

Arrowhead Fastpitch League Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2017 7:00pm
Black Woods, Proctor

In attendance: Sherry Mottonen, Theresa Leopold, Kelly Goeb, John Stevens, Dennis Peterson, Denny Nelson, Jason Lagregren, Bridget Vesel-Johnson, Pat Shelton

1. **Diamond Scheduler.** Opted to wait until the off season to look into this more. Need to confirm the cost, and will take several hours to train in a few people. Will also give us time to look into other programs.
2. **Hibbing Teams.** A representative from Hibbing has been in contact with Sherry, would perhaps like to play some games against our teams. Would be difficult to work them into our 12s schedule, but will ask teams on registration for 14s and 16/18s if they would like to work in games with Hibbing, home or away. Will continue the conversation with the Hibbing representative and see if we can work things out.
3. **Dates and Fees.**
 - April 9-** Registration deadline and coaches meeting
 - April 23-** Scheduling meeting for the Board, PACC 9am
 - April 30-** USA Umpire Clinic 6:00pm at PACC run by Jason Lagregren and Brian Karich for all umps of 14s and older
 - May 21-** Free clinic for 10s and 12s players (and coaches), likely at Wade fields, 11:00-2:00, organized by Dennis Peterson
4. **Umpire Business**
 - a. **Umpire in Chief.** Jason agrees to take over as umpire in chief at \$3 per game.
 - b. **Arbiter One.** Cost about \$235 annually. Board agrees to move forward with purchase and Jason agrees to manage it for umpire scheduling
 - c. **USA Clinic.** Umping clinic to certify 14s/16/18s umps as USA umps. Cost it \$20 for new umps, \$70 for registered umps. April 30 at 6pm at PACC.
 - d. **10/12s umps.** Informal clinic will be held, possibly on May 21, time to be confirmed.
 - e. **Advertising.** Sherry will work on advertising for umps at local colleges and Craig's list.
 - f. **Umpire Reimbursement.** Board agrees to the following amounts per game:
 - i. 14s league, \$40
 - ii. 16s league only (no 18s teams), \$50 for single ump, \$40 each for two umps
 - iii. 16/18s combo league, \$60 for single ump, \$45 each for two umps
5. **Field Availability.** Need to know prior to scheduling meeting
 - a. Proctor—Todd to check
 - b. Duluth—Dennis to check
 - c. Cloquet—Todd to check

6. **Coaches Meeting. April 9.** 4:30 Board meets to get organized and discuss possible options for 10s rules. Kelly and Sherry to revise agenda from last year, be sure to include information on concussion training and to be kind to our umpires at all levels.
 - a. **5:00-6:30.** 10s/12s meeting
 - b. **6:30-8:00.** 14/16/18s meeting
7. **Medal/Bag Tag Update.** Cost per medal was \$2.50 last year. Cheapest option for right now, but will keep looking.
8. **Select Team Committee Report.** Prior to the meeting tonight, Kelly, Theresa and John met to discuss the select and draft team definitions/moving up to higher age group and how to split up 10/12s leagues to offer best experience for teams.
 - a. **10/12s Leagues.** Traditionally, 10/12s have been divided into north/south to limit travel times as our region extends from Silver Bay to Moose Lake/Willow River to South Ridge. Discussion has been brought up to split into an "A" and "B" league instead to offer better competition. However, that could lead to very long travel times for some teams at this young age. Opted instead to keep north/south and to ask coaches at time of registration to rank their team's ability as strong/good/fair. Will then try to schedule teams with similar abilities to play each other when possible within the north/south divisions. This suggestion was agreed upon by the board.
 - b. **Draft Teams.** Currently, our 10/12s rule #2 states, "All leagues must hold a draft providing there are enough registrants for two or more teams." This rule is difficult to enforce and is not how some communities would like to divide their teams. With the knowledge that teams will be able to rank themselves to hopefully improve competition, we opted to get rid of the draft rule and instead state Rule #2 as "No Draft. Communities are allowed to divide teams as they choose within each age group." Board agrees with this suggestion.
 - c. **Select Teams.** Board agrees with the following definition of Select Team for all age groups. "Privately managed year round organization formed from open tryouts or direct recruitment outside of league play AND includes players from more than one community." Board also agrees that Select Teams will be required to move up one age level, with the option to petition the board if they feel they do not have adequate pitching or will not be able to compete fairly at the upper age level.

Respectfully submitted by
Kelly Goeb, Secretary