

Tea Baseball Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Aug. 5, 2025 • 7 p.m. • Tea City Hall

MINUTES

Board Members:

Rob Schramm, Rick Willemsen, Amy Smolik, Kevin McIntyre, Mark Jelen, Cory Olson, Chris Vasecka (arrived late)

Administrative Assistant Mike Greco

Not present: Mitch Smith

1) CALL TO ORDER 7:05 p.m.

2) APPROVE THE AGENDA Motion by Rick, seconded by Mark. Motion carried.

3) APPROVE THE TEA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES: (June 11)
Motion by Cory, seconded by Rick. Motion carried.

4) PUBLIC SPEAKING (5-minute limit per speaker)

Several 2025 summer coaches were in attendance. They shared challenges and items to improve for the 2026 season. Information shared — field availability (would like more days and longer practice times), missing mounds/ball screens/rakes? Consensus was that there needs to be more communication with the City and perhaps TBA needs to get additional equipment. TBA can also do a better job with communicating with coaches and players families over the winter season to ensure everyone is aware of pre-season training opportunities.

5) REPORTS

A. Coaches Reports

- 3rd grade: Team did well, had 11 kids, played in 4th grade division as 3rd grade team during regular season. They won the League. They played in the 3rd Grade State tourney in Mitchell and took home First Place. Coaches thought the SEBA season started out rough with a lot of early losses but later on they faced similar competitors, which made the games better. Mike Greco said the SEBA competitive 4th grade league will be different next year and will have 4-5 teams committed to a more competitive league. This year SEBA only had 2 competitive teams.

- 4th Grade: This team was very raw starting out but improved significantly throughout the season. They played their State Tournament in Tea and took 2nd place in the lower division. 10u team was rawer starting out. Our SEBA experience. 3 games against the 9u tea team. Didn't get much variety.
- 13U: Coach reported a great year. This year they lost at State in the semis to MAG; their only losses in State were to MAG.
- 14U: Player numbers were tough with three injuries early in the season and they had to pull from 13U. Played State in Aberdeen and lost to Brandon 10-9 in a barn burner. There were lots of competitive games, what you want when they're young.
- No representatives were available for 11U, 12U or 16U. Rob said overall those three teams had good seasons with no major issues. 11U/12U played home and had to kick in funds for umps.

B. Chase the Ace: CTA will return Aug. 15.

C. 2026 Tryouts: registration for both tryout dates (2nd/3rd grade-8th grade and 13U-14U) will start 30 minutes before the tryout. A variety of coaches will evaluate using a point system.

D. 10U State Tournament Overall TBA is very pleased with the tournament, other than minor issue with one team. Kevin still waiting on some bills to get paid before he can share a financial recap. Amy will contact the City to do a post-tournament meeting.

E. 2025 9U-16U State Tourneys: some host communities struggled by having only one field. Co-oping with other communities would be a future option for Tea, but does require significantly more volunteers.

F. Summer Paid Coaches: The 14U team had paid coaches. Comparing 2025 to 2024, this team played in four more tournaments. Looking ahead to 2026, Rob will put a coaching package together for high school teams and Jr Legion.

6) OTHER BUSINESS/FUTURE OUTLOOK

- City discussion
- New Board Member
- Annual Meeting

7) NEXT MEETING DATE

8) ADJOURNMENT 8:27 p.m. Motion by Chris, seconded by Rick. Motion carried.