

2019 Sioux Empire Baseball Association Board of Directors Nominees

Below are the 8 nominees for the 3 open board positions, please feel free to read their views and comments regarding SEBA and the programs.

Zach Rutten

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: The association needs to establish very clear descriptions of the programs they offer and how parents can choose the best possible situation for their player(s).

Child SEBA involvement/years: 1

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): Harrisburg Baseball

Racheal Graff

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: Organization is key, but let's be good sportsman and have fun.

Child SEBA involvement/years: 4

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): NA

Mark W Tassler, Sr.

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: Mark Tassler, Sr. started playing baseball 45 years ago and his dad was a player and coach. Baseball is a great sport for kids to learn and develop in. Becoming a great baseball player is a marvelous achievement that takes many years and a lot of hard work. Proper coaching will lead the way

Child SEBA involvement/years: 5 years

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): 5 years head coaching

Joel Husman

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: I believe SEBA is a great organization that provides recreational and competitive baseball in Sioux Falls for kids ages 4-19. Starting with Rookies at age 4, SEBA begins to teach the fundamentals of baseball. This learning and development builds a passion for the game at each age level up to Legion baseball. I would like to be a part of the SEBA Board to continue to give back to the program that provides baseball to thousands in our community. I have enjoyed watching my son develop a passion for the game and want to ensure this opportunity is available for kids for many years to come.

Child SEBA involvement/years: My son has played with SEBA for 10 years, starting with tball and last year played on the 14U East team

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): Coached SEBA developmental league first and second sessions and assistant coach for SEBA Navy travel team, for 2 years.

Deirdre DiMemmo

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: Grateful for the Miracle League and the opportunity for differently abled athletes to play.

Child SEBA involvement/years: 5 years Miracle League

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): NA

Darcy Dunker-Muller

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: I think SEBA has a great handle on the progression of baseball as kids grow up in the program. It continues to foster skill development along the way.

Child SEBA involvement/years: 9

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): Coached 2 years of rec (11U and 12U)

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James Legg

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: I believe it is critical that the management of an organization reflect its expectations. I believe based upon its available resources, the expectation should be that Sioux Falls American Legion Baseball should be the dominant program(s) within the state of South Dakota on a yearly basis and should be the "face" of SEBA. I don't care about 12-year old all-star teams. It should be a priority of SEBA to continue to recruit and retain as many youth baseball players as possible. Moreover, it should be a priority to recruit outstanding coaches at all levels and use the deep knowledge base of SEBA staff to assist those coaches. In the process, if SEBA can give all of it's athletes joy, positive memories, and teach them the right things about baseball, winning will take care of itself at the right time. I want to see SEBA participants have fun, improve their self-worth, and develop as athletes and people.

Child SEBA involvement/years: I have two sons who both play baseball. My oldest played for Sioux Falls West Junior Legion, and my youngest played in the 4th Grade league.

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): I have assisted in prior years with both developmental league teams and travel teams.

Kevin Boyum

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: I believe that the goal of any youth community athletic program should be to involve as many children as early as possible, for as long as possible and in the highest quality program as possible to keep them active, to build strong habits that apply outside of sports, and to ultimately have fun - together. I believe SEBA in particular has the opportunity to keep children and their families active and engaged on a long term path for those that wish to compete or those that wish to participate.

Child SEBA involvement/years: Eldest child has participated in SEBA Rec, Junior Legion, Legion; Youngest has participated in SEBA Rec and Travel. Both boys have done SEBA camps and clinics.

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): I was a volunteer Assistant Coach with my youngest son's SEBA Rec team for years.

Mick Zeman

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: SEBA does a great job getting kids involved in baseball. The structure of teams, age groups, and rules leads to a positive experience and obvious growth for those who enjoy the game and want to learn and grow. I feel good coaches, especially volunteer ones, are getting harder to come by. The program could incorporate more coach education into preseason activities. Also, there is a dire umpire shortage. The travel teams could and should be utilized as umpires for lower level games. This would relieve some of the scheduling issues, and it would introduce players to an entirely different perspective of the game. Facilities are a concern. Harmodon Park does not take water well, and there are not any other options for travel teams to play in Sioux Falls (except at Augie or Sioux Falls Stadium - which must be rented).

Child SEBA involvement/years: All 4 of my kids have played SEBA baseball for a sum total of 19 years

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): I served as a volunteer coach for 14 total seasons; several years the seasons overlapped and I coached multiple teams at once. I started an amateur team in my hometown of Chamberlain SD in 1999 and coached that for 2 years before moving to Sioux Falls. I have over 10 years of experience as an umpire at many levels.

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Eric Stoll

Your philosophy regarding SEBA and the program: Making the decisions what's best for baseball to grow and prosper in SF

Child SEBA involvement/years: I have 1 nephew currently playing which I coach

Previous involvement in SEBA (or other baseball associations): Assistant coach 9u-2019, I played for Post 15 West 1997-2000, Minority owner of the Sioux Falls Pilots 1yr 2016, Amateur Baseball for 15 yrs