



SYBA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: January 18, 2026 Time: 6:00 PM Location: Shakopee American Legion

I. Key Decisions & Motions

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded, to approve the December 14, 2025 meeting minutes. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- Legion Committee:** Motion to formally form a Legion Committee consisting of President, VP, Treasurer, HS Coach, and a Legion Rep. **Motion passed (All in favor).**
- 15U / Junior Legion Structure:** Motion to field two Junior Legion teams (no 15A team). 15A level players will play in the Community League to ensure a more competitive and fun environment. **Motion passed (All in favor).**
- Checkbook Fundraiser:** Motion to switch from Gold Cards to a physical "Checkbook" model (\$25/book). **Motion passed (All in favor).**
- DIBS Requirements:** Motion to set volunteer requirements as follows:
 - Travel: Full DIBS for 4 coaches. All others 6 hours required, \$500 charge for not fulfilling DIBS.
 - In-House: Full DIBS for 3 coaches. All others 2 hours required, \$250 charge for not fulfilling DIBS.
 - Community League: Full DIBS for 3 coaches. All others 2 hours required, \$250 charge for not fulfilling DIBS. **Motion passed (All in favor).**
- Tryout Autopicks:** Motion to allow 8 autopicks per team for the upcoming season. **Motion passed (All in favor).**

Fundraising Participation & Buy-out Fees: Motion to set fundraising requirements and buy-out fees as follows:

- Travel: Requirement of 15 unique contacts (any combination of emails/cell phone numbers); \$100 charge for non-participation/buy-out.

Attendees:

- Shane Hofmann*** (President) (exp 09/27)
- Kyle Rice*** (Vice President) (exp 09/25)
- Rob Deuth*** (Treasurer) (exp 09/26)
- Sean Dolan*** (Secretary) (exp 09/27)
- Blake Grefe*** (Travel Dir) (exp 09/26)
- Jason Lenz*** (Travel Dir) (exp 09/27)
- Jason Mousel*** (In-House Dir) (exp 09/25)
- Trevor Jones*** (In-House Dir) (exp 09/27)
- Ryan Schmitz*** (Comm. League) (exp 09/26)
- Katie Johnson*** (Co-Assist Tourney) (exp 09/27)
- Eric Schmitz** (Varsity Coach) (Standing)
- Sara Lewis*** (Co-Social Media) (exp 09/27)
- Mark Amundson*** (Comm. Dir) (exp 09/25)
- Billy Wermerskirchen*** (Fundraising) (exp 09/27)
- Cristina Tibbets*** (Field/Facil) (exp 09/27)
- Rick Krebs** (Legion)
- Tony** (Legion)
- Adam Hunkins** (Snap Raise) (Guest)

Not Attending:

- Tyler Menden*** (Field/Facil) (exp 09/26)
- Brent Vannier*** (Umpire Coord) (exp 09/26)
- Tracey Domke*** (Co-Social Media) (exp 09/27)
- Tatum Heil*** (Co-Assist Tourney) (exp 09/27)
- Sean LaCoste** (Asst Equip) (TBD)
- Bob Zondlo** (Legion)

*Voting Member

- In-House: Requirement of 10 unique contacts (any combination of emails/cell phone numbers); \$50 charge for non-participation/buy-out.
- Community League: Requirement of 10 unique contacts (any combination of emails/cell phone numbers); \$50 charge for non-participation/buy-out.

Note for all levels: Fees are applied on a per-family basis, with the highest level program fee (e.g., Travel) applied to families with children in multiple programs.

Motion passed (10 in favor, 3 opposed, 5 not present).

II. Introductions: Legion Representatives

- Tony: Assistant Manager at Legion; attending to learn more about the Legion baseball program.
- Rick Krebs: Legion Board Member and Liaison with the Baseball Association. Rick has been involved with the Legion since 2016 and expressed his interest in learning more about the SYBA partnership.
- Bob Zondlo: Legion Commander; absent due to work obligations.

III. New Business & Discussion Topics

A. Fundraising & SnapRaise

- **SnapRaise (A. Hunkins):** Negotiated fee reduced to 15% (previously 20%). Focus shifted to "quality contacts" (15-20 per player) rather than volume. Donors are trending toward SMS/Text (currently 60/40 email to text).
 - Dates: Travel campaign 4/14–5/12; In-house 5/5–6/2.
- **Checkbook Program (Billy W.):** Replacing Gold Cards. Books cost the board ~\$3 and sell for \$25. Billy W. covered this topic and will design a player selling incentive (e.g., \$1 incentive per book sold, with a \$50 bonus for reaching 25 books). No mandatory sales requirement.

B. Policy & Mission Reviews

- **Mission Statement:** A 2'x3' design was presented. Goal is to condense the statement to 1–2 sentences for maximum impact. K. Rice will send a formal vote via GroupMe this week.
- **Discipline Policy:** Current policy is over 10 years old. B. Grefe will draft updates regarding parent, player, and coach conduct for an email vote.
- **Player "Playing Up" Policy:** B. Grefe to email proposed guidelines to ensure clear criteria for players moving up divisions.

C. Program Logistics: 15U & Legion

- **Registration:** All 15U/Legion players will register via Crossbar. Players will be charged a tiered fee (highest potential fee) and refunded downward based on their final team placement.
- **Team Selection:** Varsity Coach Eric will select the two Junior Legion teams; no formal tryouts for these spots.

D. Crossbar / Website Implementation (M. Amundson / S. Lewis)

- **Site Review:** S. Lewis demonstrated the new site; the board provided highly positive feedback.
- **Key Features:** New site includes a dedicated fields section (Blake to provide photos), dedicated resources for players/parents/coaches, governance sections (minutes/mission), and a scrolling sponsor list (Rob D. to provide master list).
- **Scheduling:** General association schedules will be loaded by the board, while coaches will be responsible for entering individual team schedules.
- **Go-Live Strategy:** Target date is February 1st. Registration build-out and testing are the highest priorities for completion next week. Sara is investigating the transition of discount codes from SportsEngine.
- **Admin:** Sean D. is coordinating the transfer of historical minutes. C. Tibbetts is creating a central Google Drive for association development assets.

E. Tryouts & Evaluations (B. Grefe / J. Lenz)

- **Location:** All evaluations at MASH.
- **Process Amendments (Family Feedback Response):** To accommodate extensive feedback from families regarding evaluation consistency, the board approved several amendments for the upcoming season:
 - **Consistency:** The addition of pitching machines for both hitting and outfield evaluations to ensure every player receives identical balls/speeds.
 - **Efficiency:** Implementing defined start and stop points at each station and providing warm-up tees to improve the flow and organization of the 3-hour sessions.
- **Staffing:** Evaluators will be Schmitz HS coaching staff (**not players**). HS players will assist with logistics only.
- B. Grefe presented a rough outline of what the tryout process will look like. See **Appendix A**.

F. Apparel & Online Store (R. Schmitz)

- **Practice Shirts:** Providing practice shirts for the season. The cost is \$21, sold for \$20; these will be integrated into registration costs.

- **Spring Online Store:** R. Schmitz presented plans for the spring store. Gary requested specific details on hoodie and t-shirt options to finalize the selection.

G. Winter Open Gym (K. Rice)

- **Expectations:** K. Rice presented staffing and family communication expectations; it will be communicated via socials and email to families.
- **Guidelines:** The program is treated as an "open gym" where parents are responsible for their own children. It is a free space with equipment provided for families.
- **Supervision:** It was emphasized that younger players should not be left at the gym unless a coach is present to facilitate the session.

H. 14U Coaching Search (R. Deuth)

- **Progress Update:** R. Deuth presented a recruitment update.
- **Candidate:** Griffin is currently identified as a potential candidate for the 14U Head Coach position.

I. Field Requests (J. Mousel)

- **Status:** Discussion regarding the status of requests with the City and local Schools for In-House, Community League, and the Jamboree. C. Tibbets reported that the City and schools are currently not reviewing or finalizing schedules until March.
- **Muenchow Field Allocation:** J. Mousel ("Butters") raised a concern regarding the allocation of Muenchow field. SYBA desires the field for the 8U-9U programs, but the City is currently attempting to designate it for T-ball. The board needs to remain aware of this conflict for future scheduling.

J. Parent Meeting (S. Hofmann)

- **Status:** S. Hofmann reported that all preparation items are in order and ready.
- **Logistics:** Cristina T. has finalized scheduling; Jason M. and Blake G. have finalized player-related materials.

IV. Action Items

- **Rob D.** - Send out finalized fee schedule for board vote; build registration fee model.
- **Blake G.** - Email Discipline and "Playing Up" policies for vote; add field photos to website.
- **Kyle R.** - Send Mission Statement draft to Sean for GroupMe distribution; vote to be done ASAP as it is needed for the new website.

- **Sean D.** - Transfer historical meeting minutes from SportsEngine to Crossbar.
- **Billy W.** - Manage printing and transition to the Checkbook fundraiser program.
- **Cristina T.** - Create a dedicated Google Drive for the Association.
- **Website Committee** - Meet next week to finalize registration build-out and conduct testing.
- **Eric S.** - Finalize Junior Legion team numbers within the next two weeks.
- **Mark A. / Sara L.** - Coordinate social media and email communication for Winter Open Gym expectations.

Next Meeting Date: 2/15/26, **Time:** 6:00 PM, **Location:** Shakopee American Legion

APPENDIX A

Hitting

- 2 scoring stations, 2 evaluators each. Juniors or seniors throwing and running machine.
- Warm up tees. 4-5 minute breaks b/w stations

Hitting cont....

- First time through is practice, 2nd and 3rd time through is scored.

Infield

- Coach hit ground ball to SS with a throw to first base
- Warmup station along the side
- 2-3 times through SS station, first round practice, 2nd & 3rd round scored. 2 grounders straight on, 2 left, 2 right, one slow roller.

Outfield

- Machine thrown fly balls
- One warmup, 2 times scored
- One at player, one left, one right, one in, one back. All thrown back to sender.

Notes

- 8 automatic picks based on scoring.
- 3-4 coach's picks, depending on #'s
- Approximately 90 minutes of hitting, followed by 90 minutes of fielding/speed & agility.
- Warmup and partner throwing at MASH after hitting.

Speed & Agility

- Pro agility, 60 yard dash, & possibly home to first done as a field house station. Second to home done as group at the end while next age group is throwing. 1 practice, one recorded.