

OSA Board Meeting
November 8, 2022

Attendees:

Ryan Hartneck
Cami Dahlstrom
Erika Kastamo
Brandon Oslund
Anne Hess
Davida Suiter
Jamie Bishop
Lindsey Stevens

Not in attendance:

Toby Tyler
Brette Esterbrooks
Amy Kubista
Brandon Schliinz

Davida motions to approve prior meeting minutes, Brandon O seconds.. All in favor-Approved

Toby: Finances

Toby is absent from the meeting. There is no new finance information that is discussed. There is a new billing and scheduling coordinator at Orono. Amy is in contact and there might be a change to billing requiring us to pay in advance for items/reservations.

Cami: Equipment

- Twins grant due 11/14
- We need to order a lot of equipment. Goal is \$5,000 worth of equipment to potentially get covered by the grant. Can potentially submit previous receipts (balls- \$1755). There is discussion on previous equipment needs. It has been determined we need a variety of needs including more mesh bags, larger size catcher helmets, net bags, traveling L screens, batter box templates, mini wiffle balls, stakes, mallets, rubber wiffle balls, chalk string, etc. Coaches would like to purchase additional pitching rubbers to use in pregame and practices. We need to purchase new catching helmets- 2 per team/22 total. Ballpark \$150 each- We are looking at a wholesale option.
- Erika will reach out to baseball and ask about purchasing a new chalker with the reserved bank account funds.
- Cami requests a personal pitching machine. There is discussion about how OSA has two pitching machines, but there is a discrepancy about where they are stored.
- Desire to use Veterans field as a home field for 12/14U M-TH. Joint venture on upkeep. There are major concerns about the safety of the field. Potholes/hazards in infield and outfield.
- Cami wants to apply for two additional grants. Details of each grant are listed below

- Youth Coaching Grant- specifically to pay a coach you do not have on staff. Can't apply till January.
- Fields for Kids- We have never applied before. Will give us up to \$15,000 if we can find matching funds. We could match it ourselves or find multiple donors. Can't apply till January. Can use funds for construction of the fields. Can not be used for anything that is non-essential. Could use it to fix Rainbow field and Veterans field. Could be used to fix up DC fields 2 and 3.
- Anne's dad and Cami are on the Park Board in Maple Plain. There is an influx of funds and they want to move forward on fields.
- Anne makes a motion to spend \$5,000 on equipment. Cami seconds the motion. We want to purchase essentials, and if we get the grant go back to the drawing board about spending more.
- Cami has permission to seek out additional grants and apply for them. Cami is going to add equipment to the wish list. There is talk about creating a Google Folder or using Slack to save documents.

Ryan: Off Season Player Development

- Hit Dawg- Fall programs are up and running and enrollment is decent. To recap- 10U advanced seems lighter in registration.
- Try Softball Night- Thursday February 23rd Courts 4 and 5 reserved from 6-8. Event is from 6:30 to 8. Potentially using high school and 14U players. Used softball equipment donation.
- Winter Clinics- Subcommittee meetings 10/28

Focus/Mission- Age specific player development. Practice plan will be specific to each age group. Continue to build relationships with high school players and programs. Coach development and recruitment. Player challenge engagement.

Jamie- Communication

Brandon- Registration

Brandon S./Ryan- Equipment - store equipment at dome.

David- Check in Table- big space- formed her own subcommittee to help her manage the check in table. Apparel for sale, player challenge, leaderboard, promote the spring season.

Brandon S- Trying to get sponsorship money, pay the high school players

Age Levels- Welcome all travel players.

Programming still TBD- Dedicated coaches per each grade level. Each coach has a "team" of coaches with HS girls, inexperienced coaches to support them. Coaches develop an individual practice plan and rotate every 25 minutes.

Registration so we can anticipate numbers and properly plan.

Cost- \$20/week. Paid half \$1895

David presents an equipment repurpose pilot program. She presents the logistics of the why, how, marking, and distribution.

Brandon O: Travel Program Updates

- Fall MN meeting recap- 70% of kids quit youth sports by age 13 because they stop having fun. How can we get parents and coaches on the page and make it fun for kids?

A variety of different parent education programs were mentioned- Iceberg education, PCA- Parent Coaches Alliance, Youth First

- Add parent education to the beginning of the season travel meeting. Perhaps split the meeting between a parent meeting and a meet your team/coach night. Is it possible to talk to parents during tryouts? Add to January meeting agenda.
- USA Softball Nations 10/12/possibly 14U- Rules discussion- Fall ball rules need to be more clear. Whatever age they are going to play in the spring- that is the age level they need to play in the fall. Drop third strike conversation at 10U C. Teams are not registering their teams appropriately. Brandon joined the competition committee to streamline the organizational process, create consistency, and hold organizations accountable for registering appropriately.

David: REC

- Postcard send first week of January- Lindsey Stevens
- Buy Schumann Directory PreK-5th graders. Electronic Copy- filtered girls, class, address. Contact Debbie to find out how to purchase.
- David presents a variety of changes to the REC program. She has edited the program summary documents to reflect these changes. There is a consensus we will move from PWYSA to MN softball for management of our REC programs. REC programs will now start and stop at the same time as travel ball, wear the same uniforms. There will be no tryouts, and weather impacted practices will not be rescheduled. There will be no tournaments. REC players can play up and sub in tournaments. This change will allow us to streamline communication.

Erika: Fees, Fall Ball Survey Results, Upcoming Dates, Misc,

- Anne motions to keep the finances/fees the same for the 2023 season. Ryan seconds the motion- all in favor- approved.
- Survey Results- Majority of feedback was positive. There was talk on the difference between spring and fall season, playing time and positional rotation, and communication detailing expectations prior to the season. 12U fall team formation needs to be defined. How can we increase survey participation? How can we send a written communication prior to the season?
- Community Ed Ad Orono Softball Monday January 30th
- Website needs to be updated prior to winter communication
- Uniforms by tryout dates- Anne
- Softball pre tryouts 2/26 5-8 Dome
- Softball tryouts 3/5 3-8 Dome
- Add to upcoming Agendas- Dec/Jan- Adult gathering or fundraiser Jan/Feb agenda- How many teams, ABC or Balanced?
- December meeting 12/13
- Ryan brings up Hit Dawg space in April- Need to get her dates, check pricing, determine age level
- Social Media- Traveling pictures, Softball Strong, and Winter Season Postings

Meeting is adjourned.