

**Big Lake Baseball Association (BLBA)**  
**Monthly Board Meeting Agenda & Minutes**



**Meeting Date/Time: Sunday, November 10, 2024 @ 6:00pm**

**Location: McPete's in Big Lake**

**Recorder: Tessa Miller, Secretary**

**Attendance:**

| Name             | Position                         | Att | Name            | Position                        | Att |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Dan Grove        | President                        | P   | Lawrence Luoma  | MAL – Travel Director           | A   |
| Mike Horn        | Vice President                   | A   | Joe Bruns       | MAL – Equipment Coordinator     | A   |
| Nicole Possehl   | Treasurer                        | P   | Melissa Calgaro | MAL – Uniforms, Apparel, Photos | P   |
| Tessa Miller     | Secretary                        | P   | Henry Bochenski | MAL – In-House Coordinator      | P   |
| Ashley Luoma     | MAL – Director M&M               | P   | Loren Holthaus  | MAL – Associate Director        | A   |
| Tay Kaeppe       | MAL - Webmaster                  | P   | Robert Hoekstra | Guest                           | G   |
| Jim Andersen     | MAL – Volunteer Coordinator      | A   |                 |                                 |     |
| Andrew Gosewisch | MAL – Player & Coach Development | P   |                 |                                 |     |

*MAL = Member at Large*

*P = Present, PV - Present Virtual, A = Absent G = Guest*

**Agenda:**

| Topic                         | Description   | Action / Discussion  | Action By   |
|-------------------------------|---|--|-------------|
| Approve October Board Minutes | Review and approve previous months board minutes and send to webmaster to post. | Approved. Tessa sending to Tay to post.                                  | Tessa       |
| Open Forum                    | For additional discussion and/or open to public                                 | Motion to update current rule to include grade level into consideration. |             |
| Finance Update                | Update from Treasurer   | Update in Minutes  |             |
| Facility Wish List            | Board members to bring any additional wish list items they have                 | Update in Minutes  |             |
| Storage Space                 | Status Update & Next Steps  | Dan and Joe meeting to go through shed and inventory                     | Dan and Joe |

|                                |   |  |               |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---------------|
| Winter Clinics                 | Status Update & Next Steps  | Updates in Minutes   |               |
| Quad City 15U Tournament 2024  | Did Invoices get sent to participating Quad City teams?   | Completed  | Nicole        |
| Updates from Quad City Meeting | Quad City 15U Tournament 2025, and any other info.  | 14U/15U tournament July 18th - 20th. Updates Minutes. Fields being requested by Dan.   | Dan           |
| Volunteer Check Status         | Are we all squared away with 2024 season volunteers and checks.   | Completed  |               |
| Uniforms                       | Melissa to discuss options and discuss ordering of samples for mass registration  | Updates in Minutes   |               |
| Fundraisers                    | Hit-A-Thon Status update & Next Steps   | Updates in Minutes   |               |
| Community Involvement          | Lawrence & Mike Horn - tiered approach updates?   | Tay created potential tiered ideas, and will send out to BLBA board members  | Tay           |
| Mass Registration              | Update on available days for registration.  | Tessa sending out potential dates to BLBA members  | Tessa         |
| Bylaws                         | Status Update & Next Steps - Nicole assisting with reformatting and Mike Horn looking into non-profit bylaw formatting as well. | Per Mike Horn: He reached out to the Secretary of state and we do not need to report amendments changes. Just have to have current bylaws submitted, but do not need permission or to let them know howe changed anything. Updates in Minutes. |               |
| Spring Tryouts                 | New Date Confirmation<br><br>Location: We book SCSU dome in Oct.  | We are confirmed for February 16th. More updates in Minutes  |               |
| Coaching Applications          | Create a form for application   | Tessa sending questions to BLBA board members for review. Dan sending out applications once questions approved by board. Updates in Minutes.   | Tessa and Dan |

## Minutes:

Dan Grove called the meeting to order at 6:10

Approval of Previous month meeting minutes: Secretary emailed out meeting minutes. Tessa Miller requested a motion. Nicole made a motion to approve the October 2024 board meeting minutes, seconded by Dan. All were in favor, motion carries. October 2024 meeting minutes approved.

## Open Forum

- Tay motions to update age restriction to include grade so players are able to play with their grade level. Would take into account their birthday as of May 1st, but also look at the grade level to allow players to play with their grade. Ashley second motions. All in favor - motion passes.
- Mounds - Roberts knows of a place in Delano that we may be able to purchase refurbished mounds from. He will pass along information to Dan Grove.

## Finance Update from Treasurer

- Received sponsorship from MYAS with restricted use for scholarships
- Flex deposit for FLEX tryouts
- Deposit on SCSU Dome

## Wish List

- Field Maintenance Equipment
- Bat holders/racks for fences at Liberty
- Roofs on dugouts / some form of shade for dugout at Liberty
- Scoreboards at 4-plex
- Batting cages
- Bullpens
- More fields
- Pitching Machines
- Indoor batting cage/net for Liberty

## Storage Space

- Dan and Joe meeting at shed on 11/11 to go through the current shed and inventory to assist in determine additional storage space.

## Winter Clinics

- Andrew: Planning to get started on January 3rd weekend (pending approval from Kendra). Run 6 weeks of courses. 3 skill sets. 2 - 90 minute groups twice a week - grouped together age groups.
  - 2 weeks: Hitting
  - 2 Weeks: Pitching / Catching

- 2 weeks: Infield / Outfield / Footwork
- Looking at Fridays and Sunday Afternoon
- Looking to have some coaches and some varsity players/coaches to assist.
- Coaching applications so we can have coaches present
- If we charge, what do we charge?
  - 6 hours per week for 6 weeks
  - ACTION Item: Melissa will look into t-shirts and cost
  - We anticipate 30-40 players per session
- Need budget for
  - T-shirt - \$1000 for shirts
  - Gym Space - \$1440 for gym space
  - Round up to \$2500 for budget purposes
- Majors/Minors - they may have their own clinics
- Dan motions for budget of \$2500 for winter clinics. Nicole seconds. All in favor - motion passes.

#### Tryout Clinics

- Discuss time for clinics and how these would coincide with winter clinics
- Potentially the week before tryouts we have a free clinic for tryouts to demonstrate what would be at tryouts.

#### Quad City 14U/15U Tournament 2024

- July 18th-20th is 14/15 Quad City Fields
- Henry requesting 3 fields
  - **Action Item: Dan reaching out to Kendra for field approval for these dates**

#### Updates from Quad City Meeting

- Tournament update only at this time

#### Volunteer Check Status

- Completed

#### Uniforms / Apparel

- Have a request for quotes out
- Potentially going through SquadLocker for 2025, but not solidified
  - Action Items: Melissa connecting with vendor on designs
- Pants are being updated
- For apparel, squadlocker will have 5%, another vendor BLBA can choose the margin
- Has a vendor that will do a pop-up for our different events

#### Fundraisers

- Hit-a-thon
  - Melissa has a few businesses that may be interested in sponsoring or providing prices for event

- Ideas
  - Vendors to sponsor different areas (company sign to measure distance on field, sponsor prizes, pay for t-shirts with business logo.
- Need to set up fundraising “call night” about a month before event
- Food Trucks
- Vendor to set up apparel
- Volunteers to measure distances
- Site for donations set up
- Need to find a field
- Set a date
- Set up divisions
  - 1st, 2nd, and third
  - Parents could register
- Hula-Hoop sponsor - if you get it in the hoop you get a gift card
- Team fundraiser prizes
- Team that raises the most
- Grab bag prizes if goals are reached
- Next Step: We need to decide on date and provide that to the fundraising vendor
  - Potentially a date in mid-May

#### Community Involvement / Sponsorships

- Potentially naming rights for our tournament
- Sponsoring majors/minors teams with logos on shirts/jerseys
- BLBA is not a part of the banners on the 4-plex fences
- Goal is to raise \$6K-\$10K from community sponsors
- Tay provided potential tier ideas - email out to Board for review
- Could we have the kids involved in getting the sponsorships

#### Mass Registration

- Tessa sending out dates to board members this week

#### Bylaws

- **Action Item: Nicole adding in-process update bylaws document into BLBA shared drive. Nicole cleaning up document. Review next month.**

#### Spring Tryouts

- Do we want Volunteers for this (check-in and such)
- Moved the date to Sunday, February 16th at SCSU dome
  - 10am-3pm reservation
  - Tryouts 11am-2pm roughly
- Flexx Confirmed for date and times
- Make sure we have equipment lined up
- **Action Item: Dan creating tryout registration this week**

- **Action Item: Dan working with SportsEngine to see if we can get incoming payments set up with a description for easier budgeting**

#### Coaching Applications

- We'd like to get coaches set up earlier - they could help with winter clinics
  - What is being taught in winter clinics is being taught during the season to better align with high school expectations
- First week of January we are looking to book a throwing coach and is an orthopedic so she is able to assist with correct way to throw to protect players arms
  - This would be for coaches, and potentially open to parents to learn proper way to assist with player arm safety
- Coaching application for created
  - **Action Item: Tessa to send coaching questions to BLBA for review.**
  - **Action Item: Dan sending out coaching application this week**
- Getting coaches familiar with USA baseball information, certifications, plans, etc.
- Coaches Meeting in February or March - Mandatory coaches meeting
  - Board members present
  - Varsity coaches present
  - Connect all coaches - set them up with their own SE chat to communicate
  - Supporting our coaches as a board and providing resources to work together.
- Do we have a parent meeting to build out a roadmap for Quad City, Travel, season expectation, etc.

Tessa motions to adjourn at 8:08. Andrew seconds motion. All in favor. Motion passes.