



## HRBBA Board Meeting Minutes

Oct. 13, 2024

### Meeting Attendance

- **Members Present:** Sara Mausser, Nate Laible, Leif Swenson, Amanda MacPhail, Todd Kraft, Dan Semelhack, Jeff Rael, Chris Long, Amanda Kriz, Robyn Sacia, Andrew Wright, Tim Hoffman
- **Members Absent:** Eric Hudson, Naomi Kaye, Sean Smith

### President Report

- Motion to approve September Board Minutes. Motion passes.
- Motion to revise “Policy #2 – League Structures and Rules” to include 3rd grade, specify documentation needed from all players to prove grade level, and to allow one-time age adjustment for homeschool players where grades may be fluid, mirroring the Hopkins Baseball Association policy. Motion passes.
  - Teams will be available for grades 3 through 8.
  - The player’s grade level will serve as the default basis for consideration of their team (travel) eligibility.
    - The player’s grade will be determined by documentation issued by the public, private, charter or online school where the player is currently enrolled.
    - In instances where a player attends a home school, the player must submit documentation proving that they live within the Hopkins school boundaries and a birth certificate showing they meet the [Age and Grade Cutoff Dates](#) as determined by the Minnesota Youth Athletic Association.
    - Home school players are allowed a one-time grade adjustment with Board approval during their HRBBA tenure, as long as the player’s birthdate falls within the [MYAS Age and Grade Cutoff Dates](#). The player will then move up in sequential grade level each year, even if the player does not participate in HRBBA for a specific year.
- Special Executive Committee Vote 10/6: Motion to roster 11 players on 8 Silver due to all players being deemed eligible and skilled to play at the 8th grade travel level and to avoid cutting one player during their last season with HRBBA. Motion passes.
- Board position updates:
  - Due to players leaving the program, Dani H. has stepped down as Fundraising Coordinator and Nate L. has stepped down as Marketing & Social Media Director
  - Open Positions: Fundraising Coordinator, Marketing & Social Media Coordinator, Events Coordinator, Equipment Coordinator
  - Shadow Position: Coaching Director (shadow Chris Long)
- Chris sent out link to mandatory Background Check to all board members. Must complete ASAP.

### Treasurer Report

- Tim completed insurance certificate
- Leif and Tim resolved SE price increase. HRBBA will receive a refund for the double charge for Dibs access. Will need to determine if Dibs is worth the \$500 increase this year. Consider SignUp Genius for volunteer sign up.
- Current bank balance is \$106k with new registration and tournament fee deposits. Major upcoming expenses include tournament entry fees for 2025 tournaments, all tourneys for 5 Gold and 6 Gold, uniforms/shooting shirts/coach shirts, Hopkins open gym fee (\$810), Hopkins Activity Center fee.
- Sara to get access to bank account and PO Box in addition to Tim.

## Registration Director

- Registration and Tryout Recap
  - Registration went smoothly.
  - 182 are rostered with 200 total registrations. Andrew refunded 8 kids who were cut from the program.
  - We added a 4th team in 5th and 6th grade to expand access for additional players.
  - Andrew will invoice the 3rd grade tourney team additional \$150 each.
  - 15-20% of players received a scholarship and submitted meal benefits paperwork.
  - Andrew created a unique payment plan for scholarship recipients who needed to pay in two installments. Andrew will invoice the second payment in November for these families, and the second payment will automatically be deducted from credit cards prior to the first tournament in November for families who chose the payment plan.
  - Some families asked for specific tryout feedback. Sara is managing those conversations.
  - Wins
    - Check-in process (Tim handling volunteer checks) and uniform try-on went very smoothly.
    - Parent meeting went well.
    - Liked “holding gym” separate from registration gym.
  - Opportunities for next year
    - SE payment challenges did not allow us to do a credit card hold for volunteer check or easily allow scholarship recipients to pay in two installments.
    - Consider \$25 tryout fee per player to offset facility costs for Open Gyms and tryouts. Neighboring associations do this regularly.
    - Consider adding “true cost to play HRBBA” donation option to payment options in addition to regular fee and scholarship option (with meal benefits paperwork).
    - While registration is very busy the last week, there are organizational and player benefits to keeping registration open until close to tryout weekend to allow as many families as possible to register.
    - Consider September tryout date next year to allow for more time for uniforms, coach training, background checks and practices.

## Coaching & Equipment Director

- Chris is finalizing coach and assistant coach assignments, and will ensure all coaches have completed background checks this week.
- Motion to approve the following paid coaches: Ryder Lane (5 Gold), Treyvon Edwards (7 Blue), Bobby Ciatti (7 Silver), Maurice O’Bannon (8 Silver). Motion passes. Will pay stipends in December and March, but open to discussing alternate payment plans.

- HRBBA coaching clinic was well attended. Chris ran through expectations, resources and handed out equipment. MYAS coaching clinic was not well attended due to sports conflicts.
- Chris will submit a budget proposal for sports pads for all grades, possibly prioritizing older grades.
- DICKS equipment grant application submitted for \$1k, should know by 11/8.

### **Uniforms/Spirit Wear**

- On track to deliver uniforms, shooting shirts and 10K Shot Club patches 11/6-7 at practices
- Vendor will keep replacement uniform shop open until first tournament, but pieces ordered after 10/7 will not arrive in first batch
- \$1800 budget approved for higher quality Under Armour royal blue/embroidered coach shirts for named head coaches and assistant coaches.
- Spirit Shop has been very challenging to set up. Store should open this week.

### **Fundraising Coordinator**

- Uniform Sponsors
  - Checks received/cashed
    - Schuller's Tavern, Davanni's, Luther Hopkins Honda, Tradition LLC, Minnehaha Falls Family Dental, Elks Lodge
    - Amy's Cupcakes, Ovation Orthodontics
  - Pending checks: Scheels, Pella, Wild Boar, Lake Minnetonka Orthodontics
- Chipotle Fundraiser: Dec. 15 (4-8 p.m.) at Hopkins Chipotle (Mainstreet)
- DICKS trophy sponsorship application submitted (\$6500)

### **Royal Rumble Tournament Director**

- Subcommittee meeting met tonight
  - Dan: Tournament Director
  - Amanda K./Naomi: Volunteers
  - Sara: Trophies
  - Amanda M.: Concessions
  - Todd: Rule book, tourney operations assistance
  - Jeff: Facilities
- 146 teams are currently registered; limit is 160.
- Parent volunteers will be primarily assigned at concessions, with a few info desk, sweatshirt sales, floater positions.
- Aiming to post volunteer shifts in December for families to claim.
- Dan will assign all board members to specific duties, accommodating board members who are also coaching.
- Jeff will confirm space and available time slots.

### **External Tournament Director**

- Todd created tourney schedules for 5 Gold and 6 Gold. They will be playing a different schedule as C level tourneys are very popular and many are full.
- 3 Blue will play in Andover sine Edina is full.
- Todd will start paying for post-January tourneys soon.

- Dan to research “how to do scorebook and clock” videos to encourage more families to take on those responsibilities at tournaments.

### **Player Development Coordinator**

- Jeff will schedule Open Gyms for non-tourney weekends.
- Eric will present proposal for in-season clinics.

### **Facilities Director**

- Space is tighter than ever. Hopkins Varsity program has taken space at NMS.
- Coach feedback indicates they prefer their own space for as long as possible, so Jeff will get creative in scheduling practices (occasional shorter practices, some overlap first/last 15 mins, stacked practices, etc.)
- Jeff will ask about 9:30 p.m. end times if teams want to extend practice.
- Fridays are always wide open and available for teams.

*Motion to adjourn meeting 9:06. Motion passes.*