



Dover Youth Softball League  
Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, April 7, 2024, 7:00 PM  
Cara's Pub

DYSL Board of Directors (mark those present with an "X")

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President – JAMIE STEVENS                    | <input type="checkbox"/> 6U Division Director – OPEN                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice President – NATALIE SACCOCCIA           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8U Division Director – ASHLEY CHERRY  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Treasurer – BRUCE THORNER                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10U Division Director – LANCE KEELTY  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary – NATALIE SACCOCCIA                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12U Division Director – KEITH FORTIER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past President – OPEN                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> 16U Division Director – OPEN                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director of Sponsorship – PATTY KINNICUT     | <input type="checkbox"/> Director of Coaches – STEVE SHEPARD              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registrar – LINDSAY CALLAGHAN                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director of Media – JIM DESROSIERS    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director of Concession Stand – KRYSTAL SMALL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Liaison – MELISSA LEBLANC   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director of Equipment – TODD LAFOND                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> League Scheduler – JOSH ROBERGE       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director of Facilities – ERIN MILLS          |   |

**16 Positions Filled, 15 Members, 3 Positions Available. Quorum= 8 people**

- 1) **Call to Order:** 7:02pm call meeting to order.
- 2) **Citizen's Forum:** No one is present.
- 3) **Regular Business:**

Meeting Minutes: Vote to accept March 24, 2024, meeting minutes. No questions. Motion to approve by Ashley, seconded by Lance. 12/14 approve and 2/14 abstain.

a) Treasurer's Report-

- i) Current Accounts
  - ii) League Checking: updated balance \$84,836.83 w/\$855.00 in obligated payments outstanding as reported on 3/24/24.
  - iii) DYSL All-Star Teams Acct: updated balance \$6,750.00.
  - iv) DYSL Concessions Acct.: \$300.00, unchanged as reported on 3/24/24.
  - v) Special Revenue Fund: \$1,313.52, unchanged.

Ashley inquired about a new pitching machine. Todd and Bruce will buy new spring pitching machine for 8U.

**Todd L. joined the meeting at 7:07pm**

Vote to accept the purchase of \$160 for spring pitch machine. Motioned by Todd and seconded by Erin. 15/15 in Favor, 0 Oppose, 0 Abstain



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Vote to accept the treasurer's report. Motion by Lindsay, seconded by Lance. No questions or discussion. 15/15 In Favor, 0 Oppose, 0 Abstain

**4) Old Business:**

Attitudes in recent meetings discussed by Jamie. He reiterated our focus being the children and acknowledged frustrations in recent meetings. Jamie would like to see all board members try to decrease side conversations and maintain positivity. Todd added to this discussion and suggested the set-up would be easier if the speakers of the meeting could be centrally located at the table. Todd explained that this may help reduce side conversations. Jamie reminded all he is going to try to stop side conversations to maximize time at meeting. Jamie thanked everyone for their commitment and time. Jamie asked for feedback as we move forward. Melissa spoke to the last meeting and the need for conversations to keep happening.

a) Spring Registration- Final Numbers

- o 6u- 21
- o 8u- 40
- o 10u- 29
- o 12u- 32
- o Play Up Request Clarifications

-Two came in after the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>; both players can move up with board approval from 6 to 8U. Acadia from 6U-8U, Laney Knox from 6U-8U. This impacts overall team counts. A Somersworth player came in after registration closed. Lance discussed keeping both requested players in 6U. Uniforms were ordered, teams were formed. Schedules have been finalized; discussed options about reworking the whole schedule. Ashley expressed concern about communicating team changes to families. The team counts may not be enough with four teams. Board discussed pros and cons of increasing teams. If these players play up, three teams will have 11 and one team of 10, which would also mean that Ashley would need a fourth head coach. Todd mentioned he could easily adjust the order for uniforms at this point if needed. 14/15 board members in



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favor of creating 4 teams. Lindsay mentioned her perspective and stated this has potential to negatively impact the 6U division. Given the majority siding with four teams, we discussed an action plan for Ashley which would consist of sending email for the 8U division and Amy Donovan (who may be interested in being the head coach for the new team). Todd will order another kit for uniforms. Josh will provide an updated schedule next week. Middleton Building supply will be the new sponsor for this team. Jim interested in coaching as a backup. During this meeting, a board member emailed Amy and she declined; however Jim D and Cheryl D accepted the coaching position. Motion on the floor to move two players up to 8U by Melissa, seconded by Natalie. 15/15 in favor, no discussion or questions.

- b) Attack Updates- April 14<sup>th</sup> are tryouts. 10 & 12 U are going to go from 9-11, 8U will go from 11-1. May be able to use high school fields, depending on field conditions. The high school field use is not definite. Josh offered to reach out to Ricky. Jamie will wait to hear from Josh to talk to Ricky to make sure field space available and logistical concerns with Peter W.
- c) Coaching Updates- 14 coaches waiting to hear about background checks that are actively listed/new to the league. Ashley is not sure if her coaches can continue. There is a 3-4 month wait for background checks, especially since moving to Sports Engine. Natalie questioned why coaches are allowed to coach without clearing the application process. It was stated by Jamie that the board previously made a decision about allowing coaches to coach with "pending background checks" due to the backlog and disruption it could cause to teams/players. As soon as someone is not cleared, Steve and/or Jamie will immediately assist in that process. Jamie ended further discussion.
- d) Water Bubbler @ Shaw's Lane- Bruce saw Ricky and discussed recent conversation about aspects of responsibility between organizations and the town on maintenance and facility usage fees. Jamie to follow up with Ricky further on this issue.

**5) New Business:**

1. Opening Day May 4<sup>th</sup>



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- a. Any significant updates from subcommittees- speakers- a friend of Jamie's came over to determine the status of the PA system which is in good order and replaced a microphone. Opening Day is covered. The board discussed that appropriating money for speakers from a recent sponsor may be better spent elsewhere. Lance suggested contacted AAA fence to extend poles/fencing until there are more numbers. Jamie recommended tabling discussion for next meeting. Lance will reach out to Mike to get a quote. Krystal to do an Amazon wish list. Interact students will be volunteering in the concession stand. Todd mentioned the new spirit store through a Dover company who does all the high school stuff and how this is put on by the owner of Rutland Tattoo. Todd explained there is difficulty getting in touch with him often, however he is really good at what he does. Todd asked if anyone would be able to take this on and assist the process in case his response is short notice. Patty specifically mentioned concerned about the low-resolution graphics and the need to update. Collins store only willing to run twice a year and limits our options because order volume is low and refuses to provide us with options that we are interested in. Jamie willing to help be available, Patty also mentioned importance of us having ownership of the graphic. Further discussion took place and Erin, Krystal, and Jamie are all willing to be available on short notice to help make this happen. In order to finish the schedule, Josh is waiting on clarification about the mound placement for 10 and 12U games. Opening Day- 10:30 upper field will have games, while at 10:45 skills and drills take place on the lower field @ Southside. 8U players will go to Shaw's Lane.

**Krystal left the meeting around 8:15pm.**

2. Schedule Updates

- a. 6U and 10U season schedule is done. Discussed extra infield practice at the indoor arena. 8U needs adjusting with the addition of a team. 12U season schedule is done, however Josh will need to make adjustments with the new teams.
- b. 8, 10, and 12U are in on June 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> with Barrington Jamboree.



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- c. Josh looking to host games with other tournaments in the future, possibly generate funds.
  - d. Melissa asked about playing more games with surrounding towns at the Dover fields. Josh expressed concern about scheduling competitive events without adequate practice. Josh would not recommend scheduling additional games for this reason. Board discussed that other towns start playing earlier because they have better field quality.
3. Field Clean Up April 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday
- a. Task Assignments & Schedule- Jamie discussed concerns about volunteers being in both locations and that creating logistical concerns with multiple equipment being in different locations. Jamie has made a task list. He went to Southside with Lance to cut some tree limbs from the recent storm. Jamie suggested having a coordinator to direct families to tasks. Signs need to be hung. Keith suggested posting tasks and times. Facebook will update families as tasks are accomplished. Jamie and Erin will coordinate volunteers the day of. Josh can send an update through Sports Engine; including preparing families for the Red's Race occurring that day.
    - i. Southside: 10-1pm
    - ii. Shaw's Ln: 8-10am (volunteers will start here)
4. Field Assignments- 6U will stay at the t-ball field C, field A and B will be utilized for 8U. Southside 10 and 12U; 10U lower field, 12U upper field. Need temp mound. Middle School is using Thorner Field (field A). The current mound is in the way for the middle school level; Jamie proposing a temporary mound. The Middle School team will need to arrange for that to happen.
5. Pitching / Catching Clinic- Krystal S (given a quote, 4 dates offered) proposed pitching clinic. Melvin to assist with catching clinic. KJ would also propose a pitching clinic but needs support to help watch her 3-year-old to run a clinic. Patty inquired about who to proceed with. Todd expressed concern with getting a confirmed schedule from KJ. Lance asked about combining pitcher and catching clinics. Todd replied no, different levels too difficult. If she



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can be used for pitching clinics, he is interested. Board discussed Melvin and KJ. Looking at Sundays. Jamie asked the board to coordinate scheduling this with Patty (Patty, Lance, Todd).

6. Friday April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 on Southside Field Bruce will offer a coaching clinic. Patty will notify coaches.
7. Melissa asked about Middle School Team tryouts. Players who have never played, within the 14U age range, may benefit from playing with DYSL. Todd suggested a 14U director for next year, however this may need to start earlier for better planning.
8. Todd confirmed uniforms have been ordered.

**6) Final Topics**

a) Actions Review:

- Josh to reach out to Ricky and follow up with Jamie; Jamie will reach out to Peter W. once he hears about field use and maintenance policy.
- Jamie to follow-up with Ricky about the water bubbler.
- Josh to re-work some of the schedule by mid-week
- Patty to order supplies for opening day (face painting, tattoos cutters, zip-ties)
- A board member (Jamie, Erin, or Krystal) will f/u with the new apparel store/vendor (Rutland Tattoo).
- Patty, Lance, and Todd to coordinate catching/pitching clinics.
- Lindsay to notify coaches of coaching clinic opportunity with Bruce.
- Josh to send Sports Engine email to families for Field Clean Up.
- Jamie calling for portlets and water
- Jamie to check agreement for fields

Final Comments/Concerns: No.

**Adjourn**- motion to adjourn meeting at 9:05pm by Josh, seconded by Erin. All in favor 14/14.

**Meeting Schedule:**



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- April 21 – Start of school vacation.
- May 19
- June 16
- July 21
- August 18