



SYBA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 16, 2025 Time: 6:00 PM Location: The Bowl, Clubhouse Room

I. Key Decisions & Motions

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made, seconded, to approve the October 19, 2025 meeting minutes. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **Equipment Purchase Approval:** A motion was made by Shane Hofmann and seconded by Sean Dolan to approve **\$15,500 in equipment spending** for the upcoming season. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**
- **State Tournament Policy:** A motion was made by Shane Hofmann and seconded by Christina Tibbets to approve the new state tournament attendance policy. **The motion passed, all votes in favor.**

II. New Business & Discussion Topics

A. Financial Report (R. Deuth)

- R. Deuth was out sick; the financial report will be emailed for board review, with minimal money movement noted at this time.

B. Equipment Purchase Proposal (T. Menden)

- Tyler Menden presented the equipment needs. He strongly recommended orders be placed by December, January at the latest.
- **Equipment Details:** T. Menden presented a detailed list of required player and field improvements. Key items include new travel bags (a priority), standard player gear, helmet stickers, field tarps, and new L-screens. **(See Appendix B)**
- **Budget:** The typical equipment budget is \$10,000. The current \$15,500 proposal is higher due to the one-time cost of travel bags. The board will pursue sponsorship to offset the bag and other equipment costs.

In Attendance:

- Shane Hofmann (President)
- Kyle Rice (Vice President)
- Jason Lenz (Travel Director)
- Blake Grefe (Travel Director)
- Brent Vannier (Umpire Coordinator)
- Jason Mousel (In house Director)
- Ryan Schmitz (Community League Coordinator)
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- 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)

Not In Attendance:

- Eric Schmitz (Varsity Baseball Coach)
- Rob Deuth (Treasurer)
- Trevor Jones (In-House Director)
- Sean LaCoste (Assistant Equipment Director)
- Katie Johnson (Assistant Tournament Director)

C. Legion Program under Youth Association (S. Hofmann)

- S. Hofmann explained the unusual nature of a youth baseball organization running the Legion program. The board expressed a strong desire for the High School program, under the direction of the Varsity Coach, to assume responsibility for the Legion program's overall direction, player development, and coaching management.
- **Path Forward:** The board will add an agenda item for the next meeting to invite Varsity Coach (Eric) to a collaborative discussion regarding a potential transition plan for the Legion program's oversight to the High School. It should be noted that SYBA is happy to continue managing the program's administrative and financial components (e.g., insurance, bank account, expenses), if desired. The board believes this structural alignment is appropriate, as program development, player management, and coaching oversight are better suited to the expertise of the High School program.

D. Logo Update (Billy W.)

- Billy W. reported that he is managing the logo design process and has requested refinements from the designer via Dan.
- Revised logo options will be distributed to the board for a formal email vote. **Board members are urged to submit their votes as soon as possible to expedite the transition.**
- **Holiday Store:** The board approved opening the holiday store with the **existing (old) logo** to meet the December 1 launch deadline. This decision is necessary as the new logo will not be finalized in time, and it secures a key source of revenue for the association.

E. SHED Development Plan (Development Committee)

- The SHED schedule cannot be finalized until the gym schedule is confirmed.
- Christina Tibbets will follow up on the gym schedule.

F. Shakopee Tournament (Hofmann)

- Blake proposed rebranding the tournament (e.g., "Shakopee Showdown").
- 51 non-Shakopee teams are registered (out of ~88 available spots).
- It was suggested that moving the tournament two weeks earlier in future years could increase team availability.
- S Hofmann reported that SYBA tournament fees are low compared to others. The board will raise fees by \$25 (up to \$500), which is closer to the area average of \$525.

G. State Tournament Funds & Policy (Travel Directors)

- The board approved a new policy for state tournament attendance:
 - If a team **qualifies** for a state tournament, they **must attend** at least one.
 - If a team **does not qualify**, attending via an at-large bid will be put to a **team vote** (one vote per athlete), though attendance is strongly recommended.
 - If the vote is 50/50, the Head Coach makes the final decision.

H. 14U Travel Teams (Grefe/Lenz)

- The Travel Directors recommended forming only **one 14U AA team** due to low projected numbers (12-14 players). Team size has not been determined.
- The board discussed hiring a paid coach for this team but tabled for a later date.
- A community league team is available for any players who don't make the team.

I. DIBS / Volunteer Hours

- A scheduling conflict was noted: the Shakopee tournament and the 14U Omaha tournament are on the same weekend, which will impact volunteer (DIBS) availability for many 14U families.
- The In-House Jamboree was recommended as a primary alternative opportunity for families to fulfill their DIBS hours.
- T. Menden also identified a separate volunteer need for 4 families to assist with moving mounds before and after the tournament.
- The 14U team's absence is not expected to create an umpire shortage, as it was noted that only 2-3 players from that age group serve as umpires.

J. Crossbar Training & Implementation (S. Hofmann)

- A call with Crossbar is scheduled for this Friday 11/21 to determine next steps.
- The go-live target of January 1 is still considered achievable.

K. Teeball/Whiffleball League (K. Rice / B. Grefe)

- Registration for T-ball will be on SportsEngine.
- The league will be free and run for 4-5 Monday nights, starting January 5, at Red Oak for 4 nights and Sweeney for one night.
- The goal is to "MAKE IT FUN" and committee has no concern with coming close to the \$1,000 approved budget.
- The first marketing message is planned to go out before Thanksgiving.

L. Shakopee Team Values (J. Lenz)

- J. Lenz presented a list of team values to create a clear brand for Shakopee baseball (See Appendix A).
- The board was **overwhelmingly supportive** of the initiative, viewing it as a great **culture development opportunity** for the community.
- J. Lenz will send the values to the Varsity Coach (Eric) for feedback before bringing them back to the board.

M. Fundraising (Billy W.)

- A list of potential donors was reviewed.
- Billy asked all board members to review the list for new connections or to identify anyone they know personally to assist with communications with them.
- The goal is to send a fundraising letter by December 1.

III. Open Discussion & Announcements

- The board discussed scheduling the "All SYBA Parent Meeting."
 - The preferred date is the "dead week" of the NFL (between the championship games and the Super Bowl), likely **February 1, 2026**.
 - Christina T. will check on availability for the theatre, Saber Room, or Aux Gym.
- R. Schmitz requested time at the "All SYBA Parent Meeting" to present on the various program offerings. He suggested creating a **program flow chart** for families to clearly explain the **structure, time commitments, and player pathways** for moving between the In-House, Community League, and Travel programs.
- The board affirmed it will **not give up its reserved time at the Field House**, as the city gives priority based on the previous year's usage. This time can be used for other events while tryouts are held at MASH.
- T. Menden announced the 14U team raised \$1,000 at Cub Foods for their Omaha trip.

V. Action Items

- **Board Members (General):**
 - **Respond to the email vote for the new logo ASAP.**
 - Review the fundraising list and send any connections to Billy W.
- **Deuth, R.:** Send the financial report to the board via email.
- **Dolan, S.:** Get a reschedule to Babes or Legion and move up one week for December meeting (Targeting 12/14).
- **Hofmann, S.:** Report back to the board after the Friday call with Crossbar on next steps to keep to January go-live.
- **Lenz, J.:** Send the proposed team values to the Varsity Coach (Eric) for feedback.
- **Rice, K.:** Send the first marketing message for the T-ball/Whiffleball league before Thanksgiving.
- **Schmitz, R.:** Open the holiday store with the old logo to capture holiday sales.
- **Tibbets, C.:**
 - Follow up on finalizing the gym schedule for SHED planning.
 - Check logistics/availability for the All SYBA Parent Meeting (target date 2/1/26).
- **Wermerskirchen, B.:**
 - Send out new logo designs for voting as soon as available.
 - Send out the fundraising letter by December 1.

Next Meeting: Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM Shakopee Legion (Rescheduled from 12/21).

APPENDIX A: SYBA Team Value

Shakopee Team Values

- a. **Team** – Work together toward a common goal, put our teammates first, trust and support each other.
- b. **Respect** – Value your teammates, coaches, opponents, the game, and the fields we play on. We listen, show sportsmanship, appreciate everyone's role, and leave the field better than when we came.
- c. **Hustle** – Bring max effort and energy every play. We sprint out onto the field, run hard to first base, get dirty to make plays, take the extra base and fight for every run.
- d. **Heart** - Play with passion, courage, and determination. We keep going when the game gets tough, lift each other up, and never give up.
- e. **Fun** – Enjoy playing the game and your teammates. Baseball is competitive, but we will create memories, celebrate wins, and learn from losses together.

APPENDIX B: Equipment Purchase

Players Equipment For 2026

- Wheeled Equipment Bags (Rawlings) 25 bags X \$175 EA = **\$4,375.00**
- Game Balls with SYBA Logo (Rawlings) – 40 dozen X \$52 dozen = **\$2,080.00**
- Practice Ball no logo (Rawlings) – 40 dozen X \$47 dozen = **\$1,880.00**
- Ball Bags (Rawlings) 25 bags X \$50 EA = **\$1,250.00**
- Helmets (Mizuno) 8 helmets X \$95 EA = **\$760.00**
- Shin Pads (Mizuno) 8 sets X \$55 set = **\$440.00**
- Catchers Mit (Mizuno) 6 Mits X \$60 EA = **\$360.00**
- Chest Protectors (Mizuno) 6 sets X \$45 EA = **\$270.00**
- First Aid Refill Budget \$150 = **\$150.00**
- Helmet Stickers W/new logo (Entire Association) X =?
- Vehicle Decals W/new logo X =?
- \$200 Scheels Gift Card

Total \$11,545.00

Field Improvement for 2026

(5 Year replacement plan)

- L Screens Frame, Net and Padded. (Beacon Athletics) 2 X \$480 EA = **\$960.00**
- Tarps for Homeplate Tahpah West 25-foot 1 X \$775 EA = **\$672.00**
- L Screens Replacement Nets for Batting Cages 4 X \$130 EA = **\$520.00**
- Tarps for Homeplate Green Meadows 20-foot 1 X \$480 EA = **\$488.00**
- Tarps for Pitching Mound Tahpah West 18-foot 1X \$410 EA = **\$421.00**
- Tarps for Pitching Mounds Green Meadows 15-foot 1 X \$400 EA = **\$325.00**
- Wheeled field Chalker's 2 X \$160 EA = **\$320.00**

Total \$3,706.00

Grand total = \$15,251.00

Items Highlighted in gray could potentially have a sponsor opportunity.