



SYBA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 14, 2025 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 November 16, 2025 meeting minutes. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Legion Helmet Payment:** Approved \$260 payment to previous coach for helmets already purchased. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **SHED Training Deposit:** Approved \$5,000 upfront payment to lock in facility and training schedule. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Logo Ownership:** Approved \$150 payment to maintain full ownership of the existing SYBA logo. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Yard Signs:** Approved resuming yard sign sales with a new design including the year. Pricing set at \$30 (costing SYBA \$15) to generate revenue. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Cooper Kennedy Memorial Donation:** Approved \$500 donation to the GoFundMe for Cooper Kennedy. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**

In Attendance:

- Shane Hofmann (President)
- Kyle Rice (Vice President)
- Blake Grefe (Travel Director)
- Brent Vannier (Umpire Coordinator)
- Jason Mousel (In house Director)
- Ryan Schmitz (Community League Coordinator)
- Tatum Heil (Assistant Tournament Director)
- Tyler Menden (Fields)
- Sean Dolan (Secretary)
- Tracey Domke (Social Media Director)
- Mark Amundson (Communications Director)
- Billy Wermerskirchen (Fundraising)
- Christina Tibbets (Field and Facilities Director)
- Sarah Lewis (Social Media Director)
- Eric Schmitz (Varsity Baseball Coach)
- Rob Deuth (Treasurer)
- Trevor Jones (In-House Director)
- Sean LaCoste (Assistant Equipment Director)
- Katie Johnson (Assistant Tournament Director)

Not In Attendance:

- Jason Lenz (Travel Director)

II. New Business & Discussion Topics

A. Financial Report (R. Deuth)

- **Activity Summary:** Low-volume period. Key expenses included \$15k for travel tournaments and fronted Omaha registration fees (awaiting parent reimbursement).
- **Revenue & Accounts:** Received ~\$35k in tournament registrations (brackets nearly full). Legion account received pull-tab donations; Omaha account received \$3,300.
- **Reporting & Tech:** R. Deuth to provide seasonal trend reports. R. Deuth recommended the board consider exploring alternatives to the Team Genius app for tryouts/evaluations.

B. Fundraising & Sponsorships(S. Hofmann / R. Deuth / B. Wermerskirchen)

- **Snap Raise:** Net proceeds of \$21k (Travel) and \$6.1k (In-House) in prior year. Commission negotiated down from 20% to 15%. Board discussed a \$50 opt-out/buyout fee.
- **MVP Cards/Checkbooks:** Billy W. presented a "Checkbook" alternative via Digital Imaging.
 - Cost: \$3/book (\$4k for 1,800 books). Sale Price: \$25. Net profit: \$22/book.
 - This would replace the \$25 MVP fee in registration.
- **Corporate Outreach:** S. Hofmann reported that professional introduction letters (drafted by Tracy) are ready. Board members are asked to distribute these to personal business connections.

C. Community Event Planning (E. Schmitz)

- **March Event:** Proposed a joint SYBA/Varsity community event for Sunday afternoon, March 8th.
- **Activities:** Potential pickleball (Dropshot) or bags tournament at Launch Pad to engage multi-sport athletes before the season.

D. Legion Program Oversight (E. Schmitz / S. Hofmann)

- **Transition:** SYBA will provide the administrative/financial umbrella following the program's move from previous leadership.
- **Coaching & Logistics:** Coach Eric is currently hiring coaches and locking in tournament schedules.
- **Branding/Uniforms:** Due to logo ownership issues, the Legion program will return to "Red, Black, and Gray" branding using existing jerseys with required patches.

E. SHED Training Costs & Logistics (S. Hofmann)

- **Training Format:** 6 sessions (90 minutes) split between West (Fielding) and the SHED facility.
- **Pricing:** Cost reduced to families to \$60 per player (capped at 98 players). First session starts February 1.
- **Equipment Logistics:** Tyler Menden to manage mounds and equipment logistics for sessions held at West.

F. Coaching Development & 14U Program

- **14U Paid Coach:** Discussion on hiring a non-parent paid coach (\$1k/month plus Omaha travel expenses) for the single 14U team to prepare players for high school. Shane H is seeking candidates.

- **Coaches Clinic:** S. Hofmann and E. Schmitz will coordinate a clinic (target date ~4/11) to align coaching terminology from 8U through Varsity levels.
- **Registration Coordination:** Christina T. recommended including clinic dates in the coach registration process to ensure attendance.

G. 2026 Program Planning & Operations

- **Gym Schedule & Logistics (C. Tibbetts):**
 - **Consistency:** Christina T. designed a balanced schedule with anchored days (e.g., Tuesdays for younger groups, Thursdays for older) for easier family planning.
 - **Start Date:** Non-whiffle ball sessions begin January 1st.
 - **Facility Management:** Field House time will be split for efficient rotation; schedule distributed for board feedback.
 - **Coaching Management:** Recommended using Signup Genius to streamline volunteer management and participation.
 - **Cleanup Duties:** 13U and 14U teams will handle session setup and cleanup; 9U teams are exempt.
- **All SYBA Parent Meeting:** Target date is February 1, 2026. Christina T. is currently finalizing venue availability.
- **Crossbar Migration:** Go-live targeted for Jan 31.
- **T-ball/Whiffleball:** Facebook page is live; flyers delivered to schools. Registration closes late December.
- **T-ball Liability:** S. Dolan will verify specific liability and insurance details with B. Blomster.
- **Uniforms/Registration:** Designs finalized (White pinstripe and "City Connect" black). Added \$5 hat-name fee and \$6 sticker fee to registration.
- **Varsity Youth Night:** Scheduled for May 2 featuring food trucks and community attendance at JV/Varsity games.

H. JSSF & Tournament Updates (S. Hofmann)

- **JSSF Meeting:** Joe Schleper Field Fund (JSSF) meets Jan 7th, 6:00 PM at The Bowl. Vacancy for SYBA representative.
- **Tournament Status:** SYBA tournaments are fully booked except for the 14U and 15U brackets.

I. Community Support & In Memoriam (S. Hofmann)

- **Honoring Cooper Kennedy:** The board expressed deepest condolences following the passing of 6th-grade player Cooper Kennedy.
- **Tribute & Support:** The association provided \$100 for a floral arrangement and unanimously approved a \$500 GoFundMe donation to assist the Kennedy family.

III. Action Items

- **All Board Members:** * Reach out to S. Hofmann to volunteer for the JSSF Meeting (Jan 7th).
 - Distribute fundraising introduction letters to business connections.
- **Deuth, R. (Rob):**
 - Remit \$150 payment to Gary Schleper for logo ownership.
 - Remit \$260 payment to previous Legion coach for helmets.
 - Submit \$500 donation to the Cooper Kennedy GoFundMe.
- **Dolan, S. (Sean):** Contact B. Blomster to confirm insurance liability coverage for the T-ball/Whiffleball program.
- **Wermerskirchen, B. (Billy):** Present formal implementation plan for the Checkbook program at the next meeting.
- **Menden, T. (Tyler):** Coordinate mounds and equipment for training sessions at West.
- **S. Hofmann / E. Schmitz:** Finalize March 8th event logistics and 14U coaching candidate search.

Next Meeting Date: 1/18/25, **Time:** 6:00 PM, **Location:** Shakopee American Legion