

**St. Anthony sports Boosters Softball Association (SABSA) Board Meeting Minutes
2018, May 20
St. Anthony Village Pub – 7:30 pm**

Attendees: Rossi Cannon, Al Bates, Danielle Bogucki, Kirsten Stendahl, Pat Clark, Teresa Turner, Scott McCleary, Dirk DeWester, Jesse Kiemele, Rebecca Urdahl, Lisa Glaser

Meeting Length: Al voiced a target adjournment time goal of 9:00 pm.

Approval of the prior meeting's Minutes: Rossi moved, Danielle seconded to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of April 22, 2018. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Kirsten – The Bank Balance as of May 7 was \$24,112, but a lot of expenses have not yet been recorded. Many of these will come in before the next meeting.

President's Update: Al

The conversation regarding certain behavior with a SABSA (Assistant) Coach was had by Al & Pat with the (assistant) Coach in question and their Head Coach, and the (assistant) Coach was given a warning letter. Lamar has also been informed of this.

Al attended the SASB (Sports Boosters Board) Meeting May 9, and from that meeting:

- Insurance carriers changed; SABSA's rates went down a little; we have no coverage for equipment (this is not new, just a reminder).
- The new version of website dropped the softball off the SASB logo; Boosters General Funds will pay to restore it.
- We discussed conflicts with soccer goals placement and soccer teams practicing at WP. Soccer doesn't think there should be big issues, (city workers placed the goals in the 'conflict spot'; they have now been moved. Another space conflict discussed was due to an inadvertent case of double-scheduling of soccer teams. In a nice gesture, and to avoid space conflict, soccer cleared their use of the WP field for the 12U SB game day in June. We have purchased 'outfield demarcation' cones; Al will get these to the field at WP. We'll inform Baseball they are welcome to use them.
- All schedulers, whether for practices (any location, indoors or outdoors) or games, are requested to attend both Fields Meetings next year.
- There was discussion about offering 'gas money' and/or some 'financial benefit' IF NEEDED for a certain age level. Boosters would not object to 'gas money' payments, or paying a (non-HS Head) Coach if necessary to get a Coach at a certain age level.

Photos will be with Dave Wiggins again this year; Dave will be starting soon.

Game Scheduling has been completed; Al is working with Tim Klein, our Umpire Starter & Pat (for field scheduling), and the Coaches.

In response to requests, we have started Posting of “next meeting date/time/place” on the home page of our website (and on Facebook), and doing email blasts.

Field Rental of Sandcastle Park has been negotiated with Roseville; is there any interest? Discussion was tabled to Fields Section.

Coordinators' Updates:

Player & Coach Development Update: Danielle

Issues have been raised about the level of satisfaction with one of the Umpires we have been using. Al has discussed these issues with Tim Klein, our “Umpire Starter”, but also expressed an interest in the discussion being reinforced by first-hand communication from a Coach directly to Tim. Danielle will follow-up with Tim.

MFA is offering a Summer Camp June 12-14 in Roseville. Al sent out an email blast to our Players.

Danielle is looking to get Pitching Clinics going soon.

Some of our younger-age-group Coaches have asked Danielle for some practice ideas/assistance. Danielle will work with them as needed.

Equipment: Al/Teresa

Equipment is assigned except for 14U; Al will connect with Alyssa Jones & Kirsten (assisting) as needed.

Some older equipment was donated to the Patriots' “Garage Sale”.

Players are liking the new bats!

We have purchased two new Blue Flame Pitching Machines, as the older teams like using them for Batting Practice (as well as the 8Us). One is still in the box, ready when needed.

Needs? Interest was again expressed in purchasing weighted “sand” balls for Batting Practice. Also, we need “more robust” moveable Pitching Rubbers, as the ones we have are breaking when we pound them in.

Fields: - Pat

Regarding Practice Times, there are some openings at Wilshire Park. But, 10U has games on Tuesdays & Thursdays, starting in June – which conflicts with 12U’s preferred practice time needs. A consideration for the future could be using “off nights” and “fewer home games” to free up practice times? 10Us are in the rotation for Friday & Sunday practices.

Umpires: –

We need an Umpire Coordinator! (Need to recruit.) For now, Tim Klein will work in combination with Al, Pat, and the individual Coaches.

Spirit Wear & Online Store: – Erik/Kirsten

We have been getting requests for another round of Pants purchasing.

Uniforms: – Erik

Fastpitch Uniforms Update: The ink repairs/reprinting appear to be working well. If more issues arise, Danielle will follow up.

Fundraising: –

DQ Night – Erik

(Wednesday from 7:30 – 9:30; Spread the word!)

Jersey Mike’s – Kirsten

Kirsten has been in communication with Jersey Mike’s; will get the cards handed out in two weeks.

8U – Erik/Al/Dirk

“Donation” to the 8U Northern League website (\$25) has been made.

8U Umpire Coordinator has been secured – Dirk DeWester.

Umpires selection, approval, training: In response to League encouragement to deal with looming Umpire shortages, Rossi organized a first round of Umpire training for (mostly) local Umpires. A question now is how to use that training where possible, and one potential use is Umpires for the 8U games. Dirk expressed concern about the age/maturity level of young Umpires that we would want to use at our 8U Home Games. Discussion ensued regarding building on the Umpire Training and the

level of Experience/Competence we want to maintain in providing a good 8U Game Experience through Umpire Quality Standards. Rossi moved, Kirsten seconded, to approve up to \$300 for 'Cadet Umpires' to train/shadow the 'Senior Umpire' at 8U Games, paying Cadet Umpires \$15/game. Motion passed. Dirk will coordinate the Senior and Cadet Umpires.

HDC Liaison Update: – Scott

SABSA Night at SAVHS Varsity was held May 8; there was a nice turnout of SABSA players there.

The Unofficial Fundraiser came in at \$880 for SABSA; 12 tickets were returned unsold.

The Flower Sale was a successful fundraiser for the HDC; participation by SABSA was minimal.

The SAVHS Varsity has their first sectional game at Lexington tomorrow at 4:30. Go Huskies!

Other Business:

Tournament Fees – Scott McCleary:

Parents have questioned Coaches' asking to collect more fees for Tournaments at their first Parents' Meetings. Discussion ensued. The consensus was to try to provide more/better information up front, that this will happen. (Boosters Basketball communications were cited as a potential reference).

Timing of tournaments scheduled for teams – Scott:

Is there a way to coordinate better with the HS teams, especially for C-Squad tournaments, as the shortened season and added tournaments caused conflicts with 12U tournaments? Al will discuss with Lamar.

Conflicts between SABSA ball & School Ball – Teresa/Scott/Rebecca Urdahl/Lisa Glaser:

What should be done if HS players have conflicts with school ball, and can't play in tournaments? This was among the questions posed -- in noting that the C-Squad – 12U Conflict was more significant than last year. There were communications issues between C-Squad and Players and SABSA Coaches; it was reported that Players were told that "Boosters said don't take Players needed for 12U to play in a C-Squad/9th Grade (added) tournament". Involved SABSA Coaches deny making such a statement. We need to improve communications in the future in this area. Al will discuss with Lamar after the HS season.

Team formation/Coach Selection – Dirk DeWester:

Dirk asked about the makeup of this year's Coach Selection Committee, and received confirmation of the makeup. He further inquired about the Coach Selection Committee's recommendation for this year's Head Coaches not being accepted, and whether the rejection should have caused the issue to be sent back to the Coach Selection Committee (instead of the Board coming up with the alternative selections, as occurred), noting that the appearance of the action to the community was less than desirable for the program, as several Board Members ended up being named Head Coaches in the final Board Selection. Discussion ensued. Al acknowledged the issue of appearances being a concern, and further discussion was tabled to a future meeting (before next year's Coach Selection process).

Player "Grandfathering" - Scott McCleary:

Scott asked if a Player that came to play with SABSA several years ago – at our request, when we didn't have enough players to form teams at that level, could be considered "grandfathered in" as a "St. Anthony Player" after playing with us for 4 years. Al will follow up with the Boosters President, as the rule in question is a Boosters rule, not a SABSA rule.

Next meeting date – June _____ time: _____ & location: _____ (TBD). The difficulty of finding an appropriate time & date with the Season's activity going on left the issue of the next meeting's time and date to be pursued via emails, even though difficult.

Adjourn time: 10:09 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Al Bates, President