

Kasson Mantorville Girls Softball Association

Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2017

6:30pm

Type of Meeting: Regularly scheduled whole board

Meeting Facilitator: President Ryan Head

Invitees: KMGSA board members

- I. Call to order: 1837
- II. Roll call Present: Head, Farnsworth (arrived 1855), Batzel, Krahn, Rismeyer, Hahn
Association member: Gene Grover
- III. President's report: Ryan Head reported 12-15 coaches from the 2017 season have expressed interest in coaching in 2018. Ryan also contacted Brady Turk with SFC to confirm they would take KMGSA teams in league play next year. Brady stated they would.
- IV. Secretary's report: approval of minutes from last meeting. Saved to Google Docs: Head/Batzel motion carried unanimously.
- V. Treasures report: see attached, to be saved in Google Docs: Rismeyer/Head motion carried unanimously. 2018 budget has been added to the secretary's report.
- VI. 10u coordinators report: Tabled for next month
- VII. Open issues (old business)
 - a) 2 8u coaches have equipment that needs to be turned in. Jason Murphy also has equipment that he will turn in after RYFSA Fall-Ball is done. On Sunday September 11th, Ryan Head and Jason Batzel will set up the hitting nets to help determine what parts are needed to repair. Shed inventory will be done on October 14th at 9am. Pitching machine will also be PM'd and moved to the KMGSA storage shed during inventory. Ryan Rismeyer will be using a KMGSA catchers helmet through the Fall-Ball season.
 - b) Motion Head/Hahn to purchase thank you gifts for 2017 coaches passed with a 4-1 (Farnsworth had not yet arrived) vote. Rismeyer being the lone opposing vote.

- c) Vice President and Secretary openings: Motion by Head/Farnsworth to move Ryan Rismeyer from his role as an “At Large” board member into the Vice President role. Motion carried unanimously with Rismeyer recusing himself from voting. KMGSA has openings for a Secretary and At Large members.
- d) 2018 team make-up outline: See “Rules adoption document”. At 1928, motion by Head/Hahn passed unanimously to close the meeting to discuss 2018 Rules adoption. The entire board went through the each paragraph of the document and made several changes. At 2018, motion by Krahn/Batzel passed unanimously to reopen the meeting. Motion by Farnsworth/Hahn passed unanimously to adopt the document as projected changes to KMGSA operations for the 2018 season. The document will be emailed to Paul Mann and Matt Nelson. The document will be posted on KMGSA website with all members directed to the website in an email.

VIII. New business

- a) Annual meeting: Scheduled for Monday October 30th, 1830 at the Kasson American Legion downstairs meeting room. Jen Hahn to put notification in the paper at least two weeks ahead of time.
- b) Beginning in September, KMGSA Board meetings will be held the 3rd Monday of each Month at the Kasson American Legion, at 1830. The schedule for the rest of 2017 will be: Sept. 18th, Oct. 16th, Nov. 20th, Dec. 18th with the annual meeting scheduled for Oct. 30th as stated above.
- c) Ryan Rismeyer is going to locate current KMGSA Bylaws for updating. KMGSA will also be looking at some operational guidelines to be put in place this off-season.

IX. Adjournment: Motion Head/Hahn at 2024

2018 Rules adoption Document:

All:

As youth fast-pitch in southeast Minnesota continues to evolve, changes locally become an inevitable part in that evolution. Below, the KMGSA Board is going to outline changes coming to how the association will operate moving forward.

First and foremost, KMGSA will be changing leagues from Southern Minny in Austin to SFC (Southeast Fast-Pitch Conference) in Rochester. As the board discussed this change, the focus came down to two fundamental reasons. Logistically, the switch to SFC should reduce travel time for players and parents. Second, we are looking for a more consistent end of the year tournament schedule for all teams.

The next listed changes are a result of the switch to SFC and having to follow SFC League rules.

1. KMGSA will be adopting SFC birth years for establishing level of play by age. These dates are mandated by USA Softball. For the Fall 2017/Summer 2018 seasons, the age groups will be as follows:

Season is from August 1st 2017 through July 31st 2018

DIVISION	BIRTHDATE RANGE
8U	2009 & 2010
10U	2007 & 2008
12U	2005 & 2006
14U	2003 & 2004
16U	2001 & 2002

Additionally, KMGSA will be following SFC guidelines in that as a general rule, we will not allow players to play outside of the age group they fall into by birth year. We have, in the past, allowed players to “play up” base off their grade. That was never adopted as an association bylaw and the unwritten rule will no longer be utilized. Please plan for your players to play within the age group they fall into by birthdate.

2. Within each age division, SFC has Gold and Silver divisions. The “Gold Division” is for those wishing to have more competition and commitment from players. The “Silver division” is less of a commitment and will focus more on reinforcing fundamentals. KMGSA **will follow those guidelines** from the 12u-16u levels. Player assessments will occur in early 2018 with teams being built shortly thereafter. Gold teams will have an increased tournament commitment and will have a registration fee to reflect the increase. The KMGSA Board will ultimately build rosters based off assessments, past experience, available coaches, and player commitment. 10u teams will be built as even as assessments allow and all KMGSA 10u teams will be enrolled in the Silver division. 8u will continue as it has in the past with a goal of providing more coaching and fundamental reinforcement to this age level.

3. Beginning with Fall 2018, KMGSA will offer as many Fall-Ball teams as player numbers and available coaches will allow. KMGSA will ultimately build and approve these rosters with the hope that Summer teams role into Fall teams whenever possible. All KMGSA offered Fall-Ball teams will play as part of the RYFSA (Rochester Youth Fastpitch Softball Association) Fall League.

Other KMGSA Board driven 2018 season changes:

In spring 2017, KMGSA was granted permission by Kasson Mantorville School Administration to begin using “KoMets “ as part of its branding. Moving forward, all non-school sanctioned fast-pitch teams originating in the Kasson Mantorville area will use “KMGSA” and “KoMets” as part of its team name. No further logos or additions to the uniform (including, but not limited to, jerseys, pants, socks, wristbands, headbands, bats and gloves) will be allowed. This also includes “warm-up” type gear. The KMGSA board must approve any changes to the uniform, prior to being worn.

Open enrollment: As a general rule, KMGSA will not allow any player to be on a KMGSA roster whose home address originates outside of the Kasson Mantorville School District. The few exceptions to this rule will be those players that attend school in another area and spend the summer in the Kasson Mantorville area. (i.e. blended/divorced/separated for employment families and those that live with grandparents) Proof of residency/legal guardianship will be required.

Waivers: As stated in spring 2017, KMGSA will no longer sign waivers for players to be on the roster for any other team that originates in the Kasson Mantorville area. KMGSA was given and holds the geographical rights to youth fast-pitch softball from the Kasson Park and Recreation Board. The services offered cannot be replicated or duplicated without the express written consent of the KMGSA Board.

Roster changes: In an effort to eliminate the perception of recruiting/hand picking, the KMGSA board must approve any in-season roster changes made by coaches prior to contacting any player or parent. This includes, but is not limited to, SFC League games, Tournament games, the End of Season Tournament, and State Tournament changes. Prior to submission to USA Softball, the KMGSA Board must first approve all roster changes

18u: KMGSA will be offering an 18u level in 2018 Summer/Fall seasons as long as player numbers and coach availability are adequate. Those with birth years of 1999 and 2000 being eligible. More information to come.

Governing Body: The KMGSA Board is operating with the best interest of all players, coaches, and parents in mind. The board understands and does not hold the expectation that all members will agree with changes and decisions made by the board. With that being said, any player/coach/or parent that operates outside of SFC guideline/rule, USA Softball rule or KMGSA Bylaw is subject to corrective action as deemed appropriate by the KMGSA Board. The KMGSA Board holds the right to modify any guideline/rule/bylaw when it has the best interest of KMGSA as whole in mind and when deemed appropriate by SFC and USA Softball.