

Farmington Girls Fastpitch Association

Board of Directors Meeting- Open Session

November 21st - Celts – Farmington MN – 6pm

Board Members in Attendance:

Christine Schweich – President
Eric McAbee- Vice President
Gretchen Lilja – Secretary
Lindsey Schepers- Treasurer
Chad Redman – Travel Director
Tamara Barum- Fundraising
Mika Kieffer - In House
Katelyn Genzler – Concessions
Neena Wilcox- Program Development
Sara Perkinson- Frenzy Tournament Director
Meredith Peine - Frenzy Tournament Assistant
Kacie Robinson – Communications

Not in attendance:

Kristina Young – Assistant Concessions - no updates
Robin Leonard- Volunteer Director- no updates
Jeff Buck- Equipment Director- no updates
Tara Lemke – Apparel- no updates
Katie Melby – Fields and Facilities

I. Call to Order- Chris

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting(s): October 17 th , 2021

- Sara made a motion to approve October minutes, Lindsey seconded motion- board voted, no opposition, minutes approved.

III. Open Issues

a) Parent Meeting – Feb 24 th, 6-7 BMS Auditorium (confirmed)

- Discussion surrounding tech needs, Katie will try and find a student to help with tech needs the night of the parent meeting. Eric and Chad to work on powerpoint for the meeting. Will review content at future meetings.

b) Recap of MN Softball Year End Meeting

Chris and Chad went to meeting- updates:

- Rule changes (USA SB):
 - Teams are allowed to add an extra player or 2 (11th player) for USA nationals however that player can only bat.
 - Rule 6A sec.3 K- All ages, pitchers no longer need to drag pivot foot. Applicable for all league games and local tournaments

- Nationals:

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

▶ Monsta Championships

- ▶ 8U at Minnetonka, Minnesota on July 23-24.
- ▶ 10U at Bloomington, Minnesota on July 21-24.
- ▶ 12U at Shoreview, Minnesota on August 4-7.
- ▶ 14U at St. Louis Park, Minnesota on August 4-7.

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▶ USA Softball A Nationals

- ▶ 10-Under A at North Mankato, Minnesota on July 28-31.
- ▶ 12-Under A at Camarillo, California on July 19-24.
- ▶ 14-Under A at Evansville, Indiana on July 19-24.
- ▶ 16-Under A at Orlando, Florida on July 18-23.

- Discussion surrounding what nights 16U should be played on. Goal would be to do the opposite of 14U (tues/thurs) so ideally mon/wed. Discussion surrounding church conflicts on wed night.
- Drop third strike rule- 10U C, wanting to get rid of the drop third strike rule. This will get decided at the next tri county league meeting. Board collectively in favor of the change.
- Looking at an umpire raise \$48/game, umps have to be 16yrs or older. May impact tournament dues
- 12A, combining big west and tri-county

c) 12U White Team

- No huge updates, other teams haven't done tryouts yet- won't know until early 2022.
1. Next year- do we hold 12U tryouts in the spring for the 2023 season. Discussion surrounding the rationale for when we held tryouts (ability for teams to do winter tournaments and skill work together) and what we have learned from this year's tryouts. Discussion surrounding advertising for FGFA and the community EXPO.

IV. New Business

a) 8U/10U Tryouts

- Sat March 5th, reserved for the entire day at BMS. Open registration early January, no later than the second week. Registration should include jerseys (fee was incorrect on last one), specialty positions, and fundraiser opt-out. Discussion surrounding fundraising, and including that on registration. Will keep as is and allow parents the ability to opt in later.
- Save the dates should go out soon to preemptively avoid conflicts with hockey and dance. Will make arrangements for make-ups.

b) Handbook (Review team placement criteria)

- Discussion surrounding tryout player scores. Girls are placed on the teams based on overall tryout player score. Reviewed handbook verbiage from the travel section and the topic of the top 6 players being a lock on the orange team. Discussed the difficulties of having those top 6 players locked when forming multiple teams. Discussed the history of the rule and how it has been used over time. Also discussed, the coach pick rules and the implications. Discussed overall goal of fulfilling teams and ensuring all teams have ample players. Discussed the confusion surrounding verbiage in parts of section 10 of the handbook.
- Board will individually review section 10, and re-discuss at the December meeting. Discussed the differences between baseball tryouts and softball tryouts, and the goal of FGFA to be transparent regarding team placement.
 - https://cdn4.sportngin.com/attachments/document/b91a-1918596/Approved_FGFA_Operations_Handbook_rev.9_22_2019.pdf#_ga=2.163085500.1653071583.1634497750-1120637598.1621596391

V. Directors Reports

Katie (Field/facilities) Tryouts, parents meeting, 2 HS fields for frenzy on 6/4 and 6/5

Jeff (Equipment)- Field expenses are increasing due to freight and shipping costs. Chad and Jeff to work on getting necessities figured out prior to prices increasing after the beginning of the year.

Tara (Apparel)- No updates

Robin (Volunteer)- No updates

Chad (Travel program)- proceeding with securing everything for tryouts, dates, evaluators, and assistants.

Mika (In-House Program)- No updates

Eric (Vice President)- Turkey Trot tournament- 14U black (Neena confirmed payment received) and 14U orange playing per Chris and scheduled. 14 orange not confirmed yet per Neena, Sara will reach out to 14U orange coach to make sure they are aware there are funds available to use. Eric will work on coach background checks in Dec to ensure.

Meredith (Frenzy assistant)- no updates

Tamara (Fundraising)- Working on getting fundraising cards set up. Working on prep for a parent's night fundraiser. Either do it before tryouts, or in between tryouts and team announcements.

Katelyn (Concessions)- All food/drinks are out of storage, working with Sara and basketball for getting paid for the products. Discussion around tablets, electronic payments and venmo. Goal to use venmo for purchasing at tournaments. Have purchasers show venmo completion prior to getting food. working on using excel for inventory.

Sara (Frenzy Director)- tournament dates are set, will work with Kacie re registration in the tourney machine application. Will need to have selection options for A,B,C levels included in the registration form. Will need to re-discuss pricing for the tournament.

Lindsey-(Treasurer)- Current Balance **\$81,423.17**

Working on getting the PO box unlocked with the post office. 1090 needed for insurance, should we have a tax guy do that vs Lindsey? Chris and Lindsey to work on that. Empire is squared away.

Neena (program development) Off season clinics going well, 2 hitting sessions (3 weeks) 2 pitching sessions (6 weeks) 10 players in each session.

Pitching costs \$1680 (instructor fee)

Registrations \$1600

Program paid \$80 total

Hitting costs \$840 (instructor fee)

Registrations \$800

Program paid \$40 total

Overall cost to program \$120

- Having a hard time finding a catcher to come in for future clinics- possibly force academy? Another pitching clinic set up for Jan. working on getting hitting squared away. Will open up registration to the people who were on the waitlist for upcoming clinics and then open to association.
- Also thinking about having older (past FGFA) catchers work with younger catchers during an open gym. Mostly seeing 8U and 10U enrollment in clinics.
- Proposed coaches playbook which provides resources to empower coaches, store important contact information and provide practice drills, and training ideas. Chad requests that we add in the guide for the technology piece that is new to MN softball this year.
Will plan to include 6U, 8U, 10U for full guides, abbreviated for 12U, 14U, 16U.
 - **Chris made a motion for \$300 to be allotted for the creation of these binders. Eric seconded motion, board voted, no opposition and motion was approved.**

Gretchen (Secretary)- September min meetings, will leave as is an not push to website due to lack of content.

Kacie (Communications) - updating website, will have Chad and Chris review content. Will work on registration for Jan. Will use last year's registration as a template for this year.

Chris (President)- Any current board member wanting to step into the role of president come September 2022, it would be helpful to work alongside Chris for the next upcoming months. Discussion regarding training.

VI. Call to close

Neena made a motion to end the meeting, Sara seconded the motion, all voted, no opposition and the meeting concluded.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

📅 December 19 th , 2021, 6PM @ Celts (NEED CONFRIMATION)

📅 January 23 rd , 2022, 6PM @ Celts (NEED CONFRIMATION)

📅 February 20 th , 2022, 6PM @ Celts (NEED CONFRIMATION)