

## **MYBA Monthly Meeting, October 8, 2013**

Meeting held at Kenwood Recreation Center. Present at the meeting are Bill Garrison, Scott Beazley, Elise Fine, Lori Mittag, Alicia Skow, Bryan Barnes, Scott Zosel, Guy Cierzan and Mike Blumenfeld. Not present are Christine Jackson and Brent Gregerson. Kristie Woelfel resigned via email prior to the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 6:41 P.M. Motion by Fine to accept the minutes from the September meeting. Barnes seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Bill Garrison, treasurer, gave an update.

--Travel director's balance is \$1,538.00.

--Cooperstown balance is \$542.00.

--The operating account balance is \$41,995.00. This does not include a check to the parks for \$1,430.00 for field rental. The next big expenditure for field rental is for 2013. Skow needs to review before paying. The bill is approximately \$16,500.00.

--\$100.00 commitment fee was paid at tryouts in the fall.

### **Travel Director Update:**

Alicia Skow, travel director, provided the update.

Fall Tryout Evaluators: Our evaluators put in 80 hours of time for the tryouts. Coaches came from De La Salle, South and Southwest. We had a budget of \$2700. If we pay them \$15/hr, their total payment will be \$1,300. If we increase that to \$20, then \$1,700. Increasing to \$25, our pay out would be \$2,100. The consensus is to pay them \$20/hr. Payment will be sent this week.

--The other evaluators were former and current MYBA coaches who would not have a conflict evaluating this age group.

--We estimated that we would need 6 evaluators at 27 hours for all 4 days, equaling 162 total hours. We reached around 110 total hours, not including the board members that were present.

## **Registrar Update:**

Elise Fine, Registrar, provided the update.

### **Fall Tryout Numbers:**

12U – 40 registered, 1 missed 2nd tryout (Will Marshall)

13U – 38 registered, 1 missed 2nd tryout (Tyrell Terry)

14U – 60 registered, 6 missed 2nd tryout (Bernstein, Arms, Mullrenhen, Cheng, Jagielski, Stevens)

Total number attended fall tryout – 138

All players will need to drop in at Winter tryouts to be fitted for uniforms.

## **Asset Management Update:**

Christine Jackson, Asset Manager, provided an update via email. We need two sets of catcher's gear (three would be ideal) for under 12 years old. We have two new sets of catcher's gear for 12 and older. Jackson needs straps for helmets and new shinguards.

Garage sale update: Jackson has a potential location at the White Crane located at 50th and 28th Avenue. Perhaps the first weekend in November? This is weather dependent and garage sale in the spring may be better timing.

## **Risk Management Update:**

Guy Cierzan, Risk Manager, provided an update.

--Cierzan will take a look at our insurance options and get quotes.

--Exploring the MYAS approach to the coach verification process--BCA checks and concussion certification. If it isn't too expensive he will bring this option back to the board and we can discuss.

--He will contact Dick's Sporting Goods to see if they will support us in the fundraising effort as they did last year.

Discussion was had as to our process when the background check comes back with a misdemeanor, etc. How do we handle this as an organization? Cierzan recommends that MYBA develop criteria for when a BCA check is returned with a criminal background of some nature. Cierzan will obtain recommendations as to how this is handled from the BCA and by other park recreation centers.

## **Coach Coordinator Update:**

Mike Blumenfeld, president, provided the update.

--14U AAA and AA have coaches.

--12U AAA has a coach, 12A has a coach but his son may make AA, leaving an open coach spot. We do not have a AA coach. Walraff is remaining at 11U. Blumenfeld will speak to Oslund about coaching at this level if his son does not make AAA.

--We need up to four coaches for the age groups that tried out this fall.

--At 10U we need Mini Miller coaches.

Discussion was had about the coaches that are not returning. For some age groups, we have made other choices in coaching. Coaches should be contacted directly.

Discussion was had about whether coaching decisions should be decided by formal vote of the entire Board. Blumenfeld feels these type of decisions should be made by the entire Board. Zosel agreed and provided history with regard to retaining and dismissing coaches. The Board needs to review the survey summaries of the coaches. The Board needs to be advised of the coaches' committee recommendations for retaining or dismissing coaches. Within the past five years, we have retained a much more formal process for retaining and dismissing coaches. It is believed that this process makes the coaches more accountable to the mission of MYBA and to the Board.

## **Annual Meeting Update:**

Blumenfeld indicated that the annual meeting needs to be scheduled for either November 4th or 6th. It is an election year, so we need to be mindful of voting and schedule our meeting around that. Beazley will try to book Fuller Park, same location as last year. Meeting will begin at 6:30. Cierzan suggested that we conduct our monthly meeting first and have the final half hour dedicated for the annual meeting. Elections will then be held. Cierzan, Zosel, and Jackson are up for re-election. There are three open seats--Harlow, Gregerson and Woelfel.

Blumenfeld discussed voting at the annual meeting. A voice vote worked in the past because we did not have more candidates than seats available. Last year we had a secret ballot because we had more candidates than available seats. Is there a better way to vote? Trying to forego an awkward moment. Garrison thinks we should do it the same as last year. Have the candidates speak as to why they want to be on the board. Everyone present has a ballot. The vote takes place and we take a break from the meeting. The Secretary, Lori Mittag, will tally the votes and the announce the results. This will occur at the end of the evening after the monthly meeting.

Fine suggested that she could send an email to our members seeking their interest in being on the Board. Members could respond if they are interested and send an email indicating why they are interested.

### **Fall Tryouts Update:**

Blumenfeld thought things went pretty well overall. There was a more reliable supply of evaluators. Is this because we paid them? Scrimmage format went well but players spent a fair amount of time running the bases. Blumenfeld felt there was not enough time in the infield. Overall, the facilities were much better and the weather was okay. Zosel indicated from an evaluators perspective that the evaluations were fair and the location was far superior to the YWCA.

We moved to the fall to avoid conflicts in the spring. Fine reported that we simply traded one set of conflicts for another but not near as many conflicts as in the spring. Football was a problem for the AAA. However, according to Fine, the conflicts in the fall were much less and easier to work with than the conflicts in the spring.

Skow reported that it was much tougher to find evaluators and kid helpers because of Sunday's fall ball schedule. Next fall we should consider Saturday tryouts instead of Sunday to avoid this conflict. We may be able to shorten the sessions. We had extra time on the first day of tryouts. Garrison felt that the nine hour day was too long. He felt that we could have done the stations with the kids quicker. The first round of tryouts went by quickly and we had an hour in between groups. We need two days because of conflicts between different sports. We need one Saturday and one Sunday. Garrison thought we could use the facilities better and perhaps get a second field. He would also like to see a true scrimmage or real competition as part of the tryout process.

The evaluators felt that we need T-shirts, or pinnies, that fit over the kids' shirt with a number on the front and back so that the evaluators can see the numbers with little effort. Skow will follow up with an email to the evaluators and ask them what they would do to improve the tryout process. What went well, what needs to be improved.

Overall opinion--fabulous tryout. Went really well. Much better outside.

### **Team Formation:**

Blumenfeld gave a summary:

14U--60 kids. one AAA team, three AA teams, and one A team

13U--cannot have two competitive AA teams at this level. Blumenfeld's recommendation at this level: one AAA team, one AA team, and one A team

12U--Blumenfeld proposes one AAA team, one AA team and one A team

Blumenfeld moves to ratify the above approach for the teams at 14, 13 and 12. Motion seconded by Garrison. Passed unanimously.

We need to schedule a team formation meeting with the coaches. The team formation committee consists of Board members Cierzan, Zosel, Mittag, Blumenfeld, Fine and Skow/Beazley.

We anticipate that teams will be announced by end of October.

"Hold Open" spots discussed:

We will look at all the data and then decide how many spots we leave open on each team at 12, 13 and 14.

Discussion had regarding what to inform families. If players new to the program tryout in the spring, your son may be brought back to a call back in the spring. Only new players to the program are allowed to tryout in February. However, we need to leave open the possibility that someone who tried out in fall may have to come to a call back in the spring. Assign players to a team with the disclaimer that they may get called back in the spring because of new players in the program.

Your spot on the team is not confirmed until after spring tryouts when rosters will be finalized.

At 14, everyone gets a roster spot just like in the spring. At 13 and 12, everybody gets the same letter--you have been rostered on this particular team subject to a call back in the spring.

There will be players placed on waiting lists at 13U and 12U.

36 kids will be rostered in each age group--12 per team.

### **New Business:**

Sean Laird was present and asked about pitching mounds at Neiman. Discussion had about mounds for Neiman. Nothing new on this. Someone needs to approach the park board and ask if they will install pitching mounds again at Neiman. If portable, we need a place to store the mounds.

Skow has dates and times for February tryouts. Tryout #1, Feb. 1st from 8:00 to 2:30. Make up date for the first tryout is Sunday, Feb. 9th from 8:00 to 12:30.

Second tryout dates are Feb. 22nd and 23rd from 8:00 to 1:30. Skow is confirming these date with Blumenfeld.

Skow has dates for DeLaSalle Clinics for 12U - 14U players. Every Sunday in January (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th) fro 6:00 to 8:00.

Motion to adjourn made by Skow at 8:47. Barnes seconded. Passed.