



**Board Meeting Minutes – Approved 4/15/2024
Monday, March 18, 2024 – 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Apple Valley Community Center**

Board Member Attendees/Representatives:

Peter Beaumont (acting president), Doug Beddies, Mary Coleman, Kevin Drometer, Mark Espena, Gerri Laska, Travis Lee, Jeremy Resler, Niels Schopochnicof, Brad Yamanaka, Paul Zackery

Programs Represented: Baseball, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball, wrestling

Other Attendees: Jessica Johnson (lacrosse board), Mike Johnson (lacrosse board)

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. A quorum was present

Approval of minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the February 2024 EVAA Board meeting.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Action Items

A list of action items from the previous meeting was reviewed and updated. All board members should review the list and complete their assigned items before the next meeting.

Background Checks / Concussion Training

There was clarification about when coaches need background checks and concussion training, particularly when other agencies also require a background check. As EVAA does not have data sharing agreements with external associations, EVAA requires all coaches to get a background check through EVAA every 2 years. Individuals that coach multiple sports within EVAA do not need a separate background check for each sport. However, a concussion training certificate from other sources can be used for EVAA (needed every 3 years).

Board Updates

Safety Director

Work is being conducted to ensure coaches are in compliance with background checks and concussion training. As the current safety director will rotate off the EVAA board in May, a search for a replacement is needed.

Program Liaison

The new program liaison is still getting connected to the various sport boards and caught up on processes.

Technology / Facilities

As there will be a significant process shift and learning curve in implementing the new facilities role, changes to the current facility processes will not take place this year to ensure a smooth transition. Each sport will need to have a dedicated financial aid contact to work with the technology director to distribute discount registration codes.



Parks and Recreation / Hayes Update

There will be a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Department to discuss the referendum, which will include the lighting on the fields, the VAA building being torn down, a possible new storage shed behind the community center, and JCRP being the new location for the batting cages.

Social Media

There is concern that there are too many admins on EVAA's social media, and that inappropriate content has been distributed from EVAA accounts. As most sports have their own social media accounts, the idea of a central admin from the EVAA board being added to each sports social media was presented. It was clarified that EVAA will not own the sport social media pages/content, but having an EVAA board member as an admin in case of turnover, inappropriate content, etc. should be considered and a process should be documented.

Program Updates

Football

Football will now be in the new South Metro League (approved via email vote). The new league's board will be meeting on March 19; there is excitement to join this new league as this is what the community wanted. There will be a meeting in April to finalize the budget before registration opens in either May or June.

Softball

Tryouts were just completed for 12U; 14U will be held in the fall (12U, 10U, and 8U are held in the spring). A team building event was just held at the fieldhouse, and everything is set for another great season with an increase of 12 teams. There is still some uncertainty with regards to the fields, but Fusion has learned to co-exist well with the clubs in the area and has built a close knit community. There are several opportunities for the girls in the off season with dome ball. While there are girls that are participating in other sports besides softball, it has not impacted registration or caused significant conflicts.

Volleyball

Volleyball will wrap up at the end of April. They just finished a couple of weekends of tournaments, and did well financially. In-house volleyball starts at the end of March; registration had to be capped at 80 so kids had to be turned away. There will be 2 clinics with Gustavus Adolphus again this summer, in addition to summer camps.

Soccer

Spring registration closes on March 22, and registration numbers are up about 10%. The increase in numbers may be due to the schedule change so soccer and baseball no longer conflict. Financially the sport is very healthy; coaches are able to be hired and the pay for referees was increased. The board worked to change the culture over the past 3 years to ensure referees are protected and parents' behavior is held in check.

Lacrosse

Registration numbers are up ~50% from last year. There is a marketing plan to help increase age groups where the numbers are low. There is one team for both U8 and U10, and U12 and U14 each have 2 teams. The equipment rental program is back up and running with 40 sets of equipment available, and 30 athletes have taken advantage of this program. There are 2 upcoming clinics, and 4 more clinics later in the season.



with professional players. The new board is having regular board meetings. Fields may be a concern this season as Moeller is not available as it needs to rest, and Field A has a nearby marsh and parking lot so there is concern that balls may get lost or may damage cars. The girls will co-op with Eagan and will use Delaney Park half the time, and Eagan fields the other half.

Wrestling

The season just wrapped up, and the registration numbers were stable. The next step is to get a budget for the fall.

Baseball

Tryouts have just wrapped up for traveling, and in-house registration closes in 2 weeks (in-house registration numbers are about two-thirds of their projections). The new budget still needs to be submitted. There are a couple of planned tournaments: state tournament in July, and the all-star tournament in August.

New Business – Dick’s Sponsorship

Dick’s Sporting Goods has approached the soccer board with a sponsorship opportunity where they will donate \$2500 to EVAA, and will also provide all EVAA athletes with 20% coupon weekends in spring, fall, and winter.

MOTION: To allow Dick’s Sporting Goods to be an official EVAA sponsor with the \$2500 donation and include 20% off coupons 3 times per year.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimously approved at 7:41 p.m.

Electronic Motion: March 12, 2024

MOTION: For football to depart the SSYFL league and join the new South Metro League.

The motion was approved via email vote.