

MYBA Monthly Meeting December 3, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:35 P.M. by President, Mike Blumenfeld. Present at the meeting are Elise Fine, Lori Mittag, Justin Benjamin, Cheryl Sullivan, Alicia Skow, Bill Garrison and Heather Nelson for Erick Nelson. Not present at the meeting are Christine Jackson, Scott Zosel, Scott Beazley and Guy Cierzan.

Motion made by Blumenfeld to accept the minutes from the November 6, 2013 monthly meeting. Seconded by Fine and passed. Motion made by Blumenfeld to accept the November 6, 2013 Annual Meeting minutes. Seconded by Fine and passed.

No travel director update (Skow)

Registrar Update (Fine):

December 9, 2013, registration will be up on the website and ready.

Discussion had about players registering at the 12, 13 and 14 U levels that are new to the program or have played in the MYBA program in the past.

Email went out to all families regarding player placement from fall tryouts around mid-November. Fine and Blumenfeld heard from about 15 families regarding different issues like allowing new players to tryout in the spring, when commitment fees are due, what does the wait list mean, etc.

Discussion had about going from two AA teams at the 12 year old level last year to one AA team and one A team at 13U this year. Sullivan heard from five different families that were not happy about the board's decision in this regard.

Risk Management (Cierzan via email):

No new updates on risk management other than:

- 1). Awaiting word from Dick's on sponsorship package
- 2). Planning to process insurance renewal this month so we will be up to date as we begin 2014
- 3). Still researching alternate options for background checks /concussion compliance
- 4). Have not yet drafted a process for what to do when a questionable background check comes in, but will draft something by next board meeting.

Coach Coordinator Update (Blumenfeld):

Open spots at 14A, 13A, 12AA, and 12A.

Offered the 12AA head coaching position to David Oslund who declined the position. Non-parent for 12AA Mike Greenheck, was recommended by Tim Smith. However, he is on the board of Richfield's travel baseball program. Blumenfeld will contact Greenheck and speak with him about coaching. There are concerns that there may be a conflict of interest because he serves on the Richfield board.

Discussion had about how to attract more volunteer coaches to our organization.

Garrison thinks it is time we start the discussion about paying coaches a certain amount of money.

Heather Nelson will check with colleges and see about college internship programs for potential young volunteer, non-parent coaches.

Discussed various parent options for coaches at the different age levels.

2014 Officer Elections:

A. President -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Blumenfeld to continue as President. Benjamin seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

B. Travel Director -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Skow to continue as Travel Director. Seconded by Garrison. Passed unanimously.

C. Treasurer -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Garrison to continue as Treasurer. Seconded by asullivan. Passed unanimously.

D. Registrar -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Fine to continue as Registrar. Benjamin seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

E. Secretary -- Motion made by Garrison to nominate Mittag to continue as Secretary. Fine seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

F. Asset Manager -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Jackson to continue as Asset Manager. Motion seconded by Fine. Passed unanimously.

G. Risk Manager -- Motion made by Mittag to nominate Cierzan to continue as Risk Manager. Motion seconded by Fine. Passed unanimously.

Discussion had regarding unofficial positions. Barnes will continue as webmaster next year.

Blumenfeld would like someone to head up the Mini Millers program. Coordinating coach development, coordinate everything on the rec side of our program. We will need this position filled in order to grow the program. Justin Benjamin and Erick Nelson are interested in serving as the "Rec Director," or, "Mini Millers" directors.

Marketing -- Barnes, Cierzan and Zosel have done a good job with this in the past. They will continue in this capacity. Benjamin will help with marketing when it concerns the Mini Millers program.

Fine will speak with Stan Allen regarding marketing to the public schools. Barnes indicated we need to find a new contact with the Minneapolis Public School Athletic Department. Dave Wicker is on leave from his job.

Fundraising -- Sullivan offered to head up this committee on the board.

Handbook Committee -- Blumenfeld recommended that Cierzan, Zosel, Sullivan and Blumenfeld should be on this committee.

Budget Planning (Garrison):

Participation Fees for 2014. See the handouts attached to the minutes of this meeting. All board members received a copy of the handouts at the meeting.

Garrison gave an overview of the handouts.

Participation fee discussion. The discussion was had along the lines of the different scenarios proposed by Garrison for fees for next year.

Discussion was had about raising the fees across the board for all age levels including Mini Millers by \$25.00. Discussion was had that raising the Mini Millers fee is not a good idea because we are trying to build the program. It costs \$35.00 to play park board. We need to be aggressive about our marketing strategy for the Mini Millers. Parents loved the program. It was decided not to raise the Mini Millers fee by \$25.00.

Motion made by Garrison to raise the participation fees for all age levels by \$25.00, with the exception of the Mini Millers. Seconded by Fine. Passed 8 to 1.

The fee structure is as follows for 2014:

Mini Millers \$150.00
10U \$275.00
11U \$355.00
12U \$430.00
13U \$455.00
14U \$480.00

2014 Planning

Marketing update:

Barnes indicated earlier that we need to find a new contact within the Minneapolis Public Schools Athletic Department. Fine will contact Stan Allen.

We need to decide whether we are going to do flyers in all the parks. Perhaps with regard to the Mini Millers program we may need to do flyers.

Barnes indicated we will target certain zip codes on Facebook and advertise.

Clinics: Skow indicated that South High will conduct the clinics at 10 and 11. The clinics will be every Sunday in January (with the exception of MLK weekend) -- the 5th, 12th and the 26th. The clinics will be at the South High gym.

DeLaSalle clinics -- Douge Schildgren is worried about having three age groups together (12, 13 and 14). He thinks it may be too many players. We should consider putting the 12s back with the 10s and 11s. If we have a lot of players, Douge will charge \$20.00 per player instead of \$15.00. With this in mind, we should consider just going with the 13s and 14s at DeLaSalle. Plus, if Douge wants to have only two age groups, this is what we should do.

It was decided to put the 12s with the 10 and 11 year old clinics.

The clinics are no longer tryout preparation for the older ages and we may not get near as many players participating in the clinics.

Fine proposed sending out an email once registration is up and see what the interest is in participating in a winter clinic at the older ages. Garrison suggested that non-MYBA players should be able to participate in the clinics as well.

Tryouts:

A new time schedule has been decided. We will conduct tryouts on a tighter time schedule for spring.

Feb. 1st -- Tryout #1 is from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Tryout #1 makeup date is Feb 9th from 8:00 A.M. to noon.

Tryout #2 -- Feb 22nd and Feb. 23rd from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (both dates).

The commitment fee refund drop dead date is February 12, 2014.

Opening Day:

Skow was wondering if anyone has connections to the park board. Opening day last year got snowed out. We would like to be able to sell food, etc. But, we need to give the park board 20% of anything we sell. Skow would like someone to approach the park board and ask them if we really have to pay this percentage.

Discussion had about logo wear. The inventory is insufficient, especially for the holiday season at Bill St. Manes.

It would be nice to have a link on the website that takes you to a store where you can buy MYBA logo wear. Jackson is in charge of this and she needs help. We need a logo wear strategy. Fine, Barnes, Sullivan indicated they would help. This is considered a missed opportunity.

Are we going to try to do opening day again? Discussion had. Will discuss further at next meeting.

Blumenfeld discussed whether we should do parent meetings again. All agreed parent meetings are a great idea. We will need to begin considering dates for this and getting parks reserved.

Waiver Language Discussion:

Garrison passed out proposed waiver language. See handout attached to the minutes of this meeting. Blumenfeld suggested we allow no waivers with the exception of a gap player. Discussion had about the two proposed waiver rules.

Fine needs the waiver language before registration begins. Barnes moves that we have a no waiver policy, which means that players are only allowed to play their age group (with the exception of gap players). Blumenfeld seconded. Motion passes 5 to 4.

Motion made by Garrison to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Fine. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.