check PO Box
 - d. Porta potties have been ordered
 - e. Rings have been approved/ordered and waiting for final proof on medals
 - f. Tarps for dugout covers - Bill will measure
 - g. Need batting cages hung at Polar

Mar 15, 2021

- 1. Turf project update and confirm planning
 - a. Water needs to be turned on for power washing
 - b. Blair's dad to lead the charge
 - i. Need to notify Nate for forklift timing
 - c. John & Rich to put nets up in advance
 - d. Looking at week of April 11th
- 2. Tournament planning - confirm things are on-track and items are budgeted
 - c. Still waiting on Coon Rapids payment - need an ultimatum?
 - i. STMA also need to pay

- b. Use North if needed on Sat/Sun
- c. Medical personnel? Sponsorship or Melinda call Century College?
- d. Field 1 scoreboard needs to be ready to go
- e. Need tarps if we can get them for covering polar benches (if people are willing)
- 3. In-house pictures - BO
 - b. We are going to have Sportsline come and do them, TBD if we pay for them or if we have parents.
- 4. Last minute tryout instructions/planning
 - b. 15AAA Sunday 18th from 1:00 - 3:00
 - i. Melinda do uniform sizing
- b. One more reminder email on Friday with final instructions
- c. Check Jimmy's for the night of the 27th post-tryouts - Joe
- 5. Hugo Sports Complex - RA
 - b. Next steps would be Hugo parks commission

March 1, 2021

- 1. Vote on turf in Babe batting cages: go/no-go/delay - JE
 - a. \$7k budgeted, \$3643 hold over, \$1000 in checks received
 - b. Total is \$9,620 - approved unanimously (cheaper turf)
 - c. Coordinate logistics with Nate Kolb - first week of April?
- 2. JP4 Foundation for financial aid - Ryan and I spoke with them, they are considering partnering - JE
 - a. Board says go for it.
- 3. Tryout update - JA
 - a. Need to get group timings out to parents
 - b. Uniforms will be fitted at Blizzard instead of Fieldhouse
 - c. No official make-up sessions - will try to get things done on the weekend
 - d. Team selection night March 29th?
 - e. Buy a few thermometers
- 4. Tournament update - BC
 - a. All age levels are full!
 - b. How many porta-potties do we need? Do we need to add for that weekend
 - i. Can we use Township field dragger?
 - ii. Can we get grass mowed on Friday?
 - c. Concessions coordinator found
 - i. Jason Hilderman
 - ii. Concessions inspection early April - Rich has keys
 - d. Will start spreading word about volunteers
 - e. Trophies - \$625 to \$1000
 - i. Rings for first, medals for 2nd and 3rd

ii. Vote on up to \$1000 for White Bear Classic in 2021 - unanimous approved

5. Registration update - JE
6. 15AAA Update - GY
 - a. Steve is back on-board
 - b. \$500 in team fees devoted to reimbursing his expenses
 - c. Team sponsor will pay him \$1200 - we do not handle any of the money

Feb 17, 2021

1. We need a Covid-19 Compliance Manager according to MYAS
 - a. Nikki will be the point of contact since she will be in touch with all team managers. Joe, Greg, Blair, Keith to facilitate enforcements of policies
2. Sponsorship update/planning
 - a. \$2500 committed verbally (5 gold sponsorships)
3. Update/vote on turf purchase for cages? Lead time?
 - a. Typically shipping in 1-3 days
 - b. The warranty is 1yr manufacturer's warranty against defects, workmanship etc,
 - c. Life expectancy, depending conditions of use, weather, etc is 4-6 years in average
 - d. There isn't much difference between them to be honest, other than the 3m vs 5mm foam.. but even that isn't very much when also using the turf mats with them
 - e. **Blair talk to carpet installer for quote/ideas?**
 - f. Would need signage to state NO METAL SPIKES if we install turf
 - g. We will officially vote on this on March 1st
4. Registration update
 - a. **Michelle will send 2 more reminders before early-bird ends**
5. Last two Blizzard sessions opening up
 - a. **Open up registration on Monday the 22nd**
6. Tournaments:
 - a. Rings/Trophies - go with Michelle's vendor
 - i. Rings for first place, medals for 2nd place, 3rd place = team trophy
 - b. Concessions coordinator
 - i. Announce tournament to the association and ask for someone to step up
- Joe to write, Michelle to send
 - c. In-house day at The Stadium? First weekend of June?
 - i. Last few years it has been the weekend after school got out
 - ii. Sat & Sun - later on Sat, early on Sun
7. Vote on board member registration reimbursement for 2021
 - a. 1 free registration per family approved unanimously
 - b. **Michelle will create code and send to all**

8. GY Time
 - a. Play-up request - will review at tryouts
 - b. Board members and coaches need to complete Trusted Coaches/Concussions/Child Safety
 - c. 15AAA coach has decided not to coach - we are exploring all other options

Feb 1, 2021

1. Tryouts update, need to start looking at volunteers - JA
 - a. 9-11 will be March 20th and 21st, 12-14 will be March 27th and 28th
 - b. Looking for 6 coaches to score, GY is handling with Hank
 - c. Joe will work with John to start assigning roles from coaches list for volunteers
 - d. Rich is on top of equipment once we let him know what we need
 - e. GY to inquire with Blizzard about renting a weeknight for make-ups
2. Hosting a Gopher State playoff championship game? - JE
 - a. Not interested (maybe next year)
3. Opening up registration - MA
 - a. SE is way behind, backed-up with high volume
 - b. North Star and Senior League are ready to go
 - c. President's letter needs to be updated
 - d. Michelle will release once SE gets them prepped
 - e. Tryout weekend age assignments will be announced when registration opens
4. Review quote for mats or turf - RJ
 - a. Can we afford to turf the cages?
 - b. Need to understand the warranty and life expectancy
 - c. Need to make sure we can handle install on own - Blair to ask Abbey Carpet and softball association
 - d. Current budget for field improvements is \$10,600, just shy of most expensive total
5. Blizzard sessions next steps - JE
 - a. Four dates left - 3 in February, one on March 14th
 - b. Proceed with two more bundles of two weeks each
 - c. Registration open by Feb 5th.

Jan 18, 2021

1. In-house jersey design - MG
 - a. Sticking with design from last year, aiming for no left over inventory this year
2. Budget approval and setting of registration fees/start date - RA
 - a. 2021 budget has been approved by unanimous vote
 - b. No changes to registration fees in 2021 - keep same rates as 2020
 - c. Michelle to start working on setting up registration - goal is to be live February 1st.
3. Planning for rest of Blizzard training
 - a. Opening night went well - transitions went well, people followed the rules
 - b. Could potentially make it 50 minutes per session
 - c. There will be four sessions remaining after Super Bowl Sunday
 - d. Reconvene on Feb 1st to discuss plans for remaining four sessions
4. Field improvements update - JE
 - a. Confirmed enough money to do all 6 bench coverings at Babe - rest of the city's budget will be spent on irrigation improvements.
 - b. Confirmed that there are bleachers in storage that can replace the ones at Babe 1.
 - c. What to do with our funds? Mats? Turf? Fence Piping?

1. Rich will continue to seek pricing on turf, Nate Kolb can get us access to a forklift
- d. What about Township (Polar)? - Joe to check on that (dugout covers? Batting cage nets? Turf?)
 1. Windscreens up for at least one of the fields?
5. Sponsorship review - JE
 - a. Requested space for 12 4x6 banners
 - b. Trying to avoid the formal variance process with the city council

Jan 4, 2021

1. Apparel vendor update/timing - Melinda
 - a. 2nd jersey option review - confirmed by board, Melinda moving forward
 - b. Champro pants same price from Hisdahls as last year
 - c. North Star will order their pants online through Hisdahls
 - d. Hisdahls will also do in-house t-shirts
 1. Will we be changing the design this year? Melinda to come back at next meeting
 - e. Tournament t-shirt? Do we want our vendor to plan to take orders? Would need to know by end of March.
2. Blizzard session planning - Joe/Greg
 - e. Starting with January bundles, must register for 3 sessions, keep pods in tact
 - f. 3rd graders through 8th graders
 - g. No parents
 - h. Masks are mandatory
 - i. Will gauge level of interest and any changing guidelines prior to planning February and beyond
3. Tourney update - Bill
 - e. Not including WBL teams, we have 3 entrants in 14AAA, 1 in 14AA, and 4 in 13AAA.
 - f. GSTC awards will be posted at the end of the day Friday 1/8. Anticipated uptick in registrations once we know.
 - g. ER rules have been edited to fit our tournament. They can be tweaked as we see fit. Need to decide on pitching rules (we have time).
 - h. Curious if any other checks have come in. Last I heard only Woodbury had paid.
4. Miscellaneous (sponsors, field improvements, concessions) - Joe
 - e. Ideas for field improvements:
 1. Bleachers at Babe 1 - need replacement
 2. Windscreens need to be put up on Polar 4
 3. Mats for the batting cages
 4. Polar dugout covers - for tournament
 5. Portable fence for Babe 3?
 - b. Sponsors - should we go after TCO for jerseys? Or Signature? Joe/Melinda will check
 - c. Need a concessions coordinator
5. Financial review and 2021 budget approval next meeting - Jan 18th.