



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

**September 18th, 2024**

6pm-8pm at Jennings (upstairs), Wisconsin Rapids  
**General Board Meeting**

**General Board Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the Month 6pm, Location Jennings \***  
**Executive Committee Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the Month 6pm, Location Jennings**

*\*no meetings the month of November*

**Present:** Nic Weiler (President), Nate Knutson (Vice President), David Johnson (Treasurer), Amanda Braaten (Secretary), John Estok, William Abel, Kalie Abel, Allison Allen, Shannon Scheunemann, Nate Strehlau, Jamie Brown, Laramie Kostyn, Stephanie Lecy

### AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Welcome**
2. **Call to order 604pm**
3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes 8/21/2024**  
*Nate motioned to approve, Laramie seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
4. **Reports 5-10 Minutes**
  - a. **President: Nic**
    - i. UTrip Bats & Insurance update: is being looked into with insurance
  - b. **Vice President: Nate**
  - c. **Treasurer: David**
    - i. [Operating Budget](#)
    - ii. [Profit Loss Year to Date](#)
    - iii. Reports Proposed: Budget, Actual, Proposal for Next Year
      1. Reports will be shared out this weekend for review
      2. Next meeting there will be a vote on the budget
    - iv. Surplus Funds: We also want/need to keep a surplus or back up fund in the maintenance category to ensure we're prepared for how the weather will impact our fields and our home tournaments \*\*our home tournaments concessions bring in a LOT of revenue
      1. PLEASE email the executive committee with suggestions of gear/supplies that need to be replaced; if you include quotes for reference EVEN BETTER!!
        - a. EXAMPLES: pitching machines, gear bags, softball catcher gear, left handed catcher gloves
      2. Access to indoor facility is major need for all ages;
        - a. Port YMCA is \$60 per hour
        - b. Place in Plover will be pursued



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

3. Clinics: Brewers, UWSP, softball pitching clinics, Scheels... let's start gathering information (prices, locations, ages) Please email executive committee with suggestions
4. Only a few teams asked for additional funds

**d. Secretary: Amanda**

**e. Baseball Coordinator: John**

- i. Tournament dates and fees for the 2025 season
  1. Lead Off May 30th-June 1st
  2. Silver Slugger & June Bug together June 6th-8th
- ii. Fees need to increase:
  1. Silver Slugger
    - a. 13/14 increase from \$400 to \$450
    - b. 9/12 increase from \$325 to \$350
    - c. 8U increase from \$250 to \$300
  2. Leadoff Tourney:
    - a. 12/13/14 increase from \$500 to \$550
    - b. 9/11 increase from \$450 to \$475
    - c. 8U no increase
  3. *Braaten motioned to approve, William seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
- iii. Looking to fill this role for the 2026 season to start in August of 2025 for tryouts; now is the time to express interest so you can shadow the position before the position is yours
- iii. Tournaments Umps; consider increase to match surrounding areas by \$5
  1. \$50-60 is the current range, consider increase by \$5 for each age level
  2. Certifications;
    - a. WRYSA Certified for 8/9/10
    - b. 1 Certified for age 11+
  3. *Laramie motioned to approve, John seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
- iv. Medals and Rings will need to be voted on at another time, this is John's last year and he is willing to order for another year to pass the torch (expecting a \$10k expense)
- v. Fees: need to consider increase

**f. Softball Coordinator:**

- i. Consolidation with other location organizations such as Port Edwards : CoOp?
- ii. Still looking for 10u Girls, will be posting on website, need at least 2-3 more
- iii. May need to increase the budget for funds, tournaments cost more and we want our teams to play more if they want to play more
- iv. Agrees that we need to split the boys from the girls at the tball level. Consider the following:



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

1. 6u baseball, 6u softball
2. Tball for boys only
3. 5-7 year old girls go to 8u softball
4. 8u high and low for league (ages 5-6 softball, ages 7-8 softball) and ensure our coaches know when it comes to league games \*don't want to create the same issue
5. We will vote at a later date and advertise on facebook
- v. June Bug softball tournament there was a lot of requests for t shirts and sweatshirts
  1. Consider UA shirts, not heavy cotton
  2. Stickers from the tournament were a huge hit (and donated, Thank You Darcy!)
  3. Girls love shirts more than boys may
  4. The design MATTERS
- vi. Tournament Fees will remain the same due to struggling numbers
  1. Reducing to \$475 for ages 10-12
  2. Reducing to \$300 for 8u
    - a. *Braaten motioned to approve, William seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
  3. Considering adding Friday, considering 5, 630, and 8
  4. Keep in mind turf vs fields

### 5. Legacy Project: Nate & David

- a. No Major Updates until Spring
- b. Overview of Legacy Project Budget - Jake/David
  - iii. Deadline Extension: Jamie
  - iv. Parking Lot last item
    1. Truckload of boulders update: Shannon
    2. Trees planting and top layer scraped off: Eric Millard

### 6. Field Clean-Up Day (Mon Sept 23rd) - All

- a. Laramie will start a list of things that need to be completed: [LINK HERE](#)
  - i. Practice at home field is better than going elsewhere
  - ii. Field can be used after field clean up day
  - iii. Lights on Field 1 need to be checked; flickering
    1. Under warranty
    2. Birds will be addressed
  - iv. Sprinkler work can be done anytime; need update
  - v. List of duties will be sent out over the weekend
  - vi. Consider adding this to the Master WRYSA doc
- b. ALL FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO ATTEND TO SUPPORT WRAPPING UP OUR END OF THE YEAR CLEAN UP.

### 7. Communication Update: Jamie

- a. Position Available: Communication Coordinator for the 2025 season



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

- b. Position Available: Fundraising Coordinator for the 2025 season
- c. Position Available: Baseball Coordinator for the 2025 season

### 8. Fundraising Update: Jamie & All Included

- a. BINGO: Still able to use the same location (October 24th, 2024-April 17th, 2024)
  - i. Still looking for volunteers
  - ii. Specifically looking for someone to call numbers
- b. Consider Adding: League season raffle for a bat bag or other top gear, Gun Raffle extension, Calendar Raffles, 10 liners for a bat in concessions
  - i. Bat raffle would be a huge hit! We have a connection that may be able to get 30% discount
    - 1. Consider having multiple or trade in policy
    - 2. Talk about in March/April again

### 9. Concession Update: Nate (not present, more to come)

- a. Discussion with intent to vote at next Board Meeting:
  - i. Ultimate Weekend Concessions: WRYSA fundraiser with no parent involvement
  - ii. Home Tournament Concessions: buy out by parents, consider costs vs revenue
  - iii. Consider:
    - 1. Having kids sell food and parents sell beer
    - 2. Important to do the buy out early and schedule in advance

### 10. Ongoing Concern: Indoor Space for Jan-March: may have a lead on this

### 11. Final Notes:

- a. **Motion to add Alyson Allen to the General Board. Alyson would like to switch roles with Kalie Abel (photographer and apparel).** *Laramie motioned to approve, John seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
  - i. **Welcome Alyson!!! THANK YOU!!**
- b. **NEXT MEETINGS:**
  - i. Jennings is great but also want to keep our meetings going around town to support local businesses. Next meeting will still be at Jennings.
    - 1. 3rd Wednesday of each month; 6pm will continue
  - ii. Exec Committee 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6pm at Jennings.
- c. **Motion to Adjourn at 750pm.** *Nick motioned to approve, John seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

**August 21st, 2024**

530pm-730pm at Kellner Ball Fields  
**General Board Meeting**

**General Board Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of the Month 6pm, Location TBD  
(no meeting in November)  
Executive Committee Meetings: TBD**

**Present:** Nic Weiler (President), Nate Knutson (Vice President), David Johnson (Treasurer), Amanda Braaten (Secretary), John Estok, Eric Millard, Nate Strehlau, Nick Peterson, Laramie Kostyn, Jeb McKinney, Shannon Scheunemann, Kalie Abel, William Abel, Stephanie Lecy, Meghan Berg

### AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Welcome**
2. **Call to order 539pm**
3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes 7/17/2024**  
*Larmie motioned to approve, Eric Millard seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
4. **Reports 5-10 Minutes**
  - a. **President**
  - b. **Vice President**
  - c. **Treasurer**
    - i. [Tryout Profit & Loss](#)
    - ii. Tryout Profit & Loss
    - iii. [Profit & Loss YTD](#)
    - iv. [Legacy Project Budget](#)
  - d. **Secretary**
5. **Baseball Tryout Review - John E. & All involved**
  - a. **Quick overview of number of teams/players/coaches**
    - i. only (2) 10u were cut, (1) drop out from 14u, numbers are good
    - ii. We had others from surrounding communities attend tryouts and make our teams
    - iii. Concerns with one head coach (family issues/conflict); concerns with losing players/team
  - b. **Feedback on tryout format**
    - i. Consider time trials/pace of running and see their throwing (just for reference/form check) not to be an official scoring point
    - ii. Softball uses it as a 'tiebreaker'
    - iii. Consider not going in numerical order (start on #8 for fly balls, start on #4 for batting)
    - iv. Consider 2 practices for each try out so you can get a full sample of the players ability to make decisions in the moment vs a formal try out...



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

- v. Consider removing the 6 player selection and following the lead of other organizations in regards to try out format and how to get a good sample of each players ability
  - 1. Consensus is that others observe players and choose their own teams
- vi. Feedback on coach & player selection process
  - 1. Concerns with how players move from 13 to 14; Parents reached out about 14u White
  - 2. Concerns with some chatter that other players will quit as they are not happy with the team placement
- vii. Board members will be reaching out to discuss concerns
- viii. It's important that players and families understand that there are policies in place that determine the decisions made; policies can be made/changed. Everyone is encouraged to attend General Board meetings and make proposals/express concerns.
- ix. Nic for follow up at a later meeting:
  - 1. suggesting that evaluators have access to the rankings and will be discussed as we move forward
  - 2. No identifying logos; some players have WRYSA logos on their helmets
  - 3. Tournament Committee: consider predetermined cut amount (example 26 players, each team will get 13) set it up ahead of time so no one is shocked when it's released after tryouts
  - 4. Consider cage hitting vs field hitting

### 6. Softball Tryout Review - Stephanie L. & All involved

- a. Quick overview on number of teams/players/coaches
  - i. 10u and 12u (1 of each)
  - ii. Need to recruit for 10u; few short
- b. Not enough for 14u
- c. Not enough for 12u: 4 cuts
- d. One 10u team
- e. Only a few interested for 8u; need to recruit in
- f. Concerns with girls be chosen before tryouts for tournament
- g. Concerns with all tournament girls being on one league team for the 2024 season
  - i. Concerns with losing girls to travel ball; how do we retain players for league?
  - ii. Consider reaching out to local organizations to coop (Port especially)
  - iii. Consider pitching clinics
  - iv. Consider joint practices for 8u (and others) so help with conflicts like dance
  - v. We need to recruit early on; consider age 6 girls playing 8u rather than t-ball
    - 1. Currently parents have a choice but do they know their choices/what's best for developing players
    - 2. How can we get support from local schools/coaches
- vi. Feedback on tryout format
  - 1. Added base running; huge help & tiebreaker



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

2. Speed pitching exists but not scored; all in comments
- vii. Feedback on coach & player selection process
  1. Timing of try out was slower
- viii. Moving forward with tryouts there will not be an alternate day; if you can't make it you go to coach pick after tryouts
  1. We could move sooner than travel ball teams with tryouts but some are okay with being later so girls that don't make the other teams can still play with us
  2. Concerns with how does this make us competitive

### 7. Legacy Project Update

#### a. Parking Lot - Nate

##### i. Rip Rap Add-On Quote; aka rock

1. "Not required but suggested" you can do rock and weeds
2. 119 yards fabric and rock \$7775.00 (rock was \$4400)
3. If we choose to leave it with just weeds it will need to be mowed and kept short
4. Bike trail in Rapids used as example; one year later not looking good
5. General consensus is to keep weeds

##### ii. Signs/Parking Spot Indicators

1. Need to consider chaining off for winter at least
2. Boulders for new parking lot just like the current parking lot
3. Shannon will get a quote for boulders

##### iii. Trees/Shrubs for Screening Update

#### b. Overview of Legacy Project Budget - Jake/David

- i. Funds will run out and we will need to consider how to fund the final steps of this project
- ii. Covered in treasurer's report

#### c. Do we need to ask for a deadline extension - Jamie will follow up

### 8. Field Clean-Up Day (choose a date) - All

- a. Practice at home field is better than going elsewhere Field can be used after field clean up day
- b. Lights on Field 1 need to be checked; flickering
- c. Sprinkler work can be done anytime
- d. Garbage cans need to be cleared out by next Tuesday
- e. Laramie will start a list of things that need to be completed
- f. ALL FAMILIES ARE ASKED TO ATTEND TO SUPPORT WRAPPING UP OUR END OF THE YEAR CLEAN UP. *Jeb motioned to approve Monday, September 23rd at 530pm, Nate K seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*

### 9. New Board Member Contact Info, Communication & Access - All

#### a. Chris & Keesha Resignation

- i. Jeb is willing to take over all umpire duties for baseball
- ii. Softball league coordinators will be add this to their list (Estok has contact info)

### 10. BINGO



# WRYSA GENERAL BOARD

## MEETING MINUTES

- a. Still able to use the same location: October 24th, 2024 & April 17th, 2024
- b. *Eric motioned to approve, Nate K seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*

### 11. Communications:

- a. Collect a full contact list & email to Board
- b. Equipment Coordinator; consider joining softball and baseball
- c. **Still looking for Fundraising Coordinator and Field Signs Coordinator**
- d. Softball needs catching gear; needs it to fit
- e. Email/SportsEngine/Bank Access for new Exec Committee Members
  - i. Updated after official transaction

### 12. Fall Tournament Teams - Nic/Nate

- a. Do we consider allowing these to form under WRYSA instead of leaving players/coaches to seek options elsewhere?
  - i. Consider interest survey
  - ii. Insurance needs to be checked but it's covered for 12 months
  - iii. WRSYA families have paid \$450 for a handful of fall tournaments
  - iv. Do we consider a fall tournament?

### 13. Indoor Space for Jan-March

- a. Few local possibilities that would allow us to use our current nets and other gear that can be set up at an internal facility

### 14. Set Date for 2025 tryouts

- a. Has always been the first week of August to help prevent families from missing for vacation however there was conflicts with Raptors
- b. Publish that tryouts will be first two weeks of August

### 15. Confirm dates for Lead Off, Silver Slugger, and June Bug tournaments.

- a. Lead Off May 30th-June 1st
  - i. *Nate S motioned to approve, Nate K seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*
- b. Silver Slugger & June Bug together June 6th-8th
  - i. *Shannon motioned to approve, David J seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*

### Final Notes:

- ComfortAire will shut down soon
- Rapids Rental lawn mower maintenance will be completed  $\frac{2}{3}$  year contract completed
- 2 weeks in July for tournament to separate WRYSA from them
  - July 12-13 & July 19-20
  - He will reserve a spot for our Red teams (A Level)
    - Our coaches need to know it's optional
  - Consider fundraising with our HS workers paid by WRYSA rather than supported by parents to pay the HS workers
  - Gate Fee concerns; going to suggest registration fees rather than Grandma
  - WRYSA taking a lot of feedback because there is confusion about WHO runs it
- Adjourn 833am: *David motioned to approve, Nate K seconded. Voted and approved unanimously.*



# **WRYSA GENERAL BOARD**

## MEETING MINUTES