

September 2024 Soderville Baseball Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 09/08/2024
Present: Eric P., Nate, Eric L., Corryn, Greg, Tim, Terry, Troy
Not Present: N/A – All committee members present

Call to Order at 5:33 PM

Approval of Board Minutes for July (no August meeting), Terry motioned to approve, Tim second motion. Motion carried.

Public Forum – N/A, just board members present.

Old Business

- Storage Container Update – The spot for the storage container has been leveled by the city of Ham Lake. The city will bring in street sweepings for the spot by Friday, 9/13/2024. Afterward, we can move forward with installing the pad and storage container.
- Batting Cage Update – Cables and one net are up. The batting cage is now usable. The poles are approximately 3”-4” higher than expected. For the short term, we will just anchor the net. For the long term, we may want to add curbing all around the perimeter at some later date. Corryn will get names and web addresses of people who helped with the batting cage installation, etc. so we can post a thank you and link to their businesses on the baseball website.
- Fall Ball Updates – One 13U team was assembled by a coach. The coach was informed that he would need to contact the city to schedule time on the fields. The coach did not contact the city and used fields without scheduling them. This created a conflict with MYAS games at the field.
There are approximately 4-6 Soderville teams playing Fall Ball through MYAS. While there appears to be interest in Fall Ball, based on past experience offering Fall Ball through SBAA, there is not enough interest to be worth the effort to offer it again. The decision was made to continue to have teams play Fall Ball through MYAS.

New Business

- End of season surveys
 - Negative feedback about opposing coaches (specifically Lanik). Seems to be an organized complaint. However, there were no complaints during the season. We may solicit feedback mid-season next year to catch these issues earlier.
 - Concerns expressed about stacked teams at 8U and 10U due to friend requests.
 - Requests received to update standings on SBAA website for Sr. Baseball. Next year we will have a link on our site that brings people to the standings on the MYAS site.
- Coach issues at 12U and 16U
 - Feedback regarding Lanik at 12U
 - Feedback about 16U coach issue seems like one specific set of parents had an issue with the coach. This was specific to one player and his parents. Something to look out for next year via mid-season survey.
- Portable mounds at City Park
 - We need to get portable mounds at City Park put away. A couple mounds are in poor condition. We will need to get a couple new portable mounds next year.
- Condition of field 3
 - There is a berm around the infield that should be cut down. There is also a need for additional aggregate, especially around home plate.
 - Will the city allow us to cut down the berm on field 3 and possibly the other fields at City Park? Corryn will ask the city about this next week.

New Business continued...

- State tournament timing
 - The State Tournament was very late again this year. There were many complaints received about the late timing of the tournament.
 - Eric P. has had conversations with MYAS about the late timing of the State Tournament
 - Eric P. will continue to talk with MYAS about pulling the State Tournament back in to an earlier date.

Committee Reports

- Budget (Greene) – We are over-budget in a number of areas (uniforms, field maintenance, umpire fees). Will have more details in budget summary in upcoming meetings.
- Tournaments -
 - Soderville Classic – move to Mother’s Day Weekend in 2025.
 - We need to start looking at dates for other tournaments for next year.
- Junior League Baseball (6U-10U) – No new discussion on this topic
- Senior League Baseball (12U and up) -
 - Eric P. talked with Ryan Kirby with Blaine Bengal Baseball Booster Club. It sounds like we may get more players from Blaine next year for Sr. Baseball.
 - Fields schedule was very full this year. If we get more players for Sr. Baseball next year, we will need to get some field time at the Blaine Baseball Complex. Eric P. has already talked with Blaine Baseball about this possibility.
- Tournament Team Baseball (Schraufnagel) -
 - Sending registration out
 - Coach Wincek will coach at 14U/15U
 - Need to get email sent out to hopefully get more coaches
- Uniforms (Schesso) –
 - Ideas discussed for coach shirts for next year – use same color (e.g., navy blue) for all coach shirts for all teams and let coaches know they can choose to not get new shirts if they have them from previous years.
- Equipment (Laumeyer) - No new discussion on this topic
- Development & Training (Laumeyer)- No new discussion on this topic
- Umpire Coordinator (Open) -
 - New position for 2025 to work with officials and verifying whether games are assigned or not
 - Need to get someone in this position next year.

Other –

- Need to discuss possibility of team sponsors for next year

6:49 Tim moved to adjourn meeting. Terry second motion. Motion carried by committee vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Next meeting date: October 6th @ 7:00 PM

