

NHAA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 8:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Meeting Call to order: 8:10 p.m.

Board Attendance/Roll Call:

Present via Zoom:

Jim Filisky, President
Mike Graham, VP of Fields
Dave Hermann, IT and Communications
Scott Lanzilotta, Treasurer
Cathy Loya, Secretary
Matt Bewley, Board Member
Kyle Deininger, Board Member
Brenda Kovi, Board Member
Nick Lanese, Board Member (in at 8:15)
Melinda Malyuk, Board Member
Bobby Reville, Board Member

Kenny Sanger, Board Member

Present via Telephone:

Absent:

Kevin Bilkie, Vice President
Chase Senk, VP of Equipment
Andy Papile, Travel Coordinator
Nicole Gvora, Board Member

Brian James, Board Member
Julie Moran, Board Member
Marc Sprang, Board Member

Agenda:

I. Review of meeting minutes from March 2, 2022

After a brief review of the NHAA Bylaws, Jim made the motion to accept the minutes from the March 2, 2022 meeting. Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Brenda. A unanimous voice vote was taken to accept the minutes.

II. President's Report

Jim discussed a conversation that he had with i9 Sports regarding splitting the cost for the Aris portable restroom at Nordonia Middle School. They are willing to split the cost for this rental unit.

It was also discussed if Nordonia Youth Soccer League (NYSL) is still using fields at Smith Park and Magnolia Park or any other facilities. If so, they should be contacted about splitting the cost of portable restrooms at these locations.

A conversation was had regarding possibly adding another portable restroom to the NHS Varsity fields for the Girls AAA and Boys Colt games added to these fields (2 in total). Jim will discuss this further with Nordonia Schools.

III. Discuss feedback from March 9, 2022, General Meeting

IV. League Registration and Trustees

1. Registration numbers (485 players and 77 coaches reported 3/13/22)

Dave reported 506 players registered, and will provide league export reports. Dave requested for all coaches to register on the website. Coach and Umpire registration is still open and available on the website.

Jim and Dave both echoed that finding coaches is the first step in setting up teams. Dave indicated that leagues may max out and only accept a certain number of late registrants.

A brief discussion was had about new trustees seeking assistance when setting up teams and, above all else, keep the teams even. Nick also echoed new trustees should seek assistance.

2. Girls Softball

a. Update on communication with western community leagues

1. No community playoffs (NHAA can do own)
2. Girls A and Girls AA to have 5 run per inning limit
3. Fourteen (14) games (this is up from 12 since no playoffs)
 - a. One game July 4
 - b. One game July 11
 - c. Confirmation on makeups (July 4 and July 11)

Jim confirmed the above information with the western community leagues. One game will be played the week of July 4th and one game will be played the week of July 11th. Internal playoffs would be the week of July 18th.

Dave indicated a conversation with Twinsburg regarding adding one (1) team to the western communities. They are going to play on Twinsburg fields with Nordonia umpires. Confirmation on umpire fee will be obtained. Further discussions will be had regarding playoffs.

b. Girls Manager Pitch (Girls – Grades 2 and 3)

1. Primary: Kevin Back up: Jim

c. Girls A (Girls – Grades 4 and 5)

1. Primary: Brenda Back up: Julie

Brenda indicated contacting Keith; she will have four (4) head coaches for Girls A.

d. Girls AA (Girls – Grade 6, 7 and 8)

1. Primary: Nikki Back up: Kyle

e. Girls AAA (Girls – Grades 9-12)

1. Primary: Nick Back up: _____
2. Access to NHS Varsity Fields

Nick discussed his communication regarding Girls AAA joining the Western Reserve League (WRL). Jim relayed his conversation with Mike Smith with the WRL. The communities involved with this league include Hudson, Solon, Aurora, Medina, Highland Heights, Copley, and two (2) Nordonia teams. It will be a low 18U division. Jim reported that league play will begin May 16th through the middle of July with playoffs to follow. Nick reported that the community is behind this move; however, there is concern about driving to these other locations. Nick asked and Jim confirmed that the home team provides umpire fee as well as field prep/maintenance.

Jim will notify Mike Smith about joining this Western Reserve League. Jim reported two coaches for the Nordonia teams – Jerry Lowery who was a former 14U Travel coach, and Lynnette Adkins.

Jim confirmed use of the NHS Varsity field for two (2) days a week.

3. Boys Baseball

- a. Update on communication with eastern community leagues
- b. Babe Ruth (Boys – Grades 1 and 2)
 - 1. Primary: Chase Back up: _____
- c. Willie Mays (Boys – Grades 3 and 4)
 - 1. Primary: Melinda Back up: _____

Dave indicated a probable chance of playing crossover games with TBL.

- d. Pee Wee Reese (Boys – Grades 5 and 6)
 - 1. Primary: Kenny Back up: Mike

Dave indicated a plan to have crossover games with TBL and possibly with Hudson.

- e. Sandy Koufax (Boys – Grades 7 and 8)
 - 1. Primary: Andy Back up: _____

Dave indicated that Sandy Koufax will operate like years past – play with TBL, Hudson, Solon, Aurora, etc.

- f. Colt (Boys – Grades 9-12)
 - 1. Primary: Bobby Back up: _____
 - 2. Access to NHS Varsity Fields

Dave indicated that Colt will operate like years past – play with TBL, Hudson, Solon, Aurora, etc.

Jim confirmed use of the NHS Varsity field for two (2) days a week.

- 4. Co-ed T-Ball (Kindergarten)
 - a. Primary: Cathy Back up: Marc

Cathy thanked Dave for sending out an email message to T-Ball registrants as volunteer T-Ball coaches are needed.

Kenny inquired about the Macedonia Rec Center T-Ball program. Jim indicated that the Macedonia Rec Center T-Ball program is separate.

V. Umpires

- 1. Feedback on umpire classes at NMS
 - a. Upcoming dates
 - 1. Monday, March 21, 2022
 - 2. Thursday, March 24, 2022

Jim indicated conversations with Dan Lingo for a more structured class for umpire training. Additional dates for instruction are planned:

Monday, April 4, 2022
Thursday, April 7, 2022

- 2. Confirmation on order placed for umpire books (10 baseball and 10 softball)

Scott indicated that these books have been ordered and received. Confirmation of payment (labeled as National Federation) of these 20 books appears on the financial report. Scott will make sure the books are available for the classes. Jim has some books as well and will drop these at the storage unit.

- 3. ETA on ordered umpire uniform shirts from Prime Time

Dave indicated umpire uniform shirts are due in mid-March, but Dave will confirm with Prime Time.

4. Confirmation on umpire pay rate for travel baseball and travel softball

Scott did indicate that OPL rate is \$60 per umpire (\$120 per game). Dave confirmed with Dan Lingo that the current rate for certified baseball umpires is \$80 for a solo umpire; \$60 for each umpire if paired. Rec games will try to be held at \$50.

Jim inquired about certified softball umpires and Dave confirmed with Dan Lingo the current rate for certified softball umpires is \$50 for rec games. Jim will clarify further with Dan regarding certified umpires for Travel softball.

5. Discuss rec league umpire pay scale (Dave)

- a. Propose increasing rate by \$5 (old - \$20, \$25, \$30 ; proposed new \$25, \$30, \$35)

Dave indicated that Dan Lingo agrees with the proposed new pay structure for rec umpires of \$25, \$30, \$35 (1 year of experience, 2 years of experience, 3 years of experience). A discussion was had regarding using non-certified umpires versus certified umpires for rec games, and the overall availability of umpires.

After a brief review of the NHAA Bylaws and confirmation on voting, Jim made the motion to increase the umpire pay rate for 2022 to \$25, \$30, \$35. Motion first by Dave. Motion second by Scott. A unanimous voice vote was taken to accept the motion.

VI. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee

a. Treasurer/Chair Report

1. Current financial report

Current Balance: \$71,136.22

Scott went over the financial report sent to all board members. Usual transactions for the storage unit as well as the Toro payment appear on the report.

2. Open invoices

2. Skills Clinic Committee

a. Strike Force Clinics

1. Feedback on clinics

- a. Last clinic: Sunday, March 20, 2022, 2-4 p.m. baseball

Clinics went well as reported by several members. Scott indicated the girls clinic was busy on March 13th with NHAA board members and parents running stations due to low staff at Strike Force. Scott will discuss with Bradley, but Scott will review if quoted three (3) instructors. Cathy relayed 31-32 players at the boys clinic on March 13th and 8 instructors were provided. She indicated that some of the younger instructors were very good and patient with the kids, especially the younger and newer players.

Confirmation on board presence at the final clinic was discussed and several members indicated that they will be there.

3. Fields Committee

a. VP of Fields/Chair Report

1. Combined effort with Strategic Planning Committee – Update on formal written proposals for Sagamore Hills, Nordonias Schools, Northfield Village

- a. Approval received from Northfield Village for Smith and Magnolia
- b. Approval received from Nordonia Schools for NMS field

Mike gave an update regarding a general quote from Mike Sekula at Walker Supply. A more specific quote is pending the soil samples taken at NMS and Sagamore #4. Mike indicated that the general quote is better than a previous quote from a different vendor. Mike suggested waiting for a final quote before much more discussion.

Jim indicated that a general estimate regarding the conditioner (blend with crushed brick) is approximately \$2,300.00 for 24 tons. The yard value is unknown at this time.

A discussion was had about ordering the product and storing it at a location for future use. Jim indicated that locations (such as Sagamore Park) do not allow this dumping and storing of product. Mike indicated that Walker Supply recommends blending this conditioner product with the top inch of the current field soil.

Scott indicated an article forwarded to Brian regarding using a roller on the infields in the springtime to allow for compaction and allowing water to run off of the infield instead of collect in pools. Bobby confirmed this technique, but indicated it is very difficult to transport the roller. Scott will follow up with Brian on considering this process.

2. Update from Jim regarding soil samples taken

Mike indicated that soil samples were taken, but still pending.

- 3. Additional discussion regarding maintenance before start of season
- 4. Weed Pro / TruGreen

Mike indicated playing phone tag with Dwayne at TruGreen. Dwayne did the work in 2021, and he has contacted Jim for 2022. Further discussions will be had.

4. Strategic Planning Committee

- a. Chair Report
- b. Update on written future strategic plan to guide focused fundraising efforts

Please see above comments from the Fields Report.

5. Equipment Committee

- a. VP of Equipment/Chair Report
 - 1. Confirmation on receipt of baseballs ordered from BSN Sports

Jim reported in Chase's absence that the baseballs have arrived and they will be delivered to the storage unit this weekend. Chase is beginning to review the catching gear in the storage unit.

2. Update on Chevy Youth Sports equipment ordered

Jim indicated this equipment will be arriving sometime in April.

A brief discussion was had regarding the Chevy test drive program. Each additional test drive is a \$25 donation up to \$500. Jim indicated two (2) \$500 checks were received last year. The initial sponsorship is \$500 with the opportunity to make more through the test drive program.

6. Uniform Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update on RDP beginning hat production

Dave confirmed RDP is beginning hat production with initial count given. Dave will continue conversations with RDP, and they have indicated they do not see an issue with getting more hats. A brief discussion regarding hats for girls was had. Dave and Jim indicated that Girls AA and Girls AAA will not be receiving hats; they will be receiving socks.

2. Discuss logo artwork for shirts

A brief discussion was had regarding logo artwork for shirts this year. Jim and Cathy will discuss logo options and present back.

7. Discipline Committee

a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

8. Player Development Committee

a. Chair Report

Nothing to report.

9. Marketing and Fundraising Committee

a. Chair Report

1. Update on fundraiser opportunities

a. Golf outing

1. Late July/early August – Roses Run or Valleaire

Matt announced a solid date for the golf outing: Sunday, July 31, 2022, at Roses Run in Stow. Matt will confirm details regarding lunch package and drink package.

b. Restaurants

1. Chipotle (a Tuesday in May)

Nick will confirm the exact date, but it is set up. Nick will provide the custom flier to send out via email blast and post on social media.

2. Culver's

Nick has reached out to Culver's for a fundraising date, but is waiting to hear back.

c. Further discussion regarding footwear fundraiser (clogs and slides)

Melinda will follow up regarding this fundraising opportunity.

2. Feedback from distribution of registration info (schools, businesses)

3. Discuss format and display of sponsor banners

4. Discuss Board members soliciting for sponsors versus coaches

A brief discussion was had regarding gathering sponsors as well as promoting late

player registration.

10. Technology Committee

a. IT and Communications/Chair Report

1. Field availability

a. City of Macedonia confirmation of field availability

Dave confirmed approval from the City of Macedonia for use at Sugarbush Park for five (5) days a week. Mike inquired about spraying for ticks at Sugarbush. He indicated that last year NHAA sprayed for ticks and a discussion was had regarding having the City of Macedonia alleviate the tick problem this year.

Dave requested four (4) fields on Monday and four (4) fields on Thursday at Longwood Park. Dave confirmed approval from the City of Macedonia for use of four (4) fields on Monday at Longwood. Dave also confirmed approval from the City of Macedonia for use of two (2) fields on Thursday at Longwood. Dave confirmed a phone conversation with Jason Chadock with the City of Macedonia so that NHAA has access to the two (2) back fields on Thursdays – including the lighted field.

1. Confirmation on City of Macedonia receipt of updated insurance form
2. Discuss night games at Longwood for rec players

Dave indicated through his telephone conversation with the City of Macedonia that the cost for night games will be \$10 for the lights per game and there will be no field prep/drag and line fee applicable to a night game as long as prepped and lined for an earlier game. Dave indicated it will be challenging to schedule a night game for all leagues on just two (2) nights a week.

b. Additional update on travel team player contact information for future NHAA communication

VII. Travel Update

1. Travel Coordinator Report

Jim provided an update in Andy's absence. Jim reminded members to have Travel coaches register through the NHAA website so that a list of coaches can be compiled and on file for contact purposes.

a. Additional league updates

b. Additional Bash updates

1. Girls Bash: May 20 – 22, 2022

a. Previously reported 8 teams in 10U, 8 teams in 12U, and 2 teams in 14U.

Jim reported the following numbers for the Girls Bash: 8 teams in 10U, 10 teams in 12U (this is full), and only 2 teams in 14U. Jim encouraged members to continue to promote this tournament, especially for older league.

2. Boys Bash: June 3 – 5, 2022

a. Updates on teams

Scott reported no outside teams for 12U and one team for 11U. Scott indicated that 8U, 9U, and 10U are good with numbers. Scott will continue to promote this tournament. Scott indicated that without a team to play, his 12U team may just be there to run the tournament and not play. A brief discussion was had on this topic.

VIII. Open Discussion/Comments

1. Discuss date of mandatory coaching meeting (Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022)

A brief discussion was had about possibly adding a date or making the meeting earlier in the week so that parents with this religious conflict can attend.

2. Discuss date of April general meeting

The general meeting date will be discussed at a later time and could possibly be held via Zoom on a weekend. The coach's meeting will be finalized first. The Draft Week is the week of April 4th.

Melinda inquired about a coach's clinic at Strike Force and Scott confirmed that this will not be happening.

Nick indicated he will be out of town for the next board meeting scheduled for April 6th.

Date of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Location of next NHAA Board of Trustees meeting: Sagamore Hills Park – Upper Pavilion

Meeting adjourned: 9:21 p.m.