



SMGSA Board Minutes

09/09/2024

Meeting called to order @ 6:34

1. Quorum / Approval of Meeting Agenda & Previous Meeting Minutes

- a. Robert motions to approve the meeting, Brooke seconds. Motion Approved
- b. Brooke motions to approve the meeting minutes, motion carries and approved.

Chris Bates opens meeting and Ethan Stearns requests that we move treasury report to the end and we all agree that we will try.

- c. Casey motions to approve agenda, Russ seconds and motion is approved.

Fall Season

2. Russ Meek, Player Agent, speaks on the status of player rosters.

- a. There has been a lot of switching of players especially in 10U, due to other sports and activities.
- b. First players clinic will be 9/26 and it will be a pitcher/catcher clinic. Robert will work with coaches scheduled for practice during clinics throughout the season.
- c. 6U, 8U, and 14U rosters are finalized and coaches should have sent out team emails.
- d. Refunds due to cancellations. The league has been liberal in refunding but at this point refunds will stand at 50% and diner fee will be returned.

3. Ethan Stearns, Director of Coaching, gives update on coach status/needs.

- a. We go over the 2 pitcher and dirt rule. All girls are recommended to play and rotate through all positions.
- b. There is still a question of whether players have been contacted by their coaches. Ethan will work on getting confirmation on this asap.
- c. GameChanger usage and getting all teams invited to our GameChanger league. Also, ensure that there is information on how to use the app. Russ has already given clear How-to instructions.
- d. We need to have coaches and volunteers locked in sooner then we had this season. 12U was problematic and we are thankful for the coaches that stepped up!

3. Robert Hanff, League Scheduler, speaks on updates.

- a. All practice dates have been confirmed with coaches.
- b. The game schedule will be confirmed asap.
- c. Silver Select tournaments will be held off on until after Rec season ends on 11/17

*There is a question regarding the rules update for pitchers in the fall and the dirt rule. 2 inning limit for pitchers in the Fall and every player gets dirt time. There should be player rotation, and with many pitchers playing in Select there will be time for pitcher development this season.

* Brooke leads on a conversation about players playing up. Historically, besides the 6U to 8U play up, we did not allow playing up or playing down in our league. Exceptions were made this season, policies and amendments need to be made each season. Victor will work on an amendment page for the league where everything can be referenced. **We circle back to this**

during our Select segment.

3. Walter Sanchez, Purchasing agent, speaks on status of uniforms.

- a. All jerseys, Select and Rec will be available on 9/20/24
- b. SWAG will be available on line or families can order via QR code to the site and pickup items the following week at the SWAG table. Follow up with Sky on this. We should have some color options available for fall as we don't have a redesign.

4. Peter Bragiel, Select Coordinator, gives Select update.

- a. This Fall season both 8U and 14U play in the San Dimas league, weekly doubleheaders. They have the capability to play potential friendlies and Tournaments.
- b. 10U Gold and 12U Gold are playing friendlies, round robins, and tournaments throughout the Fall season.
- c. 10U Silver and 12U Silver players play in the SMGSA Fall rec league. They can schedule friendlies and can play tournaments as long as it DOES NOT conflict with rec and rec is the priority for the players.

Playing up and exceptions for Gold players in Select. Historically we did not allow playing up in the older divisions. An exception was made for Stevie Glenn as her birthday landed on the new cut off date of September 1st. She was considered a necessary player for Nate Covey's 14U Select team. There was another question of whether a 12U Gold select player is able to play in rec. Another exception was made as her parent has volunteered to assist in rec due to the 12U coaching shortage. The board spoke to future Select Gold rosters having only up to 2 alternates and following players will be in Select Silver.

5. Kara Karibian gives updates on Fundraising

- a. Potentially making a fundraising package similar to Little League for the Fall
- b. Traditionally we do not ask teams for the \$500 team fundraising budget for the Fall but we can recommend raising \$250.
- c. Fundraising for ADA walkway, Elizabeth Pritchett to mockup a proposal.
- d. Another idea to fundraise is the Reception and possibly work with Monica to find opportunities during our SMGSA/SMLL movie night?
- e. Hit a thon or skills challenge.

6. Josh Meza to rewrite and have a draft of Bylaws before next meeting.

7. Casey Chambers, Field Maintenance

- a. The bee hives are a problem and we will need to get an exterminator or bee removal expert out there before the season starts.
- b. Exterminator cost @ \$250.

8. Toshi Mora gives Registrar update.

- a. All board members, volunteers, etc need to have their SafeSport and registration up to date before they hit the field. All assistant coaches will also need to have done their testing.

Treasury Report

- a. **98k in savings, 87k in checking.** ****
- b. Need to pay the balance of \$1600 to San Dimas for Select.
- c. Registration monies are coming in.
- d. Registrations monies going out to USA Softball, Umpires.
- e. Once all registration is accounted for, Carol and Peter will work on the Select Budget and additional fees.

Round Table

Russ Meek had spoken to Vinny Pagan and Vinny had told him that he has his insurance for his travel team and went to City Hall requesting field space. The City says that as long as there is approval from the league then they can use a Sierra Madre field. A request was made for SME on Sunday mornings or any available field. Although SMGSA has field use in Pasadena and Arcadia we can't allow other teams not registered with our league to use them. Robert said if he was asked to, as league scheduler, he would try and find a space. Peter as a Select Coordinator said the priority should be given to any League player registered as we are already short on field space and many teams are sharing field space with overlapping times. There is also the question of taking responsibility for a team that if neighbors complained, we could lose field space because of a team that is not even in our league.

a. Carol Bent, SMGSA Treasurer, motions that we do not allow field usage to any Travel Ball teams. Russ and Lisa second the motion. 19 say no to allowing field usage to travel ball teams and 3 abstain. The motion passes.

Motion to end the Meeting

Chris Bates motions to end the meeting, Casey Chambers seconds, all pass the motion.

Meeting adjourned 8:38 pm