

DCEYB Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2026

Start time: 7:01 PM

ROLL CALL

Executive Board

- President: Jimmy Olafson - present
- Vice President: Mike Wodalski - present
- League Advisor: Mitch Zblewski - present
- Treasurer: Katie Howard - present
- Secretary: Rachel Niziolek - present

Commissioners

- AA/A Commissioner: Brian Drolshagen - absent
- Concession Stand Manager: Melissa Sigmund - present

Key Positions

- Advertising Director/Fundraising: Jodi Teige - absent
- Apparel/Uniform Lead: Nate Davidson - present
- Equipment Manager: Mike Peterson - absent
- Inventory Lead: Kelly Ziegelbauer - present
- Registration Coordinator: Brian Pensinger - absent
- Scheduling Lead: Kristin Maahs - present
- Volunteering Lead: Tom Coleman - absent

Additional Attendees: Sarah Olafson, Eric Niziolek, Kristy Zander, Jesse Riege, and Stephanie P.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve the February meeting minutes:
 - Motioned by: Mike Wodalski
 - Seconded by: Melissa Sigmund
 - Status: The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report

- The current balance is \$111,772.85.
- Outstanding checks remain from the Marathon and Menasha teams.
- Funds are correctly sectioned between the Glow Games and the DCEYB accounts.
- A check from the photographer was received and will be recorded as a donation back to the program.

NEW BUSINESS

Kennedy Update:

- No significant updates; focus shifted to immediate operational needs, preparing for the recent snowfall.
- Softball Varsity and Junior Varsity teams have games scheduled on the lower field, just in case they need the lights.

Travel Update 2026:

- Registration: Generally successful, though one player on the 11U Silver team is currently experiencing technical difficulties with receiving the email and link; assistance is being provided.
- Tournament Sign-Up: All coaches have finalized tournament registrations.
- Indoor Practice: No new updates.
- Uniforms: All uniforms have been ordered based on current registration. Two invoices were paid late last week and provided to Katie. One player ordered a uniform that is too big; Nate is looking into it with Rawlings to see if a smaller size can be approved.
- Hats: Three teams are still waiting for hats. While we have an excess of Extra Small/Small hats, only six Small/Medium hats are left, and that seems to be the size we need this year, which is different from last year. Jimmy has placed a supplemental order, and the first restock is expected by the middle of April, with more arriving by May 1.

Glow Event Update:

- Attendance:
 - Over 1,000 people attended the free event.
 - 600+ people processed through the welcome table.
 - 21 teams participated (approx. 252 players).
- Revenue Breakdown:
 - Bucket Raffles: 71 raffles generated \$2,856 (5,568 total tickets sold).
 - Top Items: iPad (685), Comfort Inn (276), Dugout Speaker (214), Baseball Bogg Bag (203), and AirPods (228).
 - Lowest Interest: Blue purse, pool towel set, and Frozen scooter (all under 10 tickets).
 - Silent Auction: 20 items generated \$2,645 profit (107 total bids); items ranged from \$60 to \$600.
 - Hoehn's Huddle Items: 5 autographed/framed items generated \$1,150 profit.
 - 2 Grids: A glove made \$500, which the Felch family won, and a Contreras Autograph made \$850, a little boy won, who used his own money, and was not part of DCEYB; he just came to the event.
 - GTCC Concessions: \$2,532.99 profit (312 pizza slices sold).
 - Goodwill Donations: \$1,042 collected in cash at the door.
- Financial Summary:
 - Expenses totaled \$10,326.99 (turf, pizza, insurance, strike zones, and T-shirts).
 - \$1,381 currently deposited since the 50/50 was not redeemed.
 - Still have 3 outstanding deposits/donations to receive and invoices to pay out.
 - We do not have a total profit number to report, but all numbers have been recorded and are transparent for the board to see.
 - Final profit will be split between Kennedy Field lighting and scholarship/education funds following a meeting with Luke and Britney.
- Event Analysis:
 - Successes: High-quality visuals (black lights, decorations, photos/videos), fun gameplay, family event, and very well-received education sessions led by Britney.
 - Challenges: High congestion/crowd flow issues, pizza coordination (demand exceeded expectations), higher-than-expected costs for shirts, couldn't save the decorations, and picking ticket numbers and letting people see who won what.
 - Future Planning: Need better date coordination to avoid conflicts with State Hockey and Basketball. Jimmy will hold a turf date for 2026-27 while the board evaluates repeating the event.
- A volunteer has stepped up to lead the "Thank You" note project.

- A feedback survey is currently open for organizers and participants.
- Thank you to all of the volunteers!

March Indoor Tournament:

- Timeline: Discussion was held regarding the tight schedule for Friday, March 20th. While games on Fields 3/4 begin at 5:30 PM, Fields 1/2 are occupied by Lacrosse until 6:00 PM. Jimmy has confirmed that Lacrosse coaches are willing to help, but volunteers must be ready to set up fences and bases at 6:00 PM to meet the 7:00 PM game time. Additionally, we need to notify Friday teams that warm-up space and time will be limited due to the back-to-back scheduling.
- Rules: Coaches have tournament rules and the rules for the Greenheck Turner Center. Communication will be sent to coaches about gum and cleat restrictions.
- Umpires: All slots for the turf tournament are confirmed and filled.
- Volunteers: The 9U and 11U parents were reminded to fill weekend slots regardless of team standings. Current shortages are in the evenings and early morning on Sunday, especially in the concession stand.
- Concessions: On Friday, we will not be having a meal, but we will have pretzels, nachos, and popcorn. On Saturday, we will have walking tacos until 8:00 PM or until we run out.
- Fundraisers: The 50/50 raffle will only be held on Saturday. In addition, Jimmy will create two grid raffles for a bat and a glove, and they will be located at the admissions table.
- Equipment: Pitching mounds need to be moved from the concession shed (plowing may be needed for access), and baseballs/game balls need to be brought over to Greenheck.
- Admission: Weekend passes are \$10; Day passes are \$5. Coaches, players, volunteers, and kids 10 and under are free. Wristbands will be used for entry. A Square reader will be available for credit card payments. We will have one admissions table on the main floor. We need to communicate to teams that there is a cover charge for the weekend.
- Rings: The rings have been delivered.
- Home Run Derby Rules/Information: \$25 entry, register at the admissions table, 40-player max, and 6 outs or one minute. It will take place on Fields 3/4 starting at 3:45 PM. The prizes will be chains/medals for 1st and 2nd place for each age group.
- Schedule: The tournament schedule is posted on Tourney Machine, and Kristin offered to help put games into Crossbar for our families.

Volunteers & Crossbar:

- It was noted that signing up via the Crossbar app is difficult; users are encouraged to use a desktop browser for a better experience.
- The board acknowledges a learning curve with the system and emphasizes the importance of manual tracking to ensure all families receive proper credit.
- Clarification on hours: if two family members (e.g., two parents or a parent and a teenager) work the same 2-hour shift, the family receives 4 hours of credit toward their requirement.
- Administrators can manually input names into the system. If a volunteer is having trouble with the portal, they should email the board to be added manually.
- The current Crossbar setup makes it difficult for National Honor Society students or high school students needing service hours to sign up. The board is considering a hybrid model using SignUpGenius for public slots. For now, student volunteers should email the board directly.

Equipment Needed:

- New buckets of balls have been purchased for every travel team, plus additional practice buckets for various fields.

- Major teams will wear MLB-style hats: White Sox, Yankees, Phillies, and Pirates. A small supplemental order was placed to complete the inventory.
- Jimmy is looking into new pitching mounds specifically for the new turf fields.
- Discussion held regarding the possible purchase of portable backstops at Machmueller Park. This would allow expansion from three fields to four or five, increasing capacity for T-ball games.
- Mike has secured additional supplies, including umpire indicators.
- While there are enough T-ball balls to start the season, a larger order for Rec and Travel game balls will be placed later this spring through the Dick's Sporting Goods sponsorship once the shed is more accessible.

Summer Tournament Planning 2026:

- Splash 1 (June 19–21) for 9A, 10, 12, and 14B.
- Splash 2 (July 24–26) for 8, 9B, 11, and 14.
- Registration for 8U and 10U is currently low (minimum 4 teams per division).
- Noted that many travel teams have already finalized their summer schedules. We may consider price adjustments or targeted outreach to fill slots.

REC Update:

- Currently at 456 sign-ups, which is ahead of last year.
- Registration remains open for Babe Ruth and T-ball.
- Late registrations for AA/AAA/Majors will be considered on a space-available basis and subject to a \$10 late fee.
- Evaluations for AAA and Majors are complete for the season. Thank you to all of the volunteers!
- Majors/AAA teams are being formed, coaches are being contacted, and schedules are being worked on.
- There are 19 players registered for Babe Ruth who are in 7th grade, and the plan is to have two groups. One coach is set; looking for a second coach (potential candidate: Dallas, who coached in our Major League last season).
- Opening Day is set for May 9th to allow for increased practice time in early May.
- Uniform Leads: Sarah (T-ball, A, AA) and Nate (AAA, Majors, Babe Ruth).
- We need to keep communicating with the Rec families on a timeline and expectations, so they don't wonder what is going on.

Other Open Topics:

- Background checks are ongoing via SportsEngine (\$18/each) for travel coaches and board members. We need to finalize all the coaches before the Rec season begins.
- We are looking for a new photographer to move toward digital prints. Kristin has volunteered to assist with this search.
- The RaiseRight program is performing well; families can use specific codes to ensure credits are applied to their baseball accounts.
- The Village of Rothschild reallocated Gaska Park to Softball; DCEYB will move all scheduled activities to Kennedy and other available fields.

Open Positions:

- The following Commissioner positions remain OPEN: Travel (8-10U), Travel (11-14U), Babe Ruth, Majors, AAA, and T-Ball.
- The following Key Positions remain OPEN: Coach/Player Development Lead, Field/Facilities Lead, and Parent Committee Lead/Picture Lead

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Indoor Tournament:** March 20th-22nd
- **Dick's Sporting Goods Weekend:** March 20th-23rd
- **DCE Varsity Spring Camp:** April 26th
- **Opening Day:** May 9th
- **DCE Varsity Game Youth Night:** May 21st
- **DCE Woodchucks Night:** June 10th

NEXT MEETING

- **Date:** April 19, 2026, at 7:00 PM (Greenheck Turner Center)
- Motion to adjourn:
 - Motioned by: Mitch Zblewski
 - Seconded by: Nate Davidson
 - Status: The motion was approved.

End time: 8:09 PM