

**Big Lake Baseball Association (BLBA)**  
**Monthly Board Meeting Agenda & Minutes**



**Meeting Date/Time: March 12, 2025 at 7pm**

**Location: McPete's in Big Lake**

**Recorder: Tessa Miller - Secretary**

**Attendance:**

Name	Position	Att	Name	Position	Att
Dan Grove	President	P	Lawrence Luoma	MAL – Travel Director	P
Mike Horn	Vice President	P	Joe Bruns	MAL – Equipment Coordinator	P
Nicole Possehl	Treasurer	P	Henry Bochenski	MAL – In-House Coordinator	P
Tessa Miller	Secretary	P	Loren Holthaus	MAL – Associate Director	A
Ashley Luoma	MAL – Director M&M	P	Stephanie Mericle	Guest	P
Tay Kaeppe	MAL - Webmaster	P			
Andrew Gosewisch	MAL – Player & Coach Development	P			

*MAL = Member at Large*

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

**Agenda:**

Topic	Description	Action / Discussion	Action By
Approve previous months board minutes	Review and approve previous months board minutes and send to webmaster to post.	Approved. Tessa send to Tay to post on website.	Tessa
Appointment of new Board Member	New Member	Stephanie Mericle appointed as Volunteer Coordinator	
Open Forum	For additional discussion and/or open to public	See minutes below	
Bylaws	Nikki updating per board comments	Nikki taking final review, and will send to board 1 week prior to the April Board meeting for board members to review and vote in the April meeting	Nikki
Finance Update	Update from Treasurer Cheddar Up for Donations/Sponsorships?	Dan will work with Nikki on seeing if Cheddar up can be set up to be used for donations and sponsorships	Dan/Nikki
M & M	Updates from M&M	Several Action items - please see minutes below	

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Quad City/In-House	Updates	See Minutes below	
Travel	Updates	Several Actions Items - Please see minutes below.  Coach equipment pick-up date set with Lawrence reaching out to coaches to communicate date	Lawrence
Handbook	Updates	See minutes below	
Team Photos	9u-15U: May 16, 2025 M&M: June 12, 2025	Update: 9U-14U May 16th and M&M/15U June 12th	
Equipment Assessment	Updates	Board approved \$2500 spend on equipment - see minutes below	Joe
Equipment Gear Swap	Updates/Next Steps	Will have a table at M&M informational meeting on 4/8	
Winter Clinics	Updates	Please see meeting minutes below	
Uniforms	Updates	Uniforms being ordered	Tessa
Apparel	Updates	2nd Apparel store open	
Community Involvement / Sponsorships	Updates	Sponsorship tracking document is up to date.  Tay applied for grants - see meeting minutes below for details	
Mass Registration	Updates - Travel closed as of 2/17 & Quad City Closed as of 3/1	Please see meeting minutes below.	
Tournaments	Discuss ordering medals/trophies/etc.	Please see meeting minutes below.	
Spring Tryouts	Recap	Please see meeting minutes below.	
Fall Tryouts	Start discussions about Fall tryouts and process with Flexx	Board votes to move forward with 1 tryout in the spring versus 2 tryouts.	

Mike Horn called the meeting to order at 7:02

Approval of Previous month meeting minutes: Tessa requested a motion. Ashley motioned, with Mike Horn seconding. All were in favor, motion carries. Previous months board meeting minutes approved.

Appointment of new Board Member

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- Tessa motions to add Stephanie Mericle to the board as the volunteer coordinator., Ashley seconds. All are in favor. Motion passes
- Tay working with Stephanie to access volunteer email address, and get set up with needed website access for setting up volunteers.

### Open Forum

- SportsEngine
  - Action Item: Tay looking to see if she can set up a Coaches SportsEngine to communication
- Coaches - Trusted Coaches
  - **Action Item: Dan setting up a group in Trusted coaches and working with Mike Horn to ensure coaches are up to date with their trusted coaches.**
- Field Assignments
  - **Action Items: Mike Horn reaching out to Kendra regarding field assignments**

### Bylaws

- Nikki updated the bylaws and has a draft for board to review.
- **Action Item: Nikki to review with Ashely and then send out a final draft**

### Finance Update

- **Action Item: Dan to work with Nikki to discuss cheddar up for sponsorships and donations**

### M & M

- Registration posted on social media - Registration Open
- Registration added to website M&M tab - Currently sitting at 64 registrations
- **Action Item: Dan looking into sharing via eBackPack**
- Uniforms - Rally Sports in Monticello
- Scheduling M&M Equipment handout - Proposed May 2nd or 3rd
  - **Action Item: Joe looking into dates that he is available and that bags are ready**
- Coaching Clinic for M&M Coaches? 1-4 sessions in April 19-25. Each session being a couple of hours.
  - Perhaps they have a 30-45 minute meeting, followed by visiting a travel/QC practice to shadow
- Season starts May 7th (Minors) May 8th (Majors)
- "Opening Day" banners - depending on sponsorships
- Information meeting on April 8th @6:30 Big Lake HS Lecture Hall
  - Dan, Stephanie, Tessa, Nikki available to support the meeting
  - **Action Item: Joe will bring Dan the extra jerseys to sell at M&M information meeting**

### Quad City/In-House

- Coaches & Teams are fielded
- Coaches have been communicated to players
- Henry has the gear bags ready for coaches
- Coaches are using SPortsEngine to communicate

### Travel

- All teams are formed

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- **Action Items: Lawrence will work with Henry on one team**
- **Action Items: Henry & Andrew discussing one team**
- Travel Coaches meeting on 3/13
  - Field usage
  - Team Communication
  - MYAS scheduling with other coaches in their division
  - **Action Item: Joe to assist in scheduling a coach equipment pick-up - March 21st**
    - **Action Item: Lawrence sending out email to travel coaches**

### Handbook

- Table for now

### Team Photos

- 9u-14U: May 16, 2025 AND M&M/15U: June 12, 2025

### Equipment Assessment

- Joe would like to order practice balls for each team - BP Athletics has blemish balls
- Joe would like to order game balls
- Joe would like one catchers gear set due to additional team
- BP Athletics has 2 L-Screens (weatherproofed) used
- Totals or all requests: \$2,254+Tax
- Dan Motions to approve a \$2500 budget for above mentioned items. Andrew seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.
- Henry would like to add bat racks to Liberty
- Mike Horn brought up idea of a "coaches bag"

### Equipment Gear Swap

- "Take or Trade" event
  - We could have a table to M&M night on April 8th
  - Henry willing to assist with a Take or Trade event and will come up with a few dates and let the board know

### Winter Clinics

- Parent input: Could have charged more for the number of sessions provided - Board is wanting to keep cost down to ensure it's available to more players
- Nikki looking into total spend on clinics

### Uniforms

- **Action Item: Nikki ordering belts, socks, hats this week**
- **Action Item: Tessa to get Nikki pant quantities**
- **Action Item: Tessa to request Coupon codes for coaches (up to 4 total for each team)**
- **Action Item: Once all teams are finalized - Tessa to submit jersey order**
- Order M&M Jerseys approx. April 22nd

### Apparel

- Store 1 closed

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- Store 2 - open

### Community Involvement / Sponsorships

- Tracking document
- Tay requested for 4 grants
  - Twins Gear - should hear by the end of the month
  - Twinks Tickets for August 17th @2pm game - Tay reaching out to see if we can get tickets for either Saturday night or another weekend
  - St. Cloud Rox for \$5000 - pending
  - Scheels - St. Cloud
- Tay attempting 1 grant for AED
- Tay applied at Coborns for donation

### Mass Registration

- Note for next year - ensure we are requiring desired level of play and age group

### Tournaments

- **Action Item: Dan looking into Ordering Medals/Trophies**
  - 1st - Rings (6 weeks to order)
  - 2nd/3rd medals (quicker turn time)
- First weekend tournament - still have room for additional teams
  - Could open up 14 & 15 level tournaments (stay away from the 14th/15th - gopher state)
- Second weekend tournament - filling up

### Spring Tryouts

- Have gear placed by the hitting stations, so they could quickly switch gear between stations
- Set up tables in the main lobby area versus the tunnel at the dome entrance
- Stickers versus sharpie on hands
- Ask Jeremy to come up with tryout numbers, so they work better with the Flexx system
- **Action Item: Dan Grove to follow up with Flexx to find out when lockers will be updated**
- Feedback to spread out the time frames between age levels

### Fall Tryouts

- Discussion around the possibility of moving to 1 tryout versus 2 tryouts
  - Mike Horn motions to move to 1 tryout in the Spring (Jan/Feb) by end of February. Dan Grove seconds. Aye 7. Nay 0. Abstain 4. Motion Passes
  - Will need a committee to finalize. 1 tryout and brings it to the board
  - **Action Item: Board members bring tryout ideas to the April meeting**
  - Potentially have the spring tryout the Saturday before the SuperBowl?
- Do we continue to use FLEXX going forward - Discussion around looking into other companies or Varsity Team Coaches

Next Meeting April 9th 7pm

Tay motions to adjourn at 10:09. Mike Horn seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.