



Dover Youth Softball League (DYSL)

Monday, January 13, 2025
 Cara's Pub 4th Street Dover, NH

Agenda

Board of Directors

<u>X</u>	President	Jamie Stevens	<u>x</u>	6u Director	Cheryl Desrochers
<u>X</u>	Vice President	Ashley Cherry	<u>X</u>	8u Director	Kaitlyn Dale
<u>X</u>	Treasurer	Lindsay Callaghan	<u>X</u>	10u Director	Ashley Cherry
<u>X</u>	Secretary	Lindsay Callaghan	<u>X</u>	12u Director	Lance Keelty
<u>X</u>	Director of Sponsorship	Patty Kinnicutt	<u>X</u>	Director of Coaches	Keith Fortier
<u>x</u>	Director of Concessions	Anna Schaefer	<u>X</u>	Registrar	Keith Fortier
<u>X</u>	Director of Equipment	Todd Lafond	<u>X</u>	Community Liaison	Melissa Leblanc
<u>x</u>	Director of Facilities	Lance Keelty	<u>x</u>	Scheduler	Jamie Stevens
<u>x</u>	Director of Media	Cassandra Stickles			

Open Positions – Past President, 16u Director

17 Positions Filled, 13 Members, 2 Positions Available = Quorum is 8 votes

Call to Order

7:03 PM

Melissa is virtual.

Citizen's Forum

No one present

Regular Business

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from December 6, 2024

Motion: Patty 2nd Cass

All in Favor



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Approved 17 Rejected Abstain

Treasurer's Report

As Reported on

League Checking: \$ 105,876.29 – *Mike Cartelli did finally cash the outstanding check in December.*

Obligations - \$7,747

- Insurance, Charter, Pins for 2025

Expected Revenue

Concession Account: \$ 600

Special Revenue: \$1,996.50

All Star Accounts

12u – \$2,941.33

10u - \$1,565.92

- Ashley and Cass to work through the cash

8u - \$2,991.44

Motion: Ashley 2nd Cheryl

All in Favor

Approved 17 Rejected Abstain

Old Business

- Engagement
 - Winter Clinic Registration

During the meeting, it was decided that the 10u and 12u teams will combine for sessions 2 and 3, running from 8:00 to 9:45 AM. The 8u team will shift to a new time slot, holding their session from 11:00 AM to 12:45 PM. The time between sessions will be dedicated to pitchers who wish to work through pitching cycles. Cheryl has



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volunteered to lead a subcommittee, including Erin, Katelyn, and Cass, to staff coaches during the session. Ashley raised concerns about the need for a coaching plan that accommodates both beginner and advanced pitchers, and Cheryl will collaborate with Ashley to develop a plan for the 5-week program. Pitchers will need to bring their own catchers, which may require parents to step in if there are no catchers available. Cassandra requested that the registration include a note stating that parents are observers and should not provide direction, as this will be the responsibility of the coaches. Registration needs to be available as soon as possible so Lance can send out an email to the league for sign-ups, with the changes taking effect on 1/27. The cost will be \$50 per player, with a limit of 15 participants. Keith will also reach out to Lindsay for further coordination on how to set up registrations.

Melissa arrives at 7:40

- DYSL Rebranding

- Logo Update

The discussion was challenging due to differing understandings and expectations regarding the graphic designer's outcome after the initial review in November. Several members had expected an additional design option without the green wave, while the feedback provided to the designer was to make the design less "slime-like." This led to further conversation about the green wave symbol, with some members advocating for it to maintain consistency with other Dover Rec sports to reduce financial impact on families. However, there were concerns that the green wave, representing Dover, could alienate non-Dover Rec committee members. Keith will lead a subcommittee to review the provided designs and give constructive feedback to the designer. The overall consensus was that clearer direction had not been provided. Melissa explained that she and Keith's friend Chris, a graphic designer for a brewery, would expect more specific guidance when commissioned to create a logo. Keith will present the feedback at the next board meeting in hopes of finalizing a new logo and launching a store before opening day.



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- Facilities

- Change the locks

Lance and Jamie have reviewed several options for locks, and it was decided to opt for manual keypad entry rather than Bluetooth to avoid potential battery issues. All locks will need to use the same key, and it is likely have to be rekeyed by a locksmith to accommodate. The requirements at a high level are to be a manual punch code and key as well as be easily reprogrammable.

- Shed Quotes for Southside

Lance has reviewed several pre-fabricated shed options, and Jamie is awaiting final quotes for a stick-built shed. Both the options and quotes are expected to be presented at the next board meeting. Additionally, due to the location of the pad, installation will need to occur while the ground is still frozen to prevent issues with muddy terrain.

New Business

- Sponsorships

The casino fundraiser is scheduled to take place from July 10th to 19th. Two team sponsors have been secured, and Patty anticipates receiving the checks within the next few weeks. Additionally, the Little Caesars fundraiser will be replaced by a Domino's fundraiser. Domino's is offering a \$20 deal with a Buy One, Get One Free promotion for the entire year



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- Heyliger Award

Jamie Stevens won the nomination for Volunteer of the Year with four votes and Bruce Thorner were nominated receiving two. For Business of the Year, Wade garnered six nominations, while Mike Bolduc received one. A \$75 registration fee has been submitted to the city. Jamie expressed his appreciation to everyone who supported his nomination and confirmed that both the application and payment have been successfully completed.

- Babe Ruth

The 2025 Charter Fees have been paid, and insurance has been covered; however, the insurance cost exceeded the budget by \$2,000. As part of insurance requirements, an inventory of high-value items such as coaches' bags, nets, balls, bats, and gloves must be maintained and submitted upon request. Todd will compile this inventory and share it with Jamie and Lindsay.

Babe Ruth now manages coaching certifications through SportsEngine. Previously required only for all-star coaches, certifications are now mandatory for all coaches. Discussions determined that DYSL will maintain its current reimbursement process, where applicants submit for reimbursement of the \$25 certification fee, similar to the background check process.

The certification process remains unchanged and begins with submitting a coaching application, securing board approval, and extending membership. Upon accepting the membership, applicants must complete every two years the abuse prevention training course and submit to a background check. The coaching certification will only need to be completed once and is lifetime achievement. If the coaching certification has been completed, applicants must upload proof to SportsEngine when prompted.

- Coaching Convention

The recent coaches' convention in Connecticut was highly successful and is recommended as an annual event, given the evolving techniques and strategies in coaching. Cheryl suggested gathering and sharing feedback from the sessions to benefit the entire group.

Ashley attended the Meg Rem session and found it particularly valuable. Meg Rem offers clinics nationwide at a rate of \$90 per participant for 2.5-hour sessions, requiring a



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minimum of two sessions with at least 28 participants per session. She recommends grouping participants by age, such as 8–10 and 12–14.

Given DYSL's declining membership numbers this year, there are concerns about meeting the participation requirements for such clinics. A potential solution discussed was opening the clinics to participants from surrounding towns to increase attendance and boost DYSL's visibility and reputation.

- By-Law Change
 - Article II Section C: Voting Rights

All Board members are eligible to be voting members. All voting members in attendance will have one vote on matters which are presented at any regular meeting as described in these bylaws. Any individual who holds ~~multiple~~ an excess of two Board positions shall ~~have a vote for each position held~~ only have two Board votes.

Ashley raised concerns about proposed bylaw changes that could limit current board members holding multiple positions from stepping down, potentially restricting opportunities for new members to join the board. This discussion originated during the November meeting regarding Lindsay's roles as secretary and registrar and her decision not to step down from the secretary role to allow another individual to be nominated and voted in. Lindsay clarified that the bylaw language addresses situations where critical roles are not unfilled during the October nomination process, which is publicized due to a lack of interest. The language is drafted to limit the number of votes one person can have to fulfill essential roles required to conduct business.

Patty highlighted that the board had already voted to assign individuals to these positions, noting that members should express availability or interest during the nomination process. She also emphasized numerous ways to engage with the board without holding a formal position. Historically, members have participated by attending meetings, addressing concerns during the citizens' forum, and collaborating with board members.



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Ashley will review the bylaw language and provide additional feedback or suggest revisions to address these concerns.

- 2025 Spring Season Registration
 - Available Registration Numbers

Division	Member Directory	2024 Spring Season Participant
6u	14	19
8u	45	35
10u	43	29
12u	59	31

Jamie spoke to the arena and is tentatively planning Ice Out around March 22, pending confirmation from the new management group regarding rates and post ice out availability. Todd proposed scheduling pre-season games with other jurisdictions for Opening Day and offered to assist with coordination. Cassandra recommended increasing community engagement by publicizing events through social media and local schools. Cheryl will research strategies to boost participation in the 6U division, including exploring options with a newly proposed tee-ball team. The board aims to finalize the spring registration process by the next meeting on January 20.

Registration rates to stay the same as last year.

Motion: Melissa 2nd Anna

All in Favor

Approved 17 Rejected Abstain

8:41 – Motion to Adjourn by Keith; 2nd by Melissa

All in Favor

Approved 17 Rejected Abstain



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Next Meeting:

- January 27
- February 3 – Focus meeting on Budget FY2025 & Community Outreach Budget
- February 17
- March 3