

White Bear Area Fastpitch Softball Association Board Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2024 at 6 pm White Bear Lake High School Field House

1. Call To Order: C. Rivard Called Meeting to Order at 6:01 PM
2. Roll Call: Lindsey Shellenberger, Joni Joy, Lindsay Lacktorin, Josh Oldham, Gerrit Schneeman, Andy Balgord, Brianna Oliverius, Heather Larson, Carrie Rivard, Genna Wade, Dawn Coudron
3. Visitors: Allison Cromie
4. Approval of Minutes of the Preceding Meeting: H. Larson made a motion to approve, J. Oldham 2nd motion. Meeting minutes approved
5. Approval of Agenda of Current Meeting: C. Rivard made a motion to add Bear Classic Discussion to the President due to S. Evans being gone. Added and agenda was approved
6. Public Forum: None present or given ahead of time
7. Reports of Officers:
 - a. President
 - i. Directors Meeting-
 1. \$650/\$670 HS - Team entry fees to play for Summer Season
 2. Coach Protests \$200 - When a coach wants to protest a roster, they need to have \$200 cash handed to umpire. If they are right they get the \$200 back to coach, if the coaches are wrong, then the money goes to the tournament director hosting at the location.
 3. Birth Certificate Verification - If you do not upload and verify online, parents will need to carry the birth certificate at all times for games in case of a challenge.
 4. If a Parent or coach asks for the name of the umpire will be suspended for a year. They need to direct all questions to the Director - Tom Bye to dispute or have any issues with umpires
 5. All American Games (add 14U) - 14U is being added so they can tryout for All American Games
 6. Locking Rosters for Nationals (maybe for Monsta too) - 2 weeks ahead of time rosters will be locked, no more movement can occur as too much was occurring too close to the actual tournament
 - ii. Policies & Procedures: Manuals need to be written
 1. Draft in January Meeting and Finalization by February to be voted and approved
 - a. Role and Responsibility of Sections:
 - i. Introduction - Carrie and Joni
 - ii. Disclaimer - Carrie and Joni
 - iii. Mission Statement - From By Laws
 - iv. Board of Directors - Carrie and Joni
 - v. General Information - Scholarships and Refunds - Heather?
 - vi. Concessions/Dibs - Heather,
 - vii. In House Softball League -
 - viii. Philosophy

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- ix. Expenses and Fees and Refunds - Heather
 - x. Season
 - xi. Age Division
 - xii. Player Time and Development -
 - xiii. League In house rules -
 - xiv. Elite teams - Carrie and Joni
 - xv. Tryouts - Carrie and Joni
 - xvi. Team selection/tryout scoring Carrie and Joni
 - xvii. Coach selection process - Carrie and Joni
 - xviii. Grievance - Andy Balgord
 - xix. Uniform/Apparel - Dawn Coudron
 - xx. Parent, Coach, and Player Code of Conduct - Gerritt
 - xxi. 8U Program
 - iii. Bear Classic Discussion
 - 1. B/C Tournament vs. Open discussion. Currently we do not have a lot of A teams that come other than our own which causes a lot of issues. D. Coudron Made a motion to make the Bear Classic Tournament a B/C tournament. C. Rivard 2nd the motion. Went to a vote - all yays. Motion passes. Moving forward Bear Classic will be a B/C and our Elite tournaments will be allowed to find another tournament preferably not on the same weekend to help with DIBS
- b. Vice President
 - i. TeamGenius Update
 - 1. Renewal was up and we renewed the subscription and placed it in the tryout fees for this year as well.
 - ii. Advanced 8U and 10U playing up update/discussion
 - 1. Advanced 8U would be the ability to push our kids who are not ready to move up to 10U but have the option to push themselves for a high level of play. Evaluation of Skills would be enacted in order to be able to confirm the ability.
 - 2. Our 10U language may need to change in order to prevent 6/7 yr olds from playing up to 10U which is similar to many other associations. In order to move up from 8U to 10U then they need to be able to make the A level. 10U teams but maturity also is a factor which can also hurt the 10U aged girls. Minimum Age of 8 years old to even try out for 10U A team to move up.
 - 3. J. Joy made a motion that moving forward (other than grandfathered in 8U players who have already moved up to 10U) in order to move up from 8U early you will need to attend 10U tryouts and make the 10U A team with a minimum age of 8 yr old. J. Oldham 2nd the motion. Votes - all approve. Motion Passes

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4. J. Oldham made a motion to create an 8U Advanced Team and have skills evaluation in spring. B. Oliverius 2nd the motion. Motion voted on - all yays. Motion passes.
- c. Treasurer
- i. Proposed Summer 2025 Registration Fee
 1. Summer Fees review for budgeting and expenses especially with entry fees going up this year. Last year we were at a loss from expenses vs. registration fees. Need to consider increasing just to cover basic costs. We will be researching other 990s to see what balance they keep to maintain a healthy budget and healthy program.
 2. Appendix A will show potential budget and expenses
 3. We need to focus on donations and fundraising as even with increasing our registration fees we will still be running in the red
 4. 10% is reasonable for inflation and any other expenses we will have to fundraise and donate. G. Schneeman made a motion to increase fees by 10%. D. Coudron 2nd the motion. All Yays - motion passed.
- d. Scheduling Director
- i. Indoor gym time/open gym space all finalized for the winter
 1. No space in the fieldhouse in Feb - a few A teams are practicing at Central on 2/19 and 2/23. What equipment can they have when they go to Central?
- e. Apparel Director
- i. We will push this to the Jan meeting - Link will come from D. Coudron for uniforms so we can vote.
 - ii. February 20th - P/C and 8U and 26th for Elites and Feb. 23rd will be for everyone else. Mandatory to try on and sign on
- f. Concessions & Fundraising Director
- i. Fundraising Letter/Sponsorship form -
 1. Message is sent by Bri about a letter in case parents want to opt out of families who do not want their kids pictures posted. - L. Shellenberger to provide information to B. Oliverius on pictures in order to continue with the letter for donations/sponsorship letter
 2. Opt Out of Photos and Posting online in registration - L. Shellenberger to email lawyer about Media Release/Photo Opt Out
 3. Bear Classic - create posters or banners for outfields to recognize those donors or provide practice shirts to the girls with the logos of the sponsors on the shirt.
 4. Bri to come back with Fundraising Options for Elite that can replace Heggies. Or we focus on teams who can go out individually and find fundraisers in order to help.

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- ii. Stickers/magnets/car decals at Concessions & online
 - iii. Concessions for weekday games - Dibs/highschool students
-payment/NHS volunteer hours–reach out to HS for volunteer hours?
 - iv. **Swag items** at tryouts/parent meeting
 - v. **Fundraiser ideas:** Fundraising Cards, Dominoes, burger/hot dog fundraiser, cornhole tournament with open concessions–Otter Lake or partner with local business to host/% of proceeds, raffles, spaghetti dinner, etc. For all girls and one for Elite
 - vi. DIBS-management, determine board members contribution hours (waive standard registration fees and require dibs to be completed by ALL board members).
 - vii. Highschool team/Elite team partnership with mentoring younger girls.
 1. Question regarding winter training.
8. Report of Committees:
- a. Coaches Recruitment and Selection
 - b. Player Assessment/Tryout
 - c. Winter Training
 - d. 8U/New Member
9. Old and Unfinished Business
10. Yellow Highlighted Items will be discussed further in January
11. Next Meeting: January 5th White Bear Lake High School Downstairs 6 to 8 PM
12. Adjournment: J. Oldham made the motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Oliverius 2nd.
Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM