

MYBA Monthly Meeting January 7, 2013

January monthly meeting called to order by Michael Blumenfeld, President at 6:34 P.M. at McRae Park and Recreation Center.

Present at the meeting are Mike Blumenfeld, Guy Cierzan, Christine Jackson, Lori Mittag, Alicia Skow, Kristie Woelfel, Bryan Barnes, Scott Zosel, Bill Garrison, and Scott Beazley.

Not present at the meeting are Brent Gregerson and Art Harlow.

Motion made by Blumenfeld to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2012 monthly meeting with one change noted. Barnes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Todd Renville introduced himself and was present at the meeting. He has a son, Joseph, eligible to play 14/15A.

Treasurer's Update:

Bill Garrison, treasurer, has attempted to get in touch with Mark Anderson, former treasurer, to take over the reigns of treasurer. As soon as he meets with Anderson, he will have an update for the board.

In the interim, Blumenfeld offered a short update:

--Balance in the Wells Fargo account as of January 7, 2013 is \$17,864.00.

--Pending deposit of \$1,207.90 for tryout fees. Pipeline fees of \$4,744.90.

Blumenfeld discussed issues with the Cooperstown accounting. It is difficult to run the Cooperstown budget through our existing MYBA accounts. He wants to explore obtaining a third account for Cooperstown specifically so the Cooperstown accounting is not going through our operating account. Garrison said he would take care of this. Additionally, Garrison will look into transferring the "Travel Director" account which is used for tournaments over to WF, or doing away with it altogether.

Questions were addressed regarding the treasury position--signing authority, number of accounts, etc.

Travel Director Update:

Alicia has a call into Kim Eul to determine any batting changes.

--MYBA Clinics Update:

DeLaSalle clinic brought in \$990.00. 25 players attended and most paid for all three clinics. A total of 35 players signed up for the clinic. There were quite a few no shows.

Washburn clinic brought in \$1,315.00. 33 players attended the clinic and there were enough volunteers. 22 players paid \$50.00 upfront.

Clinics went really well. Well attended and plenty of volunteers.

--Tournament registration:

Beazley has not registered for any tournaments as of yet. Coach Olive has registered. Coach Walraff is looking. Other coaches have been sent the information necessary to register for tournaments themselves. Blumenfeld has registered for 13AA, 13A and 11A. Beazley will register teams this week.

Registrar Update:

Fine indicated that 60 players have registered to date. At 10U there are 10 players registered, at 11U we have 12 players registered, at 12U we have 14 players registered, at 13U we have 18 players registered and at 14U we have 6 players registered. Fine will be sending out emails regarding registration this week. 14s will be reminded to register and pay their commitment fee. Of the 6 players registered at 14, only 2 of the players indicated that they are returning players.

Blumenfeld discussed the Richfield situation.

Richfield wants 50% Richfield residents in the league, which is part of a city mandate. They are not near 50%. They do not expect to take any new Minneapolis families this year. MYBA will get some of these families. Richfield also anticipates having to displace existing families. If you are from Minneapolis, you will not be notified of whether you received a roster spot in Richfield until February 22nd, which is after our commitment fee payment requirement. We are starting to see more families from Richfield. (The commitment fee is due before 2/22).

Asset Manager Update:

Jackson indicated that she obtained quotes from St. Main's for equipment. She needs to know how much money we have to spend. Garrison projected \$3,500.00 for team equipment. We need baseballs! MYBA spent \$1,500.00 last year and budgeted for \$3,500.00. Discussion had about the need for catcher's gear, baseballs, etc. Need first aid kits, some team bags are in poor condition.

Jackson will check Baseballsavings.com and Sports Authority for cheapest baseballs. We must get in and inventory the equipment. A date was set to do this--Sunday, January 27th, inventory date. 10:00 A.M. Be there.

Logo wear--new items will be at tryouts from St. Main's. Pants are going up 25 cents. Shirts are not going up. We own the machine to put on the patches. Need to order patches.

If a team agrees to it, they can get orange shirts but they have to pay for it. MYBA is staying with white. More parents preferred white in their post season feedback surveys.

Risk Management Update:

Cierzan informed us that MYBA is insured. He will have to do a supplemental once we have the final team count. MYBA needs to do all new forms for BCA. Will have to get coaches to comply--that is the hard part. Will circulate forms amongst the board members, too. Will do concussion awareness for new coaches. Concussion training is good for three years. Wants proper first aid kits.

Coach Coordinator Update:

Blumenfeld gave an update on coaches:

--14AA Jeff Carlyle will probably coach.

--We may need another coach at 14 if we field another team

--13AAA Dave Wilson

--13AA Kevin Ario

--13AA 70% chance of Adam Hansen coming back, he may move

--13A Nate Hood, if he is willing to coach, good choice

--12AAA Andrew Olive

--12AA Jim Anderson

--12A needs coach

--11 Joe Walraff will coach--not sure what team his child be on, however

--10U Eric Nelson at 10A, remaining coaches are up in the air.

Blumenfeld is interviewing parents for the 10U teams. Kevin Earley is interested in coaching.

Team Formation Committee:

Blumenfeld gave an update from the committee meeting. The committee reviewed team formation policies and procedures from last year. The committee decided to follow the document more formerly. The committee did not make any major changes to the team formation policies and procedures.

Marketing Update:

Cierzan indicated that he met with Zosel last Friday to discuss marketing. Zosel and Cierzan have been working on the Facebook ads. Targeting certain zip codes in Minneapolis where they felt they would be the most successful. Barnes and Cierzan are meeting to discuss posters for schools and parks. Schools sends out a weekly newsletter, may try to get in newsletter. Ads will go live this week.

Wear your MYBA gear to school--let's pick a date. Referral program--send email to membership and if a member is able to get someone to sign up, they will receive a \$20.00 gift certificate to St. Main's. In order to get the \$20.00 certificate, the player must be rostered. Blumenfeld will do the email to the membership regarding the incentive program.

Fundraising Update:

Blumenfeld indicated that there is nothing to add to fundraising. No committee meeting has been held as of yet. Will not be able to meet between now and next meeting. Cierzan will follow up on the Dick's offer.

Tryout Update:

The parent meeting's were discussed. The meetings will be mandatory for new families. Optional for others. Need to select three dates. January 28th, February 4th and 11th. 7:00 start time. Fine volunteered to find a location. Blumenfeld will update the powerpoint.

Schedule for Tryouts:

Discussion had as to the times for the different ages. The times are as such:

--February 2nd:

9 - 10 year olds: 9:15 to 11:45
11 year olds: Noon to 1:45
12 year olds: 2:00 to 3:45
13 & 14 year olds: 4:00 to 6:00

--February 10th:

9 - 10 year olds: 1:30 to 2:30
11 - 12 year olds: 2:30 to 3:30
13 - 14 year olds: 3:30 to 5:00

Evaluators discussion. Skow indicated we have many that will help.

DeLaSalle will evaluate both Saturdays. We have \$1,650.00 to pay for evaluators. 30 hours total for the evaluation period. Four evaluators per session. Discussion had about paying evaluators.

Need one more tactical meeting regarding tryouts before tryouts. Meeting will focus on team selection and the actual tryout process.

Team Formation Committee will meet again on Saturday, January 19th at 8:00 Town Hall Tap.

Equipment for the tryouts will be coordinated by Alicia, Gregerson and Jackson.

Discussion had about parents being present at the tryouts. Ideally, it would be nice if they were not. Need parents for uniforms and to spend their money on logo wear. Need to make it clear that parents cannot follow their child around. Must stay behind the caution line.

Discussion had about players that are injured during tryouts. It was decided that injury issues needed to be handled on a case by case basis within the sole and absolute discretion of the MYBA Board.

Grant Update:

Beazley indicated that the grant with the city is approved. MYBA needs to buy three pitching machines for three different age groups and 19 L-screens. The total of the grant is \$7,900.00 and MYBA must pay \$1,500.00. Beazley found some good deals on line. Can only use the funds for the above equipment--if any money is left over, it will go back to the original fund for next year. Need to get compact L screens because not everyone drives a big car. Will explore different companies, including St. Main's. Beazley will check on pricing for the equipment and share with the Board. Beazley will check on pricing for different styles of L-screens as well.

New Business:

Skow--Fields are due on February 4th. If we are going to do fall tryouts, we need to include those dates as well. Skow will secure some dates in September for tryouts for the 14s in the fall. Park and Recreation is trying to do a youths sports commission. Judy McQuade updated Skow on this issue. Goals of the commission is to improve access, share resources, map fields, better feeder system for the high schools. The Park and Rec will have a stakeholder meeting in January and MYBA will be invited. W will be advised as to the stakeholder meeting date.

Beazley-- He has committed to 11 tournaments and needs \$4000.00.

Todd Renville--He son, Joseph, played MYBA for two years and did not make a team last year. His son was unable to participate in our fall tryouts. But, Renville was informed that his son can come to tryouts because he missed the 14 fall tryout. There is a good chance that we will have two teams at 14. Joseph has an April 26th birthday. Must play 14/15A team.

Nonie Kouneski was also present at the meeting and discussed the issue of her son, Jakob, playing up. His petition to play up was discussed at the December board meeting and was denied by a 5 - 3 - 1 vote of the board.

Kouneski discussed whether Jakob is ready to play up with older kids. Hitting stats not that great from last year with MYBA. She feels that his stats reflect circumstances, not who he is as a player. Jakob was hurt and played. He had arm weakness and is currently in physical therapy. He was diagnosed with inflamed growth plates in his elbow and shoulder. He needs to get rid of pain and work on strength. He played fall ball with the Blizzard, an elite baseball organization. He tried out for his age level and blizzard played him up--at 13. Jakob plays up in every sport but MYBA. He has a November birthday and is 12 years old and in the 6th grade. He fits athletically with 13 year olds in size and maturity. His parents feel he does better playing sports in older age groups. She sees him playing AA. Jakob has played for MYBA for three years. Jakob's arm injury was sustained during the season and based on how it was addressed, they will only play in MYBA if Jakob has a different coach.

Discussion had among board members regarding Kouneski's son playing up at 13. Revisiting the board's vote from last month regarding this issue. Motion made by Mittag to reconsider our vote of last month allowing Kouneski to tryout with the 13 year olds this year. Seconded by Garrison. Vote passed, 6 - 4 - 1. Waiver is approved.

Mittag moved to adjourn at 8:59. Blumenfeld seconded. Passed.