

Big Lake Baseball Association (BLBA)

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda & Minutes



Meeting Date/Time: August 11, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Location: Big Lake Middle School Media Center

Recorder: Secretary - Tessa Miller

Attendance:

Name	Position	Att	Name	Position	Att
Mike Smith	President	A	Jason Reimringer	MAL – Webmaster	P/A
Dan Grove	Vice President	P	Katie Laney	MAL – Volunteer Coordinator	A
Nicole Possehl	Treasurer	P	Mike Horn	MAL - Board Member	P
Tessa Miller	Secretary	P	Katie Erickson	MAL - Board Member	P
Ashley Luoma	MAL – Director M&M	P	Loren Holthaus	Associate Director	
Jeff Kaeppe		G	Robert Hoekstra		G
Tay Kaeppe		G	Lawrence Luoma		G
Kyle Johnson		G	Joe Bruns		G
Jim Anderson		G	Melissa Collgaro		G
Curt Erickson		G			

MAL = Member at Large

P = Present, PV - Present Virtual, A = Absent G = Guest

Agenda:

Topic	Description	Action / Discussion	Action By
Approve July Board Minutes	Review and approve previous months board minutes and send to webmaster to post.	Approved via board minutes. Tessa to send July minutes to Web Master to post on website	Tessa Miller
Election Results	Announce voted in board members discuss and their roles	Info in Board minutes below	
Financial Statement Review	Comparison to prior year and a rough draft budget for next season	Reviewed. Additional information in minutes below	
Survey for Coaches	For coaches to provide input. To be sent by August 19th	Katie Erickson creating survey for board to review. Additional information in minutes below	Katie Erickson
Survey for parents	To provide input on coaches, season, volunteer opportunities	Katie Erickson creating survey for board review Additional information in minutes below	Katie Erickson
Website Photos	Refresh of photos on website	Tay will review website and come up with plan to acquire additional photos	Tay Kaeppe

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Annual Agenda / Calendar	Discuss templates in creation to track annual agenda and Calendar	Tessa informed board of agenda tracker document and calendar document.	
Storage Space	Potential need for an extra storage space	Joe Bruns gathering information and pricing from local storage facilities and will present to board	Joe Bruns
Winter Clinics	Discuss potential plan for upcoming winter clinics	Additional information in minutes below.	
Equipment Drop off	Dates for coaches to drop off 2024 season equipment	Equipment drop off for in-house, travel, and Majors/Minors can be during tryouts on August 18th.	
Quad City 15U Tournament	Invoices to participating teams & any other input	Nicole gathering total invoice amounts and sending to participating Quad City teams	Nicole Possehl
Volunteer Check Status	Are we all squared away with 2024 season volunteers and checks.	Nicole has final list of checks to be cashed, and will be cashing checks.	Nicole Possehl
Open Forum	For additional discussion and/or open to public	Please review minutes below.	

Minutes:

6:30 pm - Election committee starts ballot count

Dan Grove called meeting to order at 6:57p.m.

Approval of Previous month meeting minutes: Secretary emailed out August 5th, meeting minutes. Tessa Miller requested a motion. Ashely Luoma made a motion to approve the July 2024 board meeting minutes, seconded by Dan Grove. All were in favor, motion carries. July 2024 meeting minutes approved.

Agenda

- Election results
 - Officers
 - President - Dan Grove
 - Treasurer- Nicole Possehl
 - At large
 - Lawrence Luoma
 - Melissa Calgaro

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- Andrew Gosewisch
- Joe Bruns
- Tay Kaeppe

Vacancy in VP Role

- Ashely Motioned to appoint Mike Horn, Nicole Possehl 2nd the motion. All in favor.
Motion passes

Roles

- Joe Bruns - Equipment Coordinator
- Lawrence Luoma - Travel Director
- Melissa Calgaro - Apparel & Uniforms & Photos
- Tay Kaeppe - Webmaster
- Andrew - Player & Coach Development (recommended - Dan Grove will confirm)
- Communication Coordinator - Katie Erickson
-

Still open after election

- In-House Coordinator
- Volunteer Coordinator

Ashely Luoma motion for Henry Bochenski to take in-house coordinator role should he accept, 2nd by Katie Erickson, All in favor. Motion passes. Dan Grove reaching out to Henry Bochenski to confirm his acceptance.

Ashley Luoma motion for Jim Andersen to take volunteer coordinator should he accept, Mike Horn 2nds motion, All in favor. Motion Passes. Dan Grove reaching out to Jim Andersen to confirm his acceptance.

Ashely Luoma motions to amend the bylaws to have up to 15 board members. Ashley motion waved.

Nicole motions to have no less than 9 members on the board, and to keep the board member number odd. Ashley 2nd motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Dan motions to add two more at large positions to keep the number odd. Ashley 2nd motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer - Financial statement review

- Last year -\$17K Aug - July
- This year +\$2 Aug-July
 - Increased concessions
 - Blanket fundraiser
- Spending for 2024 season
 - Additional spend on tournamentents, umpires, and uniforms

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- Umpires last year were paid from \$55-\$100 per game and this year it was \$100 per game, but we went through an umpire service.
 - Umpires services went well this year, and very minimal games missed.
Good feedback on umpires.
- Awards spend
- Less on facility rental
- Insurance lower due to less players
- Less on uniforms
- Costs
 - Dan researched several local associations to compare how the BLBA costs compare.
 - We are only association to give full uniform kit
 - We are on the lower end of the cost compared to the local associations he researched
 - In 2024 Travel fee increased from \$100 to \$150 and registration went up \$75
- Sponsorships
 - Need additional sponsorships
 - One time requests may be an option for specific items
 - Example: Request a specific dollar amount for pitching mounds as a one-time request.
- Budget Committee - This committee will create budget and present/propose to the board
 - Nicole Possehl
 - Dan Grove
 - Melissa Calgaro
 - Katie Erickson
 - Joe Bruns
- Banners at 4-plex
 - Mike Horn looking into softball banners and if baseball received funds from the banners

Survey for Coaches

- Dan would like to send coaches a survey to in-house, travel and Majors/Minors to see how the board may assist them in future years from processes to equipment.
 - **Action Item Katie Ericson creating and sending to the board - Surveys out in about 1 week**
- Potential for next year, have a coaches meeting prior to the season starting.
- Communicate to coaches that they have the opportunity to have varsity players to help at practices.

Survey for Parents

- **Action Item: Katie Erickson creating and sending to the board - Surveys out in about 1 week**

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Field Scheduling

- Kyle Johnson - can we schedule fields for teams to help streamline and help coordinate varsity players and coordinate schedules

Batting Cage Availability

- Request to get a sign up for baseball batting cages including the new varsity field batting cages
- Idea of a batting cage to the 4-plex - perhaps by the bathroom (could it be a sponsorship opportunity in the future).
- Could we get additional L-Screens
 - Dan asks Joe Bruns to do inventory of equipment including L-Screens
- Lawrence Luoma - have someone watch the field house referendum and what that looks like for the future

Website Photos

- Dan is asking for updated photos on the website
- **Action Item: Tay Kaeppe to help update website in the future**
- **Action Item: Tay needs to get access to website - Ask Jason to transition access**
- Tay will look into website and make ongoing recommendations
- Email addresses
 - Tay will look to see if we can get domain email addresses
- Send secretary email and phone number for future communications (email and text)

Agenda

- Calendar Document
 - Tryout schedule - roughly same weekend as last year (Fall and spring)
 - Add a Coaches meeting to the calendar to be prior to season
 - **Action Item: Dan Grove to assist with potential date(s) or months to consider having the meeting**
 - End of year open meeting for public and include feedback we received
 - If we can organize to have at the same time as our regular scheduled board meeting, that would be great.
 - Add surveys to the calendar document
 - **Action Item: Tessa Miller add it to calendar document**
 - Spring mass registration & M & M Mas registration
 - Equipment inventory day
 - Sept
 - Review surveys
 - Review Bylaws

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- **Action Item: Ashely will send to team to go over to review and make suggestions**
- Oct
 - Clinics
 - Spring Tryout
 - Uniforms
- Nov
 - Clinings
 - Spring Tryouts
 - Uniforms
 - Handbook Meeting (BLBA Handbook)
 - Central Drive
-

Storage Unit

- Do we reorganize shed or add on, but it would become school grounds property
- Dan is open to renting a storage space, build racks to keep our mounds in as well as other equipment and BLBA items
 - **Action Item: Joe Bruns will reach out to local storage places to bring amounts to next meeting**
- Could we build mounds to save money in the future - potential idea
- Kyle Johnson - Could we talk to shop class to help build a larger shed on school grounds
 - Per Robert Hoekstra Matt Vogel or Wade Olson
 - **Action Item: Dan Grove reaching out to school**
- Could we cover storage costs with sponsorships - potential idea.

Winter Clinics

- Kyle Johnson would like to have off-season events/classes for players to continue their skills in the off-season.
- Andrew Gosewisch appointed to the board to take on player and coach development - should he accept the role
- Dan talked to Varsity staff and association coaches that want to help out.
- Months of September and October to meet and discuss what we can do for winter clinics
- Andrew Gosewisch would oversee process
- Clinics could be in Big Lake, Field out in Elk River, SCSU Dome as examples
- Per Joe Bruns - can we bring in people from places like Starz Baseball to assist with clinics
- Have clinic all winter to hit the ground running in April
- Per Lawrence - possibly have a clinic the week before both fall and spring tryouts to get players back up to speed.

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Spring Tryouts

- We are looking to schedule February 8th, but Dan working with SCSU dome for official date
- Varsity had fundraiser the week of the tryouts and charged players to attend

Equipment Drop-off

- In-house: 3 out of 4 have dropped off
- Remaining coaches - bring to tryouts next Sunday 9am-1pm

Tryouts Fall

- Signups go through Thursday, August 15th
- Dan working with Flexx to give him the total numbers to come up with tryout schedule
- **Action Item: This week Katie Erickson will post tryouts to Facebook**
- Do we accept walk-ups for tryouts the day of - print extra numbers.
- Ensure we get separate times for different age levels
- Need to host an additional meeting on tryouts and team forming for the future years
- Dan confirming with Flexx what equipment and any volunteers needed
- Tryouts
 - Smaller group of board members to decide on team forming
 - Each family will get Flexx locker scores and BLBA will post a range for that level
 - We are not announcing any players in fall - all teams will be formed in the spring.

15U Quad City Tournament

- Dan Grove sent Nicole invoices for total spend on Quad City and we need to send invoices to each team - Robert Hoekstra will send emails to Nicole to send invoices
- Left over concessions donated to Police Department

Volunteer Checks

- Nicole has a list of checks to cash - 11 checks cashed this year

Open Forum

- Robert Hoekstra
 - Coaches 8th game team and legion team
 - If the board needs anything from a school perspective
 - Any assistance he is available
- Kyle Lohson
 - Wants to develop our program and will assist with anything we need
- Dan
 - Wants to raise volunteer hours from 6 to 8 hours and if you participate in board meeting you get 1 hour towards your volunteer hours - up to 2 hours per season.

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Dan motions we raise to 8 hours per family, and you can earn up to 1 hours per board meeting you attend up to 2 hours for the season. To be voted on in September board meeting.

Per Lawrence Luoma - if we start asking for sponsorships, sometimes the organizations need volunteers in exchange for the sponsorship.

Board meetings schedule - 2nd Sunday of each month.

- **Action Item: Tessa Miller to call McPete's to schedule 2nd Sunday of each month from 6pm - 8pm**

Meeting adjourned 8:48, Ashley Luoma 2nd, All in favor. Motion passes.