

Arrowhead Fast Pitch League Association
Board Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2022, 6pm
Tele-Meeting via Zoom

Called to order at 6:00pm.

Present: Stewart Goldberg, Theresa Leopold, Jacque Volk, Dennis Peterson, Kelly Goeb

1. 2022 Season Dates. No change
 - April 3, 2022. Registration due, coaches meeting.
 - May 23 week. 8/10/12s will start
 - June 8 week. 14/16/18s will start
 - Coaches Clinic April 3, 2022. Will request sign up ahead of time but will be free of charge. Will hopefully be able to have it Braun Park.
2. Treasurer Recruitment. Theresa is working on finding a senior or recent graduate. Kelly has the checkbook and box of information.
3. Umpire Update. None needed
4. Rule Review. Kelly will post rule changes to our website as well as send them out to community leaders.
 - Need to add a rule at the beginning of all age groups to roster all players through USSSA
 - 14/16/18U Time Limit (Rule 4). “No new inning after 75 minutes for 14U/16U/18U.
 - For 14U, game ends at 90 minutes regardless if last inning is completed. (Drop Dead Rule) If home team is ahead, they win. If visitor is ahead, reverse back to the previous completed inning score.
 - For 16/18U, if an inning has started, it must be finished if the home team is behind.”
 - 16/18U Run Limit (Rule 5B). Rule 5A is unchanged. “If a team is ahead by 10 runs or more at the start of their at bat, they will be limited to scoring 4 runs for that inning.”
 - Example 1. Team A scores 12 runs in the first inning and Team B scores 1 run. Team A will only be able to

score 4 runs in each inning thereafter as long as they stay ahead by 10 or more runs.

- Example 2. After first inning, Team A has 12 runs, Team B has 1 run. Second inning, Team A has 4 run limit and scores 1 run, Team B scores 6 runs, score is now 13-7. Team A has no run limit in third inning. Third inning, Team A scores 9 runs, Team B scores 1 run. Score is now 21-8. So Team A is now back to 4 run limit.
5. Code of Conduct. As below. Thanks to Stewart for putting this together. This will be posted on our website and be part of the registration process, so each coach will need to sign off on this.
 6. Safe Sport Act, Background Check via USSSA. Kelly is in process of setting up meeting with Becky at USSSA to see how we make the background check, etc, more efficient. Kelly will let the rest of the board members know when that meeting will be.
 7. Board Recruitment. Melissa Fracker from UWS is willing to serve on our board. She was nominated in to At large position #1 and voted in unanimously.
 8. Next meeting dates
 - February 20, 2022 at 6pm
 - April 3, 2022, Coaches Meeting and registration due

Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Goeb
AFPL Secretary

Arrowhead Fastpitch League Coach's Code of Conduct

Coaching youth sports can be stressful, time consuming, thankless at times and overwhelming. It can also be one of the most rewarding things one can

do to give back to the community, the sport and most importantly to the kids.

The fact that we need to have a code of conduct for Coaches is a product of society today, but it has no reflection on those of you who have volunteered to help these athletes develop their skills and find their love for this game. This is a guideline for how we expect Coaches to conduct themselves while competing in the Arrowhead Fastpitch League.

- Sportsmanship- Coaches are expected to always demonstrate good sportsmanship. This includes interactions with umpires, other coaches, players and fans. You are the role model for your players.
- Rules- Once rules are decided upon, including rostering of players, run rules, rescheduling of games, etc. Living within these rules is a must. Learn the rules, ask umpires if needed, inquire to the Board if need be, but then abide by the rules as explained.
- Umpires- Whether it be our League Umpires or one from your community doing your game, they are to be treated with respect. Their decisions are final and there is no reason to be disrespectful to them. They have no vested interest in the outcome of games no matter how anyone sees the play in question, they make the call as they see it. If you need to appeal a call, make sure it is the Head Coach that takes a time out (calmly), ask for clarification or an appeal respectfully, and you will get an answer in the same manner. You may not like or agree with the answer, but this is that “Role Model” part again where you get to teach your players how to properly deal with a situation.
- Parents- As unfair as this may seem, you as a Coach are responsible for your fans also. If a parent is obnoxious or unruly, the umpire may ask you to talk to the parent, if it persists the umpire may ask you to remove the parent from the area. The umpire will then (with the timer running) wait until they are removed to resume the game. If you build a culture correctly within your team, these problems can be avoided. If a Coach always handles themselves in a professional manner, the parents tend to fall in line. Communicating your

- expectations of parental behavior to your group is a great way to let them know what the parameters of their involvement in the game is.
- Safety- The safety of all involved is first and foremost priority for a Coach. Teach your kids how to play hard, but within the rules. “Dirty” play will not be tolerated. Make sure your players know the right way to slide, avoid collisions, and never intentionally hurt or injure another player. Lightning rule is one that absolutely cannot be ignored. Plain and simple, as soon as anyone sees lightning, the game is suspended for 30 min. The game can resume 30 min AFTER the LAST spotted lightning. Kids should be under cover of a dugout, or a building, not on the field during the delay. “That is a long way away from here, nothing to worry about” is NOT acceptable, this is an international rule and must be followed.

In order to make your season an experience in that you and your players can enjoy, learn, and compete, always go back to rule #1 in youth sports-
“it’s about the kids”.

When you Coach to mentor, teach and enhance the player’s experience, it will always be a successful season for all involved.

January 2022