

# Bloomington Fastpitch Association

## Board of Directors

### Meeting Minutes – September 9th, 2013

#### I. Call to Order

Karen Johnson called to order the regular meeting of the Bloomington Fastpitch Association Board of Directors at 7:06PM on Monday September 9th, 2013 at the Bloomington Center for the Arts, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN.

#### II. Attendance

The following persons were present:

Board Members: Karen Johnson, Cathy Currier, Mike Kopischke, Melissa Walter, Craig Johnson, Bob Christiansen, Grant Effertz, Carol Effertz, and Jim Leicht

Non-board Member: Amy Christiansen, Gary Hanson, Bill Pearson, Chris Anderson, Jeff Burton, Lisa Greely. And Mary Tracy

#### III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Motion made by Karen Johnson and seconded by Melissa Walter that we approve the minutes from August 5th, 2013. MOTION PASSED.

#### IV. Old Business – Old

- Heritage Days
  - The parade falls on the same day as the 10U & 12U Fall State Qualifiers; this is a majority of our girls marching in the parade.
  - Motion made to cancel BFA's participation in the parade by Amy, seconded by Grant Effertz. MOTION PASSED. Melissa will contact Heritage Days coordinator to let them know.
- Open Board Positions-Nomination Status
  - There are 6 board vacancies, Treasurer, Facilities Manager, Player Development, Marketing, Fundraising, and Tournament Director.
  - We have the following interested; Chris Anderson-Treasurer, Mark Pearson and Jane Eastlund-Facilities Manager, Gary Hanson- Marketing, Tony Acketz-Fundraising. Still need someone for Tournament director.
  - Player Development; May be helpful to make a 2 year position and split into 2-3 people with the board position being administrative.
- Spirit Wear Review(committee)
  - Has not really had much time to meet, will reconvene after fall ball.
- BFA Dome Ball
  - The numbers for interest are as follows: 12U-14 (13 are Bloomington girls and 1 is a non-Bloomington girl), 14U-4, 16U-1.
  - We have enough for a 12U team with 6 pitchers and 6 catchers. Limit to 13 on team and use any extra as on-call sub. Amy will coach the team.

#### V. New Business

- Treasurer Report
  - Approximately \$20,000-\$25,000 in the account with no outstanding payments.
  - NAFA Tournament- Net was \$1,200 actual was \$1,400. We did make up some of the loss from the BASH.
- 12U Fall State Award
  - BFA has been awarded the opportunity to host the 12U fall state tournament on Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup>. BFA will receive \$100.00 per team entered. We will also have the 8U fall state that day at Dred also.
  - We will have concessions in the wheel as well as on field 3. Karen will get committee together to discuss plan.
  - Will reach out to BFA families to volunteer, also high school students that are in need of community service hours. We will only ask for paid help after exhausting volunteers.
- Amy Hewitt Email

- There was an email that went out from Amy regarding a new premier league PGF that is looking for teams to join.
- Bill Pearson with MMFL was present and inquired as to BFA's position with respect to PGF. .
- Board assured Bill that Amy acted on her own and BFA is not backing the PGF. BFA had no prior knowledge of Amy's plans with PGF or of the subject email. Amy Huett's Board position expired October 2012. BFA ongoing relationship with Amy is limited to Windmill Factory as 1 of 2 businesses that BFA uses to offer pitching clinics, and as an approved pitching coach for partial reimbursement of private lessons.
- Action Items: (1) Karen, Cathy, Mike meet with Amy to make it clear that BFA will not attend the PGF information meeting, and if the meeting intent is to seek Association commitments to PGF that BFA's position is to remain with MMFL. (2)\_Follow up with Bill Pearson early October after Fall State Tournaments completed.
- BFA Mission Review / Team Formation
  - There was general discussion of BFA's Mission Statement, Player Handbook Goals and Objectives and order of priority of same. There was general consensus that BFA remains aligned with the Mission Statement in our Bylaws. ,
  - It was also agreed we need to maintain a consistent evaluation and team selection process that is documented and effectively communicated to membership. There was some discussion but no decision or agreement upon whether Fall team selections should equal distribution versus Summer A/B/C team selections. All agreed that how teams will be formed for each Season needs to be finalized, communicated to parents/players before and at registration, and consistently adhered to from year to year.
  - Discussed 12U 2013 teams; Sufficient players for 4 teams, too many for 3 teams but only enough pitching catching to properly support 3 teams. What implications does this have to age groups BFA market to for new players, how does this impact team formation, does it mean we need to cut/turn away players if not enough pitching/catching, does it mean we planning tournament participation to move pitchers/catchers between teams for tournaments, using league games to support development of lower level team pitching. If BFA determines lack of pitching/catching requires cuts, at what age level is BFA willing to make cuts? Do we start to cut at 12's and/or 14's?
  - If top 10 girls are pitchers/catchers how do we split? Do we form teams around pitchers and catchers or allow pitchers/catchers to choose another position to "make the A team" potentially leaving other teams lacking in these key positions. Need at least 2 pitchers/catchers per team, to make sure lead pitcher/catcher has back up and to make sure pitchers/catchers are developed to learn other positions as better overall players not just pitcher or catcher
  - Mark Flugstad noted that several years ago BFA did a single year Birth year team and it worked well. Mark suggested that if registration numbers allowed this again BFA might reconsider forming teams by single birth year for 10's and 12's and have retain try outs at 14's.
  - A committee was formed of Mike K, Amy C, Brad C, and Jeff B to do some research from other associations to help with ideas on how to determine a better way to form teams and the policies they have on team selection.
  - A committee was also formed to create a drill/training program that all levels will use; this will ensure all girls are learning the same drills. Members are; Amy C, Jeff B, and Tony A.
- BFA Clutch Bloomington Player definition(if time allows)
  - We will discuss at a future meeting. The definition is not an immediate issue for resolution since the next Clutch registration is July 2014..

## VI. Directors Reports

- President's Report: Karen Johnson
- Vice President's Report: Cathy Currier
- Treasurer's Report: Mike Kopischke
- Secretary's Report: Melissa Walter
- Commissioner's Report: Craig Johnson
- Facilities Coordinator: Bob Christiansen
- Communications Director: Grant Effertz
- Member Services & Membership Report: Carol Effertz
- Marketing Director Report: OPEN
- Player Development: Jim Leicht
- Tournament Director: Brad Currier

VII. Open Comments

- Fall Coaches evaluations; Karen, Amy, and Cathy will get them distributed. Same format as summer one for Parent, one for Player.

VIII. Adjournment

Karen adjourned the meeting at 9:18p.m.

The next meeting will be Monday October 7th at 7:00 p.m. Bloomington Center for the Arts, Dakota Room.

Minutes submitted by: Melissa Walter

Minutes approved by: Karen Johnson