

**Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association (BBBA)
August 2025 Board Meeting**

MEETING DETAILS:

Date: August 11, 2025

Time 6:00 PM Central Time

Location: Lyman Park

President Corey Johnson called the Brainerd Baxter Baseball Association Board Meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Present: Corey Johnson, Nate Olson, Matt Means, Trent Grams, Jeremiah Piepkorn, Mike DeRosier, Ashly Gilson, Andy Campbell and Kristine Kottke

Absent: N/A

Quorum present? Yes

Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

A meeting agenda was distributed to all attendees via email prior to the meeting. A motion to approve minutes was made by Nate Olson, seconded by Andy Campbell and carried without dissent.

Approval of Minutes

There was a call to approve the meeting minutes of the previous meeting held July 21, 2025. No additions or corrections were made. A motion for approval was made by Andy Campbell, seconded by Ashly Gilson and carried without dissent.

Open Forum - None

President/VP Report – Corey Johnson and Nate Olson

Fall Ball- 11 Blue team asked about playing Fall Ball and they will continue with their current roster. Ashly will schedule fields for those doing Fall Ball.

Treasurer's Report – Matt Means

The Association currently has approximately \$107,000.00 in our account. Outstanding bills known to date: Taxes, payment to the City of Baxter, St. Mathais for the 14U Tournament. Upon payment of outstanding bills we should be sitting at about \$100,000.00. The remaining team accounts are still healthy.

More games were played this year, causing our umpire fees to be higher than years past. We will want to factor that in for planning future years budgets.

Secretary's Report – Kristine Kottke

None

Committee Reports - None

Old Business

1. TEE Hive Update – Nothing new
 1. The bill for uniforms last year was almost \$16K but our Association has received no bill at this point.
2. New Batting Cages for Bane and Jaycees
 1. Nate Olson and Trent Grams met with Mike Habighorst from the City of Brainerd and the City is very receptive to what our Association is proposing. Nate and Trent will meet with Trent to walk the park grounds to find out what will work with space available. Trent and Nate have a few proposals for Troy when they meet on August 15, 2025.
 2. Mike DeRosier noted that the Association has had success working with HyTech Construction and that it is in our best interest to maintain that relationship going forward based on previous good experiences.
 3. Proposed Options: Double tunnels with 55 ft cages were just generally looked at as \$15K at the top range plus cement and turf.
 1. Questions remaining:
 1. What size tunnels do we need? We could even look at 70 ft. nets if we wanted to be able to divide tunnels for bigger tournaments. This might be ideal.
 2. And what about trenching power over to the tunnels? That might be worth a discussion with the City.
 4. Mike noted in his meeting with Nate and Trent that the City has limited funds for contribution to this endeavor. If we keep track of our expenses “donated” we can recoup from the city in field fees?
3. Fall tryouts
 1. There was a concern about the pitching machine going to slow for the 13’s. We need to dial that in for future. Concerns were also raised about a more streamlined warm-up procedure. The Tryout Committee will address this going forward.
 2. Jeremiah Piepkorn, Tryout Coordinator, noted that in the future this Association could even incorporate a game as part of the tryout.
 3. It was noted that the athletes enjoyed an outdoor tryout and a fall tryout.
 4. There were 5 evaluators for this tryout which seemed to help with widening the scores.
 5. Evaluators were reminded to watch for outliers on the top and bottom and go score accordingly
 6. The Board is still discussing and formulating a plan for those who wish to try out for 13U and 14U in the Spring.
 7. There was discussion about Bylaw Language as it applies to team size, understanding that team rosters may need to fluctuate based upon tryout field size and extenuating circumstances.
4. Coaches and Player Evaluations
 1. Coach Evaluations are coming in steadily with approximately 40 responses thus far. Another reminder will be sent to parents to make sure they are finished.
 2. Player Evaluations by coaches are all completed. A clarification was made regarding the “comments” sections of the evaluations:

1. Most comments are about player issues and/or behavioral concerns.
 2. Sometimes the “intangibles” are also included here for help after tryouts when scoring is close.
5. Umpire Background Checks
 1. Background checks on umpires needs to be done going forward. The Board is in agreement.
 6. Team Gear Storage
 1. Almost all teams have returned their gear. The two teams playing Fall Ball will return gear when they are finished for the year.

New Business

1. Jaycees Park Grand Re-Opening on August, 21, 2025
 1. Mike Habighorst from the City of Brainerd has requested help from our Association on this day. He would like us to run skills/drills and have food.
 2. Those who are able to be there from the Board should be there at 4:30.
2. Individual Player Accounts
 1. A mom reached out and her son was one of the highest fundraisers and she would like her son to have an account to dip into for fees in later years. There is no precedent for this and has not previously been requested by another parent, neither prior to nor upon completion of fundraising. Nothing in the Association Bylaws requires or allows for such dispersal of funds. The Association does not have the ability to start managing individual athlete accounts.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Ashly Gilson and seconded by Matt Means.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM

Next Meeting: September 8, 2025, time and location TBD