



## 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-Asst 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 Tibbetts\*** (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-Asst 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. Greffe will draft updates regarding parent, player, and coach conduct for an email vote.
- **Player "Playing Up" Policy:** B. Greffe 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. Greffe / 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. Greffe 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. Tibbetts 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.

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## **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.

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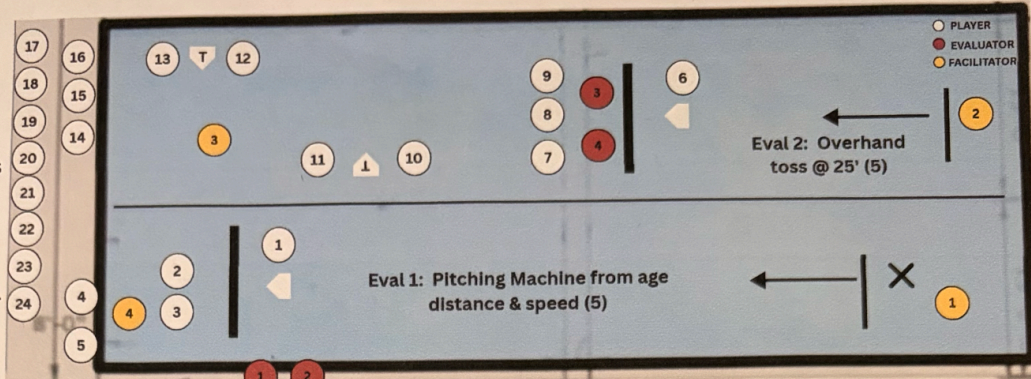
**Next Meeting Date:** 2/15/26, **Time:** 6:00 PM, **Location:** Shakopee American Legion



## APPENDIX A

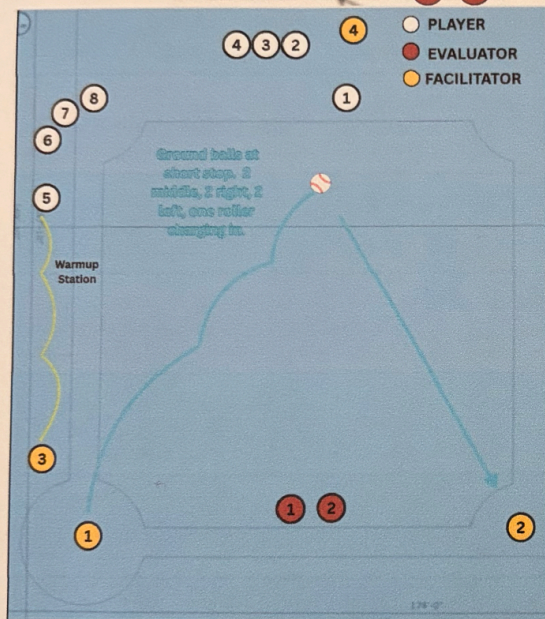
### Hitting

- 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time through is scored.

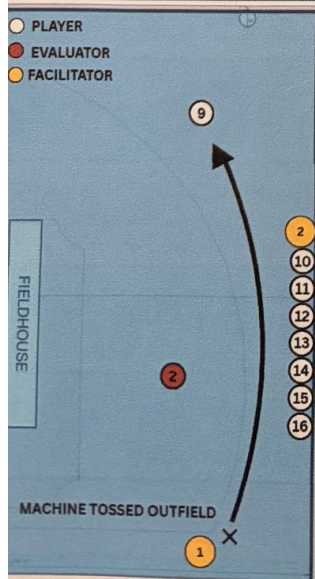


### Infield

- 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> round scored. 2 grounders straight on, 2 left, 2 right, one slow roller.

### 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.



### 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.

