



Monthly Board Meeting - December 14th, 2014

The regular meeting of the Rogers-Otsego Youth Baseball Association was called to order by President Derrick Stark at 6:23pm on Sunday, December 14th, 2014.

Members Present: Derrick Stark, Jeff Daun, Lynne Jakubic, Brien Geerdes, Steve Schaupp, Chris Kane, Brandon Anderson, Ben Emmrich, Doug Cassidy, Kirby Welle, Scott Fischer, Mark Orwoll, Cliff Banks, Leon Lubke and Rick DeValk.

Members Missing: Brian Moss, Tom Braesch, Dustin Amundson

Also Present: Mike Hand

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2014 MINUTES – Jeff Daun motioned and Lynne Jakubic seconded to approve the November 9th, 2014 minutes. All were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business

1. P2P Training Facility – General update

- a. Winter memberships sold
 - i. 123 total, higher volumes than expected.
 - ii. Jeff Daun (ROYBA facility liaison) working on a Welcome Letter which will be sent to winter members prior to the January opening.
- b. Winter membership schedule
 - i. Finalizing age group days/ times but likely won't change much from proposed that is the website.
- c. Usage options outside of winter memberships – Not feasible during winter house but will be working a schedule once teams are formed (travel and house). More to come.
- d. Opening date of January 4th is on schedule.
 - i. Targeting a January 3rd or 4th Open House for all ROYBA and STMA members.
 - ii. Asked for board members to volunteer to work open house and 1st few weeks after opening.

2. Board Member Duties

- a. Open positions – No one volunteered for the positions below so will need to assign if positions remain open.
 - i. 5th-6th grade commissioner
 - ii. 10th – 12th grade commissioner
- b. Jeff Daun named P2P facility manager and liaison for ROYBA. All communication and coordination will be driven thru Jeff.

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- a. First payment of \$4,000 was delivered to Coach Harapat with the 2nd payment of \$4,000 due during the summer. He was very appreciative.

4. 2015 Strategic Plan

- a. Cash flow update and 2nd draft of 2015 projections
 - i. Discuss 2015 pricing – Reviewed and debated 4 pricing options (no change, \$10, \$15 and \$20 per player) with associated net income/ loss over next 3 years.
 1. ROYBA is on par or less than other comparable associations, including Otsego Little League.
 2. Passed a motion (Mark Orwoll, 2nd by Brien Geerdes) to raise fees by \$15 per player. Factors in the decision were:
 - a. All house teams getting full uniforms
 - b. Facility will be used by all teams/ players once teams are formed.
 - c. Ensure future balanced budgets without the need to continue to raise fees the next couple of years.
- b. Re-write registration refund policy that closes Day 2 evaluation loophole – All were in favor.
- c. Sport NGIN fees
 - i. Winter membership disclosed service fee that Sport NGIN charges for each online registration. In 2014, service fee was rolled into registration total and paid by ROYBA.
 1. Decided that 2015 season online registration will remain the same as 2014.

5. Apparel and Uniforms

- a. Samples of 2015 Uniforms – Sample were available for board members to see at the meeting.
- b. Online Store
 - i. Online store launched end of November with 12 orders to date
 - ii. New merchandise to be added and open to suggestions.
 - iii. ROYBA receives 10% back on sales.
 - iv. Working on a display at the P2P facility but there will be an option for 'cash and carry' so online only.

6. Dibs – No updates since last meeting.**7. Travel Update**

- a. Travel coach apps. due 12/31/14 with interviews scheduled for January 2015.

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8. Travel Tryouts

- a. Dates have been set and updated on the update site. Location will be Maple Grove Dome again.
 - i. 3/28/15 from 8am to 3pm
 - ii. 3/29/15 from 3pm to 9pm

New Business**9. Player/ Coach Development**

- a. Positive Coaching Alliance presentation presented by Andrew Pillsbury from PCA MN chapter.
 - i. PCA provides workshops and tools for associations to purchase which is focused on three areas: Coaches, Athletes and Parents.
 - ii. Materials were handed out providing more details on the programs and offerings, including pricing.
 - iii. Workshops have common themes which can be used across sports but would use baseball specific examples.
 - iv. Developed out of Stanford University, it is a national organization with local chapters across various states.
 - v. There is no max. # of participants in the workshops but recommended # is 75-100.
 - vi. Used by many local youth sport associations, including baseball but other sports as well.
 - vii. Although very intriguing, there were no motions by the Board during this meeting.
- b. Baseball Rebellion video program presented by Brien Geerdes (board member)
 - i. Online training videos that have no max. license limit.
 - ii. Cost seemed reasonable
 - iii. To be reviewed and voted on next board meeting.
- c. Winter Training Series at RHS
 - i. School district provided only two dates. Consensus by the board was that was too limiting and based on last year # of participants (lower than normal), would rather put the time and effort into other training opportunities, perhaps at the new facility.
- d. Brien and Kirby are working on recommendations present at the January 2015 board meeting on player/ coach training options.

10. Local Pre-School fair

- a. Board approved having a booth (\$25) at the local pre-school fair on 1/14/15 from 4-8pm at the Rogers Community Center. Ben Emmerich will man the booth.
- b. Viewed as a reasonable marketing opportunity to further spread the ROYBA brand to potential new parents and athletes.

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- a. Formalize policy on whether or not a player can play for more than one team/organization at the same time.
 - i. Board agreed a written policy should be added to Terms and Conditions and referenced during registration.
 - ii. Scott Fischer and Brian Moss will make appropriate updates
- b. Formalize policy related to 9U travel team that limits players to 8 or 9 years old, but not younger.
 - i. Board agreed with Scott Fischer making necessary language changes.

12. Equipment

- a. Diamond baseballs ordered through Sporting Goods, Inc.
- b. Dustin and Derrick will order remaining equipment by 12/31/15.
- c. Discussed continuing to keep equipment up-to-date and allocating appropriate funds each year.

13. Open Forum

- a. Mike Hand brought up two points:
 - i. The need to continue to strengthen and partner with the RHS coaching staff to help youth coaches citing the benefits for both the HS and youth teams (ex. 14U and 13U teams) to have consistent practice plans and player development. Mike has had his own discussions with some of the RHS assistant coaches/ school teachers on the subject.
 1. Many board members agreed. Brien and Kirby have already had an initial discussion with Coach Harapat with more conversations to occur after the holiday break.
 2. Brien has also started on some practice plans.
 - ii. The possibility of exploring non-parent coaches at the older youth team levels.
 1. Some board members agreed. It's done in other sports. It's a cultural change that will take time with more research needed on funding and creating a pipeline/ awareness in the community.
- b. ROYBA and RHS shared website
 - i. Seems to be 'doable'. The existing ROYBA site would be enhanced to incorporate RHS. Costs and sizing of effort will be completed with recommendations presented at January 2015 board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM. The next meeting of the Rogers-Otsego Area Youth Baseball Association Board will be held on Sunday, January 11th 2014 @ 6:30PM at the Rogers Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Lubke

Monthly Board Meeting - December 14th, 2014**Takeaways**

- 2015 Registration
 - Update registration with fee changes (Moss; Anderson update website)
 - Open registration on 01/15/15 (Moss; Anderson update website)
 - Update refund policy on website (Anderson)
 - Update current Terms and Conditions noting updated ROYBA Eligibility Rules noting players can only play for one baseball association. (Fischer and Moss)
 - Add volunteer policy
 - Update DIBs exemption to ***one per team***.
 - Update late fee dates to applicable dates for 2015 (3/16/15 and 3/31/15)
 - Remove helmet purchase section (no longer worthwhile)
- Facility
 - Look at using facility for Majors (4/26??) and 8th-9th grade house evals. (Daun, Orwoll, TBD)