

Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association BBBA

February 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 12, 2024

Meeting Time: 5:30 pm Central Time

Meeting Location: Brainerd High School, 702 South 5th Street, Brainerd, MN 56401, Room E109

Call to Order:

5:32 pm central time

Present:

President	Chris Velasco
VP	Corey Johnson
Treasurer	Matt Castle
Secretary	Andy Campbell
Director	Jeremiah Piepkorn
Director	Nate Olson
Director	Matt Means
Director	Mike DeRosier

Absent:

Director	Phil Berg
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Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Approval of February 2024 Agenda

- Motion By: Corey Johnson
- Seconded By: Nate Olson
- Motion carried

Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 2024

- Motion By: Nate Olson
- Seconded By: Matt Castle
- Motion carried

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Open Forum:

Erin Velasco – Mental Preparedness for Players (15 minutes)

- Erin made a presentation on the variety of ways psychology can play a role in sports and how coaches can better understand and be prepared to work with their players.
- She provided some resources that we will provide links to on our Association website

Executive Committee Reports

President/VP Report – Chris/Corey

- Discussion with Coach Fairbanks 1/24 – Chris
 - Coach talked about his emphasis on the mental side of the game. Resources that he'd like to be available to younger level coaches to help with this.
 - How to better involve the younger kids in his program.
 - Just overall how to continue to build connections between the younger levels as a feeder program for his team.
- Tournament Update, BOTL – Chris
 - 84 teams are currently registered – not including any Brainerd teams
- Tryout Registration Update
 - Currently on pace to have the same number of players, at minimum, as last year's tryout
 - Further discussion on proactively signing up for more tournaments per age group for both A and AA teams to ensure any extra teams we end up with have tournaments to play in. Nate Olson to look into tournaments for the incoming 9U team(s) and will connect with Dave Czech to see about additional 10U tournaments.

Treasurer's Report – Matt C.

- Up to Date Financials
- Discussion on how the Association can invest our dollars into the community. Potentially offering to upgrade the varsity baseball team's bus to a coach bus on long road trips this season.
- Renters insurance policy
 - Email vote on spending over the previously-agreed upon max amount of \$250. The policy would cost \$313/annually. Motion to approve made by Corey Johnson and seconded by Andy Campbell. Motion carried.

Secretary – Andy

- Storage Unit now rented and ready to be filled
- Discussion on purchasing gorilla racking to store & organize equipment

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- Discussed having “bays” per age group so that at the end of the season we can better take account of what needs to be replaced for the next season.
- Motion to spend a max of up to \$1100 on shelving made by Corey Johnson and seconded by Mike DeRosier.
- Need to take action on outstanding background checks for Board members & coaches (new and returning) who may be missing them
 - Chris to initiate the background checks on the required individuals

Old Business:

- Update from Phil on Quickbooks & Microsoft Office 365 (presented by Chris)
 - Tech Soup has put our application on hold
 - Board consensus is to migrate to Office 365 for our document storage, email, calendars, and QuickBooks for our financials.
 - Chris will purchase Office 365 and Matt will purchase QuickBooks
 - Motion to approve purchasing Office 365 and QuickBooks up to \$1000 max spend made by Mike DeRosier and seconded by Nate Olson. No further discussion, motion carried.

New Business:

- Tryout Discussion (What do we want it to look like) – Jeremiah
 - Should the Association look to outside evaluators to run our tryouts? What do other local sports associations that have tryouts do? Can we learn anything from those?
 - Emphasis needs to be on making sure families know the importance of attending on the scheduled tryout date.
 - Jeremiah will contact Tom Fairbanks about running our tryouts this year.
- Electronic Vote for Purchases – see above
- Review of Handbook Changes – Castle
 - Executive Committee made it halfway through the Handbook to update.
- Uniform, Clothing Update – Corey
 - Currently have 4 different suppliers who have expressed an interest in supplying the Association’s uniforms. 3 of the 4 are local providers. Each uniform “package” would include two tops and a pair of pants as well as a long sleeve shirt.
 - Additional discussion on matching our “look” to the varsity team’s and having consistency across the entire Association.

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- Discussion on 14U Player Jari Aus.
 - Upon receipt of documentation from Jari's parents confirming his enrollment in IDS 181 for the '24-'25 school year, the Board would, per Association ByLaws, use its discretion to allow Jari to play in our Association for the 2024 baseball season.
- City of Baxter/Brainerd Discussion – Scheduling, other info. – Chris
 - Chris met with Troy Rushmeier. Hailey is the new city field scheduler and will publish a shared Google calendar for all stakeholders to view field availability but won't be to edit the calendar – that will be controlled by Hailey.
- Sponsorship – Corey
 - Corey provided a proposed 2024 sponsorship strategy for both sponsoring the Association/BOTL tournament as well as team sponsoring.
 - Discussion on how fundraising would impact player fees with an emphasis on setting player fees as low as they can be while still covering basic costs.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by: Corey Johnson

Seconded by: Matt Castle

Motion carried unanimously