

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Minutes
May 1, 2019 Meeting – St. Anthony Village Pub
“Emergency Meeting”**

Call to Order:

President Al Bates convened the “emergency meeting” he called for at 8:00 pm on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at the Village Pub.

Attendees:

Al Bates, Katie Brustad, Sara Strain, Andrew Kagol, & Karl Pollard.

Meeting Reason:

Al shared the reason for the one-agenda-item meeting – a need for another Board discussion regarding the potentially short roster on a Top-tier (12U) team. Since the April 14 ‘emergency’ meeting on the same subject, efforts to recruit other players have resulted in an inquiry from a family with a 12U(B) and a 14U player, both of which expressed interest in playing with/for us.

Discussion:

The situation currently is that, having picked up two 12U players from Fridley/Columbia Heights, (both of which are practicing with Rossi Cannon’s 12U B team), and one player from Rossi’s original roster having accepted the offer to move to the 12U A team, Coach Karl Pollard’s 12U B team is now at a roster size of 11, with the addition of a Player, formerly registered, dropped, and then re-recruited by Karl, Coach Rossi Cannon’s 12U B team is at a roster size of 11, and Coach Danielle Bogucki’s 12U A team is effectively at a roster size of 10 (as the injured player has been replaced by the player who moved from Coach Rossi’s team) -- but the A team will be down to 9 players for Qualifier, as one player will not be in town then – and additionally, one of the remaining 10 players on the roster may become unavailable at any time, due to a family crisis.

Input had been sought from involved parties, and received from interested parties, and pertinent sections of those communications back to us were read aloud. Contributing thoughts that were read aloud at the meeting came from: 12U B Coach Rossi Cannon, 12U A Coach Danielle Bogucki, Lora Kohan (2018 Board Member and Association Member), Natalie Dougherty (2018 Board Member and Association Member), 14U A Coach Lamar Brendemuehl, Assistant 12U A Coach Aaron Rosha, Katie Brustad (Board Member), & 12U B Coach Karl Pollard (the latter two also being present at the meeting).

Also read was the section of the July 27, 2015 SABSA Board Minutes expressing concern about the issues posed by creating thin rosters of 10 players.

Among the comments from the attendees that followed during the ensuing discussion were:

Katie expressed concern about the optics of adding an out-of-district player (to the roster spot vacated by a late resignation), and that at 12U, B players could be lent to help out the A team, but the reverse is not possible. Katie also expressed the view that if the Player with the potential family crisis does drop off the A team later in the season, that would create a different atmosphere (than exists now) – an atmosphere in

which an acceptable solution (to an immediate 12U A roster shortage) could be found by 'stepping up' at that time.

Sara questioned whether we could decline having a roster spot available at 14U but offer the out-of-district potential 12U player a spot at 12U.

Andrew questioned whether we should offer a spot on the 12U A roster to our existing 12U B players to see if there would be someone who wanted it. Al responded that Andrew's concept should probably be a 'tryout situation'. Katie opined that most of the potential players who would be eligible for a tryout would probably not participate in such an 'opportunity' (as we had two declines to move to 12U A from 12U B already).

Andrew also noted that the player with the family crisis situation could have already dropped out, but has not. Al expressed the understanding that the family wanted 'things to be as normal as possible' despite their crisis. Karl noted that this Player did play on the St. Charles team, and made it to their recent game at Benilde-St. Margaret's.

Andrew suggested we decline the 12U & 14U Players, and leave the teams as they currently are rostered.

Karl expressed that he likes his roster size of 11, and likes that setup; in addition, Karl didn't think we can/(should) add a 14U Player now.

Katie spoke in favor of the (currently existing potential option of the) 12U A team 'pulling' occasionally from the 12U B rosters.

Andrew reinforced Katie's earlier point that if an additional 12U A Player should be lost for the season, then we have a different situation. Katie and Karl agreed, suggesting "we would all step up" if this happens, and it becomes necessary. Katie added that right now, adding a Player to the 12U A roster (in anticipation that the family crisis will get worse for the 12U A Player in question) would not be 'as normal as possible' for the family with the crisis (and thus perhaps not desirable).

We concluded with the consensus that we are trying too hard to solve a problem that may not need solving now.

Andrew Moved, Sara Seconded, to decline the 12U & 14U A additional Players, and leave the 12U team rosters as they are now, with 10 Players on the 12U A roster, and 11 Players on both of the 12U B rosters. The motion passed, 4-0.

Al noted that Karl had successfully recruited for his 12U B roster, and asked whether we should empower the 12U A Coach to recruit for their roster. Sara opined that this question should be considered by a wider group (than we have present today), and deserved a separate consideration. Discussion was tabled.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Al Bates, SABSA Pres. 2019