

**Rosemount Girls Traveling Fastpitch Softball Minutes**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date:** 1/8/2023

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Rosemount Community Center, Rm 212

**Present:** Doug Kasper, Chad Kalstabakken, Debbie Stovall, Heidi McDonald, Danielle Waage, Amy Hall, Tricia Paulson, Shelby Nutting-Veliz, Janie Lambert, Jill Steenberg, Cory Samuelson, Jennifer Chappuis (Liaison)

**Not Present:** Chris Orr, Mindy McBride

**Guests:** Shelby Pogatchnik, Shanna Guerink, Nicole Bradley

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:02 PM

**Secretary's Report: (Janie Lambert )** GTFS Board approved meeting minutes from 12/11/22. Will be posted on website.

**Treasurer's Report: (Debbie Stovall )** \$ 45,283 as of 12/31/22

**Reminder:** '22 YTD Budget Program ending balance estimate \$44,420

**Meeting Topics**

- Shout outs - Welcome Guests
  - Shelby Pogatchnik visiting with interest in open board positions
  - Nicole Bradley - visiting with interest in open board positions
  - Shanna Guerink - visiting and considering Treasurer position
  
- Board Member Elections - Recognition
  - Board renewal question: Can we give members the option to renew for 1 or 2 years? Propose to amend the rule to have the option for board member to select 1 or 2 years for renewal.
    - Board voted to approve 11-0
  - Chris Orr renewing backdated to 10/22 for 2 years as Umpire & Fields
    - Board voted to approve 11-0 (Chris not present)
    - Updated term end date: 10/31/2024
  - Chad Kalstabakken renewing backdated 10/22 for 2 years as Vice President
    - Chad left the room
    - Board voted to approve 10-0
    - Updated term end date: 10/31/2024
  - Shanna Guerink applying as Treasurer as Debbie Stovall interested in transitioning to Tournament Director
    - Shanna left the room
    - Board voted to approve 11-0
    - Term end date: 1/31/2025
  - Debbie Stovall requesting to transfer to Tournament Director

- Debbie left the room
  - Board voted to approve 10-0
  - Term end date remains: 9/30/2023
  
- Open Board Positions
  - Discussed current open positions
    - Co-Concessions & Fundraising
    - Provided description of position to Shelby P and Nicole including management of concessions for summer tournament and fall ball weekends. Other fundraisers include Purse BINGO, wearable blankets, RahRah. We are always looking and open to other fundraising options.
  
- Next Board Meetings
  - February: 2/5/23 at RCC at 6PM
  - March: 3/5/2023 at RCC at **5PM**: Scheduling meeting one week earlier for team selection process. Board in agreement to start meeting at 5PM to allow extra time for selection
  
- Upcoming Timeline review (Doug)
  - Doug provided link to Public Google Calendar for upcoming important dates. Link to be shared with families for awareness of important dates (state tournaments in spring/fall, parent meeting, etc).
    - <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=dHJhdmVsaW5nLXNvZnRiYWxsQHJvc2Vtb3VudC1hYWWEub3Jn>
    - Reviewed important dates for upcoming events/deadlines (go live registration, try-outs, etc)
    - February 4 - Youth Softball Coaches Clinic. Chad sent email to current coaches/assistants this past week with info. Coaches can be partially reimbursed by organization if choose to attends
      - Amy planning to attend a Gophers Softball Coaching clinic on 1/16
    - Spring/summer registration go-live 1/9
      - Pre-assessment clinic will be an option at registration for a fee for players not participating in dome winter training
      - Included in players signed up for winter dome training
  - Internal Board Softball Calendar of to-dos from last year
    - Doug provided link to individual board members to utilize for reminders for next year or reminders when passing on a board position to a new member
      - Add notes to the internal calendar to improve for the next year's prep as you go.

## 5 Minute Updates

- Treasurer (Debbie)
  - 2023 budget approved
    - Fall and spring dome leagues are open to all who register, players cannot be alternates
  - Debbie will disperse budget to board roles within next 1-2 months
- Fundraising / Concessions update (Tricia & Shelby)
  - Purse Bingo - Shelby spoke with Dan to get more information. She will apply for a date. Dates available in April or July (Leprechaun days). Board agrees to apply for April date. Decision is made by March 1st.
  - Wearable blankets - Tricia is still working to determine pricing
- Uniforms (Tricia)
  - Try on dates are scheduled for 2/15 & 2/16, 4:30 - 7PM at CA Gear
  - Uniform design updates
    - 1st design was passed on to the 14U team, they are beginning to vote and make modifications. Currently vote is split for colors of belts/socks.
  - Players inquiring about an option to purchase a visor? Tricia to discuss with CA gear
  - Pricing for extra shirts, belts, socks, etc has been updated on the order form
  - Question posed if extra items can be purchased with credit card with via square vs check?
  - Question asked if changes to coach's shirts (material/sizing) could be discussed. Tricia to discuss with CA gear. Need to consider the budget.
- Communications /Website (Heidi)
  - Website was down, now back up and running. Heidi is continuing to make updates, including to the parent handbook.
  - If corrections need to be made to website, Heidi would like bullet points
    - Heidi to create a google doc so members can add modifications/changes. Heidi will check the document and make adjustments as needed
- Volunteer Coordinator (Shelby)
  - Shelby will be present for uniform try-ons to collect volunteer checks
- Secretary/Marketing (Janie)
  - Has been posting fliers for the "Free Fastpitch Fun" clinic around the community and distributing the "golden tickets"
  - Prepping to distribute registration yard signs

- Working to update board positions/terms on google doc
- Community & Culture (Jill)
  - Jill has been prepping documents and establishing ideas for the role including brainstorming ideas for the registration flier, ideas for team managers
  - Generating ideas for events for the players (bbq, St Kate's game, girls bball game to support Coach Orr, parents vs kids game, etc)
  - Planning to continue youth night at a high school game
  - Gathering info/feedback for apps for schedule (band vs team snap)
- Fields/Umpires (Chris)
  - Chris unable to be present, but emailed Doug updates
  - Has a meeting with UMore fields (?January?) regarding our ability to use the fields
- RAAA Update (Jennifer)
  - RAAA monthly meeting tomorrow night
  - New President - Jason Killey
  - New Vice President - Jennifer Chappuis
- Equipment (Cory)
  - Cory planning to meet with Andrew to get more info/inventory soon

### **Larger Topics for Discussion & Focus**

- New Player Free Clinic
  - Continue to advertise through community fliers, golden tickets that players are handing out to friends and through social media/email. Heidi to send another email/post this week.
  - We need at least 2 greeters at the entrance of the dome by 6:45. Heidi and Tricia available all three nights, Debbie available 1/20. Greeters able to answer questions parents may have.
  - Do we need to have a form for parents to sign for use of the dome for insurance/liability? Doug to discuss with dome management.
  - Doug, Danielle beginning to plan drills/activities (base race, throwing drills, etc)
  - Tricia has leftover concessions (chips, soda) that can be used as prizes.
- Main Season Registration
  - Go live 1/9/23
  - Heidi to add Registration flier and link to website
  - Mass email out to last few years of families (Heidi sent/posted last week), will continue to communicate with families
- Dome League Registration

- Go-live registration 1/9/23
- \$225 if 12 players registered, will adjust if more girls register
- Goal: One 12U team and one 10U team
  - Everyone who registers will play; cannot be alternates
- Assessments
  - Meeting was held with board members and past coaches Thursday, 1/5/2023 to discuss current assessment and team selection process
  - Player development and president/VP will meet and create a plan that will then be sent out for feedback
  - Board members had opportunity to share feedback from meeting and opinions on process and how to move forward
  - General topics/concerns
    - mistrust in past assessments from parents
    - concern over locking players from coaches
    - trusting the board/coaches in making the right decisions
    - Transparency with parents: what we're doing, who is evaluating, etc
    - Smaller size groups, more thorough/detailed assessments, weighting of hitting/fielding/pitching percentages
- Team Selection Process - Discussion
  - Doug/Chad/Amy/Danielle have been in contact with other organizations to understand their selection process
    - What is best for our players?
      - Currently we lock in the top 3 and coach can pick from pool of 4-16. Coach can select the next 8-9 players (depending on total numbers) for his/her team. Board gets final approval of selection. The 4-5 players that are left are moved to the next section of pick list/range.
      - Pitcher/catcher can opt to play down to 2nd team, even if they lock top 3
    - Eagan - #1 pitchers/catchers are locked into top team, 5 kids lock total, pick window determined by how many total kids they have (ie 6-15). Have option to play down if not top 2 pitchers/catchers
    - Farmington - lock top 6, team size +2 from anywhere in the pick list
    - Apple Valley - lock top 6, coach is assigned next 11. Coach has to go to board to make a request to swap 2
      - Farmington/Apple Valley - also have option to move down if on the bubble
  - Board given opportunity to provide feedback on topic
    - General topics: numbers of locked players, pick list, define a process, lock pitcher/catcher, more locked for top team vs keeping it consistent for number of locked players across all teams; lower levels keep ages/grades together, consistent process, perception that coaches choose team/friends, be aware of amount of change, team size plus a set number to choose from
    - Board to vote next month regarding process/any changes
  - Allow Bubble A players to not play A
    - Brief discussion on giving any/all players on the bubble an option to play down, not just pitcher/catcher
    - Not moving forward with a change regarding this topic at this time

- Program Philosophies
  - Considering creating a guiding document for coaches regarding expectations, overall program philosophy, playing time at various age/skill level, pitching amount, etc
    - Heidi and Chad planning to discuss
  - Board to discuss further at April meeting
- Pressing topics for next month
  - Program philosophy
  - Coach selection process
  - Vote on team selection process
  - Assessment process changes
  
- Meeting adjourned @ 8:05 PM
- Next regularly meeting scheduled for February 5, 2023 @ 6 PM, Location RCC, Rm 212
- Meeting minutes prepared by: Janie Lambert, Secretary