

Dugout Club Meeting
June 1, 2021

Minutes approval (Bruce, Teri)

- Approve via email after the meeting.

Budget review and financial update (Bruce, Laurie, all)

- Laurie provided an income and expenses overview, and we are in good shape.
- We are also in good shape for 2021-22 season.

High school season review with an eye to the playoffs for varsity (Ted)

- Coach Erickson shout out to the Dugout Club -- team has been awesome. Far exceeded gameday experience. People contacting him from other organizations (youth, alumni), drawing people out.
- Only negative – one complaint from a neighbor that the speaker is too loud. We are within ordinances so not a major issue.
- Huge difference between night vs. 4:30 w/ no announcer.
- We are not going to have to pay gate fee for section games. MSHSL proposes gate fee. School will likely pay the \$75 site manager fee. If not, the Dugout Club will cover.
- **Bruce:** Dr. Alan Goracke from Hope for the Community wants a connection to the rest of the school. He's passionate about what he does. He has energy. Hopes to build a deeper relationship.

Summer ball preview including VFW tournament (Al, invited guests Coach Webb and Coach Hayek)

- Al traveling for work, left questions with Bruce.
 - o Need volunteers for VFW Tournament. Teri will follow up with Al to see if he wants us to recruit volunteers.
 - o Rules for pitchers? <https://www.mshsl.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/ba-pitch-count-policy.pdf>
 - o Coon Rapids VFW check come in? (Laurie, Ted – have not seen it.)
 - o Communicate to teams that players are expected to do the field work.
 - o Al looking for schedule template. Sean sent bracket 30 min before meeting.
 - o Fundraiser – end of July. Connect w/ Al afterward.
 - o Mitch Richmond – SBAA fields volunteer from last year.
 - o Ask Al to pull together a meeting of volunteers – we can support.
- Hayek: Need baseballs!! Alumni Kyle Hamby stepped up to coach with Erlandson (15U team). Alex Walz stepping up and helping at VFW team.
- Webb: small practice today eager and excited to go. Game balls – need three dozen right off the bat. Umpire checks. Spoke with Laurie – got a game plan for that. Will research alternatives for umpire checks next year.

Fundraising update (Colleen, Bree)

- Raffle is done. Money in the bank. Prize money is out. Top sales for Varsity and JV available for pick up to give out at end of season party. More came in than planned. Have a lot of learnings.
- VFW meeting tonight - made our request.
 - o Thanked them for helping with game day experience.
 - o At meeting - four from color guard and Jesse Davies.
 - o Asked them for \$5,000 with itemized list. No precedent – will appreciate anything.

- Colleen sending 501c3 form.
- Color guard will be at the game tomorrow.
- They did ask a few questions. Didn't know their name was on anything. Could we help with volunteer activities? Consider their location for banquets. Bring it up for future. May have our booster meetings there.
- Impressed that all the boys were out there with hands over hearts. You guys are teaching them well.
- Colleen blowing up a picture from one of the pre-game ceremonies. Would be good for a couple of players go present.
- Bree waiting for a couple of checks – few hundred dollars.

Events update (Sarah, Dana)

- Sarah busy month and a half. Documentation – needs a little clean-up. Budgets, vision build for the future – extra touches and twists.
- End of season events – JV/9th/10th ... experiment was to do separate events vs. on banquet. Early signs are that it went well. Mary Plankers said it was a lot of fun. Will type up notes and save.
- Webb – great, guys had a blast playing whiffle ball. Pizza from toppers, laughing and joking around. Great end of season gathering.
- All but two players from both teams showed. Charged \$5 per player to cover expenses. A lot of fun and a winner of a way to go.
- We need to continue to partner for donations such as Toppers pizzas and Nothing Bundt Cakes ... went a long way in contributing to the events. Let's see if we can partner in future.
- How are we thanking sponsors and other volunteers such as band director, cheerleading coach, cheer teams, students, Jamie Borden.
- Combined event with Centennial was a hit. Recommend that become an annual event of some kind. Reconnect with Centennial to take some notes.
- Banquet for Varsity/JV... things look in good shape. Tent and yard games at Majestic Oaks. Casual attire. Coach work on program. We can help carry that through. We know what vision is... which is good.
- Dana – need to have formal approval for awards to be paid by Dugout Club. Wasn't good record of how handled in the past. Awards for all five teams vs just JV/Varsity – parents paying for awards for other teams. Board approved to pay \$250 for awards.
- Senior night – junior families contributed \$20 each... we have some money left over and budget we didn't use. Close to \$200 left.
- Email ready to go to JV/varsity families to announce tickets going on sale – quick turnaround. Coaches meals, manager all covered.
- Teri and Bree connect on patches.

Elections (Bruce)

Great appreciation to Bruce and Sean.

Teri Charest - President

Bree Stuflick - VP

Dana Fredrick - Secretary

Laurie Curnow – Treasurer

Some may be interim while we continue to recruit parents of younger players.

Directors continue in the roles for now (events, fundraising and summer ball).

Consider new roles ... volunteer coordinator, communication coordinator (share w/ president).
Consider sub committees under the directors, underclassmen parents.
Fall freshmen families
Targeted outreach to some of the families. (Teri will send out list to the board.)

Adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Dugout Club Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2021

Fundraising (Colleen)

- Raffle – winding down. Guessing \$12,000 net gain once prizes are paid out. Final date to turn in is May 19. Lots of learnings for next year -- Shorter sale (4 weeks). Can still hold off on drawing until later but shorten selling period. Learned raffle tickets are easy to sell. Sophomores completed a short feedback form – all comments positive. People aren't using the Venmo address much. Don't forget to hit up teachers!
- Jersey Mike's May 20 (Thursday to Sunday) 50% goes back to club.
- Check from Chipotle \$240.

Finances (Laurie)

- Bank balance – including anticipated expenses -- \$17,000. Paid VFW/Legion fees. Deposits -- \$800 Venmo transfer, dining fundraiser check, raffle check. Upcoming expenses -- \$1,200 scoreboard repair, \$600 batting cage expense. Soderville check came in \$1,000... will go back out w/ batting cage. Revenue streams – raffle, summer registrations. Laurie developing a template to use budget and forecasting tools. Need to pay coaches – spring at end of HS season, then summer coaches.

Summer Ball (Al)

- Minnesota Sports Federation – state tournament is coming back to Ham Lake. Soderville doesn't have the volunteers. If we wanted to run the show... July 23-25. Concessions will be open. Expecting 35-40 teams. Minimum \$4,000 to Dugout Club.
- Blaine VFW tournament has 12 teams. Wayzata has committed. Umpires set. Will need volunteers, tournament director. Need to decide if we want concessions.
- VFW – Alexandria tournament, blocked rooms.
- Legion – June 18-20 in Alexandria. Have 18 rooms at Americinn, 6 more in Arrowood.
- How teams are formed – Legion team is incoming seniors and a few younger kids playing with Varsity. If kid was playing in college but no summer team – would let that player. Will encourage to go play somewhere else if possible... continue to grow. VFW incoming Juniors. The 15Us are incoming sophomores, and as of now not enough numbers for two teams.
- Registration for Summer Baseball. Request for rosters for tournaments we're in -- will need to put it in American legion website. VFW not sure when roster dates are due. Webb's are due in 30 days to be official. Jersey numbers, emails, etc.
- Estimate sub-dyed \$15 per jersey or full dye \$30 per jersey. (Bree's contact)
- Bruce/Al will purchase insurance for tournament.

Events

- Community/alumni/veterans night. Centennial service project together next year. Promotion starting. Cane's night May 10.
- Teacher Appreciation – May 6 at 4:30 p.m. Created invitations. "Jersey" w/ kids' numbers. Health Evolution is the sponsor. VFW honor guard and singer. Tweet out that we're doing the Teacher Appreciation tomorrow.
- Senior night – raffle.
- End of Season Party – JV/Varsity (June 13).
- Youth Night – pictures.

Succession planning

- New officers elected in June meeting. Bruce and Sean have seniors in the program. They are not coming back. Can help with transition. Everyone up for renegotiation.
- Promote next meeting as very important.

Streaming

- Hotspot for sale (\$200/unit). Plus, Verizon plan. Game Changer is what is used for official stats. Options out there of things to add. Can hook up microphone. Full broadcast w/out sound. If teams are playing music, will be muted on FB.

Budget

- Fiscal year ends in September.
- Let's make a budget. Laurie has templates. Concrete categories. Decide if we should use QuickBooks going forward or work with bank software.

Next meeting: June 1, 2021 at 8 p.m.

Meeting adjourned: 9:50 p.m.

DUGOUT CLUB
Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2021

ATTENDEES

Combined parent, board meeting. Board members in attendance: Bruce Dahlman, Sean O'Brien, Teri Charest, Sarah Anderson, Dana Frederick, Bree Stuflick, Colleen Brazier, Al Stauffacher; Coach Ted Erickson.

AGENDA

- Welcome (Bruce)
- Approval of March minutes (Teri)
- Season kickoff (Bruce)
- Raffle (Colleen)
- Events, volunteer needs (Sarah, Dana)
- Apparel store (Bree)
- Open treasurer position (Bruce)

- Player packs (Teri)
- Summer baseball update (Al)
- Financial update (Bruce, Sean)
- Media update (Teri)
- Next meeting (Bruce)

Raffle

- Colleen went over instructions – players sell 20 tickets by May 19. Drawing will be May 20. Cash prizes - \$500 top prize. Tickets and information distributed with player packs.

Events

- Sarah and Dana went over the schedule for special events for the season, starting with Youth Night on April 27. Volunteers needed.

Apparel store

- Apparel store closes on Sunday. Items will ship for delivery during the season.

Treasurer

- Treasurer position is open. Two candidates emerged. Laurie Curnow was elected interim treasurer with Bree Stuflick assisting.

Player packs

- Supplements uniform items provided by the school. Packs cost \$115, will be distributed on Friday at the BBC.

Financial update

- Finances are in good shape. Will be budgeting out remaining expenses and income for the summer. Sean and Bruce now on the account. Bruce has files, binders of information to pass along to the next treasurer.
- Club approved \$591 to round-out cost of new batting cages (in addition to SBAA donation) and \$390 for microphone and speakers.

Media update

- Expecting a story on WCCO-TV and pitching the local newspaper on the unique situation of Coach Erickson's inaugural year delayed by COVID. Captain Tanner Vogel also interviewed. Good visibility for the program.

Reference: see slides on BlaineBaseball.org.

Blaine Dugout Club – Minutes
March 1, 2021

Board members present: Bruce Dahlman, Sean O'Brien, Teri Charest, Dana Fredrick, Sarah Anderson, Colleen Brazier, Al Stauffacher, Teri Charest, Bree Stuflick. **Absent:** Brandy Zenk.

Guests: Mary Plankers

AGENDA

Approval of minutes
Parent meeting planning
Insurance (Bruce, Sean, Sarah)
VFW tournament update
Fundraising update
Events planning
Other

Minutes

February minutes approved, Bruce recommended a few edits.

Parent meeting

- Coach Erickson will share as much as he knows.
- Bruce moderator to surface incoming questions.
- Updating slides now – shared document on Google Drive. Deadline for board to update is end of day Monday, March 8.
- Ted updating QR code/Google survey to capture contact information, players' sizes, volunteer sign-up, note employers for all guardians.

Insurance

- Coverage: general liability, directors and officers, teams, tournament, shed.
- Include coverage in VFW Tournament registration - \$475 registration.
- **Board approved motion to proceed with completing insurance applications.**

VFW tournament

- SLP, Blaine VFW, Blaine 15U, Owatonna and Roseville currently signed up.
- Hotel arrangements in progress with sponsor TC Gateway.

Fundraising

- Connected with Joel Frank at the VFW. Will send schedule for them to send color guard evening games easier. Will join VFW meeting the last Tuesday in March.
- Raffle ticket. Having each boy sell two books is reasonable (\$200). Order 3,000 tickets.
- Jersey Mike's in coordination with our sponsored events nights. They give us the code – blast on social media Thursday through Sunday.
- Opening a fan apparel store again, not to be confused with Player Packs.

Mevo

- Camera purchased.
- There is a donor who has reached out to pay for the camera.

Events

- Speakers – cleaned up the speaker at BBC. No powerful enough for what we need.
- Focusing efforts on theme nights and end of season celebration.

- Youth night – April 27, will contact BATBA, BALL, Soderville. Give-aways.
- Teacher appreciation day – May 6 (afternoon game). Recognition. Thank you note.
- Alumni Night – May 18.
- Senior Night – May 20.
- End of season event – little different, casual. JV/Varsity event; other teams, pizza party.
- Team-building events.

VFW Tournament

- Need freshman and sophomore tournament director.
- Owatonna information.

Summer baseball

- Hotels for Alexandria – July 9-11 (Holiday Inn – VFW, AmericInn – Legion)

Next meeting

- April 7 at 8 p.m.

Adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Blaine Dugout Club – Minutes

February 8, 2021

Board members present: Bruce Dahlman, Sean O'Brien, Brandy Zenk, Teri Charest, Dana Fredrick, Sarah Anderson, Colleen Brazier, Al Stauffacher, Teri Charest, Bree Stuflick.

AGENDA

Approve minutes (All)
 Events update (Sarah, Dana)
 Parents meeting (Ted, Teri)
 Fundraising update (Bree, Colleen)
 Game streaming (Ted)
 Insurance update (Bruce)
 Financial update (Brandy)

January minutes approved.

Events

- Staying flexible not knowing what COVID will do. Should have more direction from Minnesota State High School League on March 8.
- Surveying players, past players, parents and Dugout Club.
- Need to solicit volunteers.
- Creating planning document with checklists and due dates to stay organized.
- Traditional events we want to continue

- **End of season banquet.** Banquets of the past not really the vision for this event. Talked about doing something for JV/Varsity and something different for Soph./Fresh. Recognition and awards. Want player and parent feedback. Will need options for COVID. Big banquet hall gathering - out. Hopefully not virtual.
- **Senior night.** Traditionally hosted by parents of juniors. Ask for volunteers at parent meeting. Dinner after game. Night game – parents before (players probably cannot if they're getting ready for game). Do we want to allocate a night game?
- **April 27 Anoka, May 18 Centennial, May 20 Totino.** Could do theme. They should all have a sponsor. On-field introductions. Announcer. Play music between innings. What are things we can do at every theme night? Youth/Alumni night? Teacher/educator night? Service night – all who served. VFW honor guard.
- **Team building and bonding events** for the team. Community service type things. Park clean-up, Miracle League, have guys go to youth practices. Food shelf. Meals hosted by families after big games. Attend Twins/Saints game together.
- **Parent/player meeting and tournaments.**

Parent meeting

- Google meet – Wednesday, March 10 at 7 p.m.
- Could record the meeting. Live with moderator.
- Send questions to Teri.

Player packs

- Helmets are in. Shirts boxed up. Stickers for helmets. Socks. Belt. Hats.
- Ted will work on cost.

Fundraising

- Raffle. Print tickets. Submit week after teams are made. Can't door to door sales.
- Sponsor for "nights."
- Another apparel sale in the spring.
- Jersey Mike's – Thursday-Sunday – as long as we're mentioned. Easy to order online.
- Toppers – Colleen or Bree follow up with Toppers.

Streaming

- Mevo camera -- \$400 for camera, mount is \$100. One camera mounted to backstop.
- One fish-eyed lens, can create tight shots on a laptop. Would require a student to be there to run the iPad.
- Can do graphic overlays (\$20/mo.) which could include sponsorships.
- Facebook shrinks down quality.
- YouTube live is possible if we can get on a channel with 1,000+ viewers.
- Big for recruiting.
- Would use for summer legion games.

Insurance

- [Francis L. Dean and Associates](#) knows organizations like ours. They suggest liability, insuring directors and officers. Insuring teams and tournament. Ask someone else for shed insurance.
- Workers compensation tending to not needing it. Consultants provide their own.
- Legion – we pay them like we do VFW.

- Team rates based on age of players.
- Tournament insurance paid by tournament fees.
- Benefit -- wherever teams go, they are insured. Important to get our own if we play in non-league affiliation. We can/should opt out for tournaments.
- Can look at equipment program – replacement costs.
- Need to find out what VFW coverage is. Bruce will talk to Coach Webb about VFW.
- Board motioned to approve Bruce securing an estimate.

Financial update

- We have \$4,854 in our account, with no major invoices or checks outstanding.
- Venmo account for the organization? Or use personal Venmo. It would be a good way to handle player packs.

Summer tournament

- Owatonna and Hastings want in they want their spots.

Next meeting

- March 1 at 8 p.m.

Adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Blaine Dugout Club - Minutes

January 7, 2021

Board members present: Bruce Dahlman, Sean O'Brien, Brandy Zenk, Teri Charest, Dana Fredrick, Sarah Anderson, Colleen Brazier, Al Stauffacher, Teri Charest

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes (All)
2. Financial update (Brandy)
3. Pre-season planning (Ted)
4. Fundraising updates (Colleen, Bree)
5. Any clue what a high school season will look like (Ted)
6. Early planning for summer ball (Al)
7. Succession planning (All)
8. Insurance (Bruce, Sarah, Ted, Sean)

Minutes approved.

Financial update -- \$2,400 in account. Another \$800+ coming from the last two fundraisers. One more check coming \$1,200 for field. Paid Sports Engine for year. Summer bills -- VFW/Legion. More info coming from Coach Webb.

Pre-season planning -- No winter clinic this year. Winter strength training is happening.

Season update – arm care and conditioning week starts March 22. Tryouts week March 29. First game would be April 13 at Andover. Things can still change.

Summer season – new tool to promote event. Two teams already paid from last year. Freshmen and sophomore parents needed to help lead. Sean provided templates. MSF has awarded two big tournaments to Ham Lake (13/14U). Soderville does not have enough volunteers. Partnership w/ Blaine Dugout. July 23-25. Aiming for nine fields. VFW/Legion would be done by then, post season during the week.

Baseball would run sections May 31/June 7 with state tournament running week of June 14. VFW June 18-20.

Look to communicate dates January 25.

- Week of March 22 – HS arm care, conditioning week
- Week of March 29 – HS tryouts
- April 13 – HS first game
- May 31 – HS sections start
- June 14 – HS State Tournament
- June 18 – Blaine VFW Tournament

Coach Erickson updated the website for VFW Tournament. Teri to check the link to sign up.

Fundraising (Bree) -- \$600 sportswear; \$245 Texas Roadhouse. Do them both again. Apparel in the spring. Looking to add chairs. Texas Roadhouse in spring. Raffle shortly. Virtual - kids fill them out, Venmo and kids sent picture. Buy \$40 worth, Venmo and ticket stubs sent to in the picture. Venmo to the program. VFW tournament – looking to build relationship. Ideas – ask them to pay for summer jerseys, send color guard to tournament, sell concessions.

Recruiting new members – recruit at meeting. Parent meeting at start of season, gather pertinent info then.

Alumni – engage alumni we know, pull together a meeting, start growing the network, consider alumni night at Bengals game, alumni game. Sarah offered to start putting something together. Dana and Sarah will start thinking through events.

Blaine Dugout Club now a business in good standing with the State of Minnesota.

Insurance – Bruce reached out to three different insurance companies. We are still reviewing what we need. Event insurance may be another option. Minnesota State HS Coaches Association might have options. We will continue discussion at next meeting.

Adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Dugout Club – October 29, 2020

Present: Ted Erickson, Bruce Dahlman, Dana Frederick, Brandy Zenk, Bree Stufflick, Sean O'Brien, Sarah Anderson

1. Minutes from September 16 meeting approved
2. Financial Update and Approval of Budget (Brandy)
 - a. Current available balance is \$6533.11
 - i. Paid \$90 +\$79.50 to State of Minnesota to become a business
 - ii. SportsEngine yearly fee is due (\$595)
 - iii. Ted spending \$500 to rebuilt pitching mound and batter's box at BBC
 - b. Decision to pay BSN bill (\$3228.01)
 - c. No additional bills due until June timeframe
 - d. Next steps are to put together a proposed budget. Revisit the conversation that was started in September around January 1.
 - e. Ted will be receiving \$1000 from Blaine HS athletic department. \$600 of this has to go towards baseballs.
 - f. Other income includes sweatshirt sales, donation from alumni softball tournament, and Amazon Smiles.
3. Formation of a business (Sean, Bruce)
 - a. Process is done and paid for
 - b. Ted is listed as the acting agent. The address on file is Blaine HS.
 - c. Final step is to order a Certificate of Good Standing. This costs \$79.50. (already deducted from available checking balance)
4. Insurance (Bruce, Ted)
 - a. Ted talked to Shannon Gerrety.
 - b. BHS's insurance covered anything on BHS campus or that was paid for by BHS
 - c. The shed at BBC is not covered by the City of Blaine or BHS
 - d. Going forward, Shannon recommends having BHS pay for purchases and the Dugout Club can then make a donation to BHS
 - e. Decision is to inventory items at BBC that are not currently insured (Ted or Bruce will do this) and then get a quote on insurance.
5. Offseason fundraising (Bree)
 - a. Bree and Colleen met with Dave from Signature Concepts. We will want to select about 15 items. The store will run for 2 weeks. SC needs 2 weeks to process and ship. Blaine gets 20% of sales.
 - b. Also considering a Texas Roadhouse "Dine to Donate" fundraiser (Dugout Club would get 10%)
 - c. Bree and Colleen also plan to talk to the VFW. Bruce and Sean started a conversation with them in the past and recommended following up.
6. BBC facelift
 - a. Cost is \$3000 total paid for by Dugout Club, BATBA, Icemen, and Fusion
 - b. Pitching mound and batter's box will be improved with higher end clay
 - c. Diamond Doctor will do the work and work could be done this fall or first thing in the spring.
7. Winter Clinic
 - a. Ted will talk to Shannon

- b. Revisit at a future meeting.

Dugout Club– Sept. 16, 2020

Agenda

Present: Colleen Brazier, Ted Erickson, Bruce Dahlman, Dana Frederick, Brandy Zenk, Al Stauffacher, Bree Stufflick, Sean O'Brien, Jason Vogel, Sarah Anderson

1. Minutes from August 11 meeting approved
2. Financial update and budgeting (Brandy, Ted)
 - Checking \$4,500, expecting roughly \$1,200 additional employer donations
 - Rough income for 2020 -- \$22,000 (approximately \$12,000-\$15,000 down from last year)
 - Outstanding payment going to Sports Engine
 - BSN outstanding
 - Expecting \$16,000 booster contribution toward the coaches next year, no equipment or baseballs needed.
 - Note to keep in mind the two teams that paid for VFW Tournament fees that they let us hold to apply toward the 2020 VFW Tournament in Blaine.
3. Fundraising meeting follow up (Colleen, Bree, Sarah, Teri, Ted, Bruce)
 - Employer match campaign in October
 - Apparel store in November (in time for the holidays) – Signature Concepts
 - Cub Foods - \$3,000 we probably can't count on this year
4. What is a business? (Colleen, Bree)
 - Discovered through the process of applying for a grant, discovered we are not a business.
 - Need to protect our name – Blaine Dugout Club
 - If we don't register as a business, miss out on liability protection.
 - Tax benefits
 - Can't apply for business loans or grants
 - \$30 to register with the State of Minnesota
5. Insurance update (Sarah, Bruce)
 - Liability insurance – mostly needed to host a tournament, own any assets equipment wise
 - Will continue to research
6. BSN update (Bruce)
 - Waiting for a return call
7. October baseball plans (Ted)
 - Waiting to see if football comes back in the fall to determine if we go forward with fall baseball practices.

