

SYBA MINUTES MEETING

March 8th, 2022

The Bowl 7:00pm

Attendees: Brad Menden
Jeff Schmitz
Eric Schroeder
Allen Larson
Sean LaCoste
Aaron Olson
Mike Hanson
Alex Jordan
Rod Hicks
Chad Stensrud
Nick Von Bokern
Rod Hicks

Not in Attendance: Tom Schleper

- **Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

Approved

- **Financial Review**

Allen Larson provided a financial update for the board. He passed out the latest statement that runs from 1/28/22 thru 2/15/22. We collected almost \$6,700 in baseball camps registration. This money is taken in by the association but then transformed out to the High School Program. We received donations of \$30 and \$608.09 from Best Buy and The Bowl respectively. We collected \$81,754.93 from registrations for the upcoming season, as well as \$5,284.32 from registration for the Shakopee Tournament. We donated \$800 to Shakopee Dollars for Scholars. We spend \$12,335.01 on tournament registrations for our travel teams. \$57.93 was spent on patches for the Legion uniforms. Also \$500 was spent on the 2022 Annual Membership for The Miracle League. \$19.17 was spent to renew the Website Domain renewal. Also there was a refund provided to the team that canceled out of the 12AA Shakopee Tournament. Current Balance is ~\$88K.

In addition Allen also discussed that he contacted the City of Shakopee and they have agreed to make the clay boxes for West and East Middle School. SYBA will pay for the materials, as well as ensure there is a cement slab underneath and the city will build. Also there was a conversation about potentially utilizing Pearson Elementary field more this summer for in-house instead of utilizing Red Oak Elementary.

- **Tournament Sponsor**

Eden Prairie Scheels will be providing \$2,500 to SYBA to be a Shakopee Baseball Tournament Sponsor. We will look to provide 2-3 banners that read, "Shakopee Tournament presented by Scheels." In addition, they are allowed to have a table.

- **West Tahpah Improvements**

Brad Menden discussed the quote he received for West Tahpah improvements, dugouts & fence posts. The quote was \$15,780 from Ron Lambrect Construction. There is potential for this to be covered by the MBL field improvement program. We will include this in our proposal to MBL. There was a conversation of potentially partnering on the cost with the High School Boosters.

● **Fundraising**

Chad Stensrud discussed fundraising. Seeds, which have been done in the past, is not a great option at this point. Popcorn has become popular, and believe it is our best option. It is an app based program, that ships straight to the purchasers. There are 10 different flavors to choose from. Anyone can simply send the link or a QR code. There is no-prepaid, and there is opportunity to re-order if people would like. There was conversation about what if we want to earmark the funds we receive from this to a specific project. At this time, it will go toward field improvements. The board unanimously approved the Popcorn Fundraiser. With the goal of it being sent out to the association at the end of spring break, and it being live till the end of April.

● **Umpire Training**

Chad also discussed the umpire training that is happening on Monday the 14th. It will be from 6pm-8pm. Umpires must be 13yrs old or in 8th grade. As of the meeting we had 37 signed up for the training, with 21 of them being new. Umpires from Northwest will be conducting the training. Also shirts have been ordered thru Gary Schleper for the umpires. The goal is to do our Shakopee Tournament with all our own umpires.

● **Mites**

Rod Hicks pass out an attachment (included in the meeting minutes), that discussed the proposal for the Mite baseball program this season. This proposal will be the basis for the mite season.

● **Tryouts**

Aaron Olson discussed the tryouts. Tom Schleper will be sending out the final times for each level. Once they are finalized they will be sent out to the association. Board members will be in attendance, on Saturday to collect fundraising checks (fundraising checks needed to be collected in order to tryout), help with the swap meet, as well as with the ordered apparel. Board members are not allowed in the fieldhouse during the time their son's age group is doing their tryouts. Sunday all potential coaches are invited in to do further evaluations for team selections. Players that can not attend tryouts, their fundraising checks will be collected as soon as possible afterwards.

● **Team practices**

Aaron discussed the travel head coaches meeting. It will be held on Tuesday March 29th at The Bowl. Preferably the head coach, but atleast 1 coach from each team needs to attend. They will receive their baseballs and equipment at this meeting, as well as be informed on scheduling and also field clean-up. Scheduling for the season was also discussed. In the past there has been discussion about scheduling the whole year of practices at once via spreadsheet. That can cause issues due to rain outs. This year there are 14 MBL games, with 7 being at home that need to be accounted for when scheduling. There was also a conversation on scheduling the 1st month of the season to help with new coaches understand the process.

- **Tournaments-10A**

Aaron also discussed the 10A team, with currently on 30 kids signed up for 10s, do we need to consider dropping 10A, and cancel the tournaments that we have already signed up for? Ultimately the board decide to send out communication to the 10years olds in the association informing them that we are looking for more players so that we can field a 10A team. Provided we have enough players, we will not drop the team or cancel the tournaments that were signed up for.

- **Equipment Update**

Eric Schroeder gave an update on equipment. We have 15 sets of new catchers equipment. 10 youth size and 5 intermediate. Rawlings originally sent the wrong color and it would take 2 months to get the correct color. Therefore Gary went with Champro, he has everything with the exception of a few helmets that are still awaiting delivery. Eric passed out a sheet on the new ball bags. Bags would cost \$40 with an additional \$10 for the stitching. The goal is to solicit for sponsorship for the bags. There was a conversation about a potential need for painters buckets for chalk and scoops to go in them. Will check on amount that is needed.

Swap meet leftovers from fall will be brought to the try outs, and a reminder of the swap meet will be sent out to the association.

- **Next Meeting Date: Tues April 26th at 7:30pm at The Legion**

2022 Mite Baseball Proposal

Number of Teams

- Players will be divided into Mini Mites and Mighty Mites, with number of teams at each level determined by evaluations.
- Mighty Mites will be for players with some experience. Safety will be the priority when building the teams.
- Each team will have 6 kids to ensure they get plenty of at bats and are staying engaged. It is estimated we will have ~90 kids enrolled, making 15 teams. Ideally, we will get enough kids registered to have an even number of teams.
- The schedule will include a 2:1 practice/game schedule for the first three weeks, and then switch to 2:1 game/practice schedule.

Mini-Mites

- Mini-Mites will be coach pitch, with a batting tee used after three pitches. Coaches will be used as a catcher.
- Half innings will end after all kids have hit. An official score will not be kept.
- Each game will have a one-hour time limit. An inning can start within the one-hour limit and the inning will go until completed.
- At the end of each game, the teams will participate in a base-running relay.

Mighty Mites

- Mighty Mites will be coach pitch. If the player hasn't put a ball in play after 5 strikes, they will be told "nice try, you'll get it next time," and the player will be out.
- Half innings will end after all kids have hit. An official score will not be kept.
- Each game will have a one-hour time limit. An inning can start within the one-hour limit and the inning will go until completed.
- At the end of each game, the teams will participate in a base-running relay.
- Depending on how the progression is going, we could add some kid-pitch in during the second half of the season.

Coaches Instruction

- Before the season begins, we will hold a coach's clinic with all registered coaches. Instruction will be given on drills to use, and suggestions for running an effective practice.
- Practice plans will be available online for coaches to utilize for practices.

End of Year Tournament

- An end-of-year tournament will be held on a Saturday in July.
- Each team will be guaranteed two or three games.
- Medals/rings will be given to all kids at the Mite level.

* Need to finalize start date → have eval date set

* Approach Schools about non-usable returns to get donations for equipment

* Also swap meet at tryouts