

**Hibbing Youth Baseball Board
Board Meeting
6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10
Barr Engineering Conference Room**

1. Called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Roll call
 - a. Absent - Tim Zubich
 - b. Present - Brian Stavnes, Chad Nickila, Luke Heaton, Jim Thune, Dave Brust, Andy Fisher, Jared Lubben, Pat Bolden, Chris Zubich, Tony Potter
3. Public Forum - No one was present.
4. Finance Report - Unanimously approved paying registration fees for 9U and 11U teams to participate in the Proctor tourney June 28-30 and for 9U, 11U and 14U teams to participate in the Cloquet tourney July 19-21
5. Old business
 - a. Grant committee update - Information is being gathered and the grant writing process has begun with various different grants being eyed.
 - b. Rock Ridge Youth Baseball partnership - A motion was made by Andy Fisher, seconded by Jared Lubben and unanimously approved to decline Rock Ridge's proposal for a joint league for the 2024 season. The board is open to scheduling some preseason scrimmages with Rock Ridge.
6. New business
 - a. Registration
 - i. Set dates & location - Registration was tentatively set for:
 1. 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, and 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13
 2. Location is TBD
 - ii. Set fees - No increase
 - iii. Raffle tickets - No increase
 1. A motion was made by Andy Fisher, seconded by Dave Brust and unanimously approved to set the deadline for turning in raffle tickets as July 1, 2024, with the drawing to be held July 25, 2024.
 - b. Dibs/volunteer requirements - A motion was made by Pat Bolden, seconded by Andy Fisher and unanimously approved to require both Minor League and Little League parents to complete a minimum of 2 hours of volunteering per kid during the 2024 season. Parents of those respective leagues will be charged an additional \$50 at time of

registration, which will be refunded at the end of season contingent upon completing the required volunteer hours. Travel parents are also responsible for volunteering during home tourneys. Volunteer hours will be tracked using Dibs on the Sports Engine website.

- c. Discuss team structure for ML & LL teams - The board is working on a plan to create equal teams at both levels, which would include reforming teams at the Little League level on an annual basis. The board is eyeing a grant to cover the cost of purchasing permanent uniforms that would allow player evaluations, in replace of tryouts, to take place later in the spring, potentially outdoors. All players at the Minor League and Little League levels would be required to participate in player evals. A committee featuring coaches and possibly board members and/or other baseball-minded individuals in the community is being discussed. That committee would be responsible for evaluating players and forming teams.
 - d. Home travel tournaments - A motion by Pat Bolden was seconded by Jim Thune and approved by an 8 to 1 vote to host 9U and 10U tourneys June 14-16, a 14U tourney June 21-23, and 11U and 12U tourneys July 26-28. Andy Fisher cast the dissenting vote due to concerns with securing umpires and enough help to run quality tournaments. Both Tim Zubich and Chris Zubich were absent for the vote.
7. Set next meeting - 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 7, at Barr Engineering
- a. Added to next meeting's agenda:
 - i. Setting pay rates for concession manager and field maintenance staff
 - ii. Discussing increases to umpire pay rates
8. Adjourned at 8:08 p.m.