



SYBA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 15, 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 January 18, 2026 meeting minutes. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Discipline Policy Approval:** A motion was made to adopt the Discipline Policy for players, coaches, and parents. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **T-Ball League Approval:** A motion was made to approve the formation of a T-Ball league (one night per week from June to July) with a \$75 registration fee and a \$1,000 initial association subsidy. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Green Meadows Windscreen:** A motion was made to approve \$1,600 (representing half of the \$3,200 total cost) for the replacement of the unrepairable left field windscreen. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Jackson Township Field Maintenance:** A motion was made to approve up to \$2,000 for enhanced field treatment and batting cage weed control with Doehling. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Umpire Pay Increase:** A motion was made to increase umpire pay (varying by level between \$5–\$7) to remain competitive with market rates and ensure retention of local officials. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Club Player Policy:** To prioritize athlete health and prevent burnout, the Board moved to prohibit club players from participating in Summer League. This policy ensures roster consistency for non-club teams, specifically addressing issues with missed practices and ensuring all active players fully understand their roles and responsibilities on the field during games. While not an MBL-enforced rule, the Board stands firmly behind this decision; rare exceptions will be reviewed by the Travel Directors Committee (Travel Directors, President, and Vice President).. **The motion passed, all votes in favor (Blake G. and Tracy D. abstaining).**

Attendees:

- Shane Hofmann*** (President) (exp 09/27)
- Kyle Rice*** (Vice President) (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 09/26)
- Trevor Jones*** (In-House Dir) (exp 09/27)
- Ryan Schmitz*** (Comm. League) (exp 09/26)
- Katie Johnson*** (Tourney Director) (exp 09/26)
- Tatum Heil*** (Asst Tourney Director) (exp 09/27)
- Tracey Domke**** (Co-Social Media) (exp 09/27)
- Sara Lewis**** (Co-Social Media) (exp 09/27)
- Mark Amundson*** (Comm. Dir) (exp 09/26)
- Billy Wermerskirchen*** (Fundraising) (exp 09/27)
- Tyler Menden*** (Field/Facil) (exp 09/26)
- Brent Vannier*** (Umpire Coord) (exp 09/26)

Guests:

- Rick Krebs** (Legion)
- Bob Zondlo** (Legion)

Not Attending:

- Rob Deuth*** (Treasurer) (exp 09/26)
- Cristina Tibbetts*** (Field/Facil) (exp 09/27)
- Eric Schmitz** (Varsity Coach) (Standing)
- Sean LaCoste** (Asst Equip) (TBD)

*Voting Member

**Partial Voting Member

II. Prior Business

A. Policy, Mission, & Field Reviews (B. Grefe)

- **Discipline Policy Details:** To address conduct issues, the board approved a formal tiered disciplinary structure:
 - **First Offense:** Ejection from a game/tournament results in immediate removal plus a suspension from the next scheduled game.
 - **Second Offense:** Results in a suspension for two additional games.
 - **Third Offense:** Results in expulsion for the remainder of the season.
 - **Appeals:** Judgments can be appealed to the Disciplinary Committee (President, VP, and respective Head of League).
- **"Playing Up" Policy:** Reviewed; no changes required at this time.
- **Field Photos:** Photos added to the website; higher quality sun-path photos pending better weather.
- **Mission Statement:** K. Rice to condense to 1–2 sentences for a formal GroupMe vote this week.

B. 15U / Junior Legion Update (J. Lenz on behalf of E. Schmitz)

- **Team Structure:** Plan for two Junior Legion teams (**Red** and **Black**).
- **Staffing:** Eric Schmitz will coach the Senior Legion team; a college-level coach will lead the second team.
- **Logistics:** Tournaments are set and the budget remains in good standing.
- **SYBA Role:** Responsibilities limited to budgeting and registration assistance for ages 15–18.

C. Checkbook Program Rollout (B. Wermerskirchen)

- **Status:** Strong local business support (Paublos, Valley Sports, Turtles, O'Briens, Bluff Creek, etc.). Billy requested board assistance with management.
- **Timeline:** Distribution targeted for tryouts. Final target for completion is March 15, 2026.

III. New Business & Discussion Topics

A. Finance & Fundraising (R. Deuth)

- **Financial Update:** R. Deuth sent out financials via email.
- **Secondary Control:** Shane M. reminded the board to review the financials upon receipt.

B. Travel Directors Updates (J. Lenz)

- **MBL Highlights:** Added 9A division; considering 5-run limits and coach-pitching rules. Game scheduling is April 3rd.
- **Grant Opportunity:** Jason M. will submit an MBL donation grant for T-ball equipment/facilities. Board conveyed strong favor for facilities grant and elected to pass on t-ball as we felt we could subsidize t-ball.
- **Mustard App:** 50% discount for player analysis to be demonstrated at the coaches meeting.
- **Travel Coaches Meeting (March 23):** Focus on values and age-specific strategies. Jason M. to coordinate with Coach Schmitz on a possible coaching clinic.

C. Travel Registration (B. Grefe)

- **Enrollment:** Currently at 89 players (vs. 107 last year). Breakdown: 9U-12, 10U-13, 11U-20, 12U-18, 13U-16, 14U-10. Expect numbers to go up
- **Strategy:** Coaches to personally contact non-registered returning players once early bird over.

D. T-Ball Coordination (K. Rice, T. Jones, J. Lenz)

- **League Operations:** Trevor Jones will lead the league. The season will run through June and July, one night per week, with a **\$75 registration fee**.
- **Recruitment Goals:** Target of 28–42 players and 4–6 parent coaches. A pitch for the league and coach recruitment will take place at the **Feb 23 Parent Meeting**.
- **Marketing:** Flyers to be distributed at Wiffle Ball sessions.
- **Facilities:** Kyle R. is identifying fields. Sean D. will contact SACS regarding availability. The Miracle Field will not be available as it is used solely for adaptive baseball.

E. Facilities & Equipment (T. Menden, C. Tibbetts, S. Hofmann)

- **Green Meadows Windscreen:** Left field windscreen is unrepairable. Initial estimates were \$4,200, but a final price of ~\$3,200 was secured. The City has committed to paying 50%, with SYBA covering the remaining \$1,600.
- **Summer Field Requests:** Requirements must be finalized for submission next week. Munchow remains the primary scheduling challenge; 8U/9U teams may potentially move to Red Oak to accommodate.
- **Jackson Township Maintenance:** The board reviewed the quote from Doehling (**Appendix A**).

- **Contract:** Includes an annual rate increase of \$80. Mowing (\$300 value) in exchange for banner placement.
- **Enhancements:** Based on Shane M.'s recommendation, the board approved enhanced treatment to include spraying for weeds around batting cages and under-surfaces.
- **Future Note:** There is potential for the City to take over maintenance in the future to assist the association.

F. Umpire Pay (B. Vannier)

- **Retention Strategy:** To remain competitive and avoid losing local officials to MBL-contracted rates (which range from \$82–\$92), the board approved an increase to the SYBA pay structure.
- **Approved Pay Structure (New vs. Old):**
 - **9u–10u Travel & 4th/5th Community:** \$70 per game (previously \$63)
 - **11u Travel:** \$80 per game (previously \$75)
 - **6th Grade–HS Community:** \$75 per game (previously \$70)
 - **Tournament (9u–11u):** \$80 per game (previously \$75)
 - **Tournament (12u):** \$85 per game (previously \$80)

G. Program Coordination (B. Vannier)

- **14U / High School Alignment:** Discussion on MS/HS league changes. 8th and 9th graders on HS rosters cannot play for SYBA until the HS season ends.
- **Transition Timing:** Coach Schmitz is proposing 9A/9B teams and aims for 8th-grade cuts by May 8 to facilitate association registration.
- **Future Planning:** Future seasons may require a condensed schedule for older age groups or moving 14U to a tournament-only model to accommodate HS ball.

H. Committee Operations & Feedback (S. Hofmann)

- **Current Status:** Shane M. is seeking feedback on the new committee structure.
 - Sean D. asked committee leaders to send notes during agenda request for speaking updates to update board when needed
- **Tournament Committee:** Katie R. noted the committee has not met yet but plans to ramp up activities soon. All board members are expected to be present for the full duration of tournaments.
- **Point Persons:** J. Lenz emphasized the need for designated point persons for each committee to ensure accountability.

I. Coaching Development (B. Greffe)

- **Head Coach Recruitment:** Discussion regarding the trend of parents signing up as assistant coaches rather than head coaches.
- **Proposed Program:** Blake G. suggested investing in a development program (e.g., "Dominate the Diamond") to build coach confidence. The cost is approximately \$2,500 for 25 coaches. Board asked we possibly explore a demo with 1-2 coaches to see if valuable tool.

J. Tryout & Parent Meeting Planning (S. Hofmann / B. Grefe)

- **Focus for March Board Meeting:** Tryouts will be the primary focus of the next board meeting.
- **Mandatory Attendance:** Two-day tryout is mandatory for all applicable players.
- **Parent Meetings:** Three meetings are scheduled to cover age groups 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14.
- **Communication:** Blake G. will communicate specific tryout times by age group.
- **Additional Events:** Snap Raise and the equipment swap were noted for upcoming scheduling.

K. Website Committee Update

- **Rollout Feedback:** General discussion regarding the initial community rollout. Feedback has been positive thus far, and progress is on track.
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IV. Action Items

- **Cristina T.:** Finalize and submit summer field requirements by next week.
 - **Brent V.:** Send finalized umpire pay details and structure to Sean D.
 - **Blake G/Jason L.:** Present detailed tryout plan for March meeting.
 - **Shane H:** Coordinate parent meetings slide deck for tryouts.
 - **Sean D.:** Contact SACS regarding field availability for T-Ball.
 - **All Board Members:** Provide committee feedback to Shane M as to how it's going or feedback on how to improve or make more efficient.
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Next Meeting Date: 3/15/26, **Time:** 6:00 PM, **Location:** Shakopee American Legion
APPENDIX A: Doehling Lawn Treatment Quote for Jackson Field



Monday, February 2, 2026

Shakopee Youth Baseball Association
C/o Rob Duethe, Treasurer
952-250-6350, sybatreasurer1@gmail.com

Lawn treatment quote for Jackson Field

Approx. total lawn areas to treat, - 90,000 sq./ft.

Cost per application - \$367.00, plus sales tax

Recommended application package:

1. Spring Fertilizer w/ pre-emergent weed control – (Late April-Early May)
2. Late Spring Developer fertilizer w/ post emergent weed control (Early June)
3. Mid-Summer Fertilizer- (July)
4. Early Fall Fertilizer w/ Post emergent weed control (late August)
5. Fall Fertilizer – (late Sept.)

Package Rate - \$1,743.65, plus sales tax

All treatments would be liquid applications. This allows for immediate use of the ballfield as soon as lawns are dry. To help accommodate this, treatments will also be schedule in the AM, preferable prior to 9am.

Optional Fall Core Aeration. - \$300.00

Weekly Mowing of playing field – “**Complimentary**” as long as we can continue to display company banners on outside of fences. Banner on the outside of fence facing intersection may be enlarged to 4 x 8 feet for better visibility.