

Rosemount Girls Traveling Fastpitch Softball Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 02/05/2023

Time: 6 PM

Location: Rosemount Community Center, Rm 212

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

Not Present: Chris Orr

Guests: Nicole Bradley, Shelby Pogatchnik, Ken Fry

Meeting Called to Order: 6 PM

Secretary's Report: (Janie Lambert) GTFS Board approved meeting minutes from 1/8/2023 via email on 1/12/2023. Posted on website.

Treasurer's Report: (Shanna Guerink) \$40,997.53 ending budget
\$37,808.86 actual balance 1/31/2023

Meeting Topics

- **Shout Outs/Welcome Guests**
 - Amy & Danielle - for all their hard work organizing and running free fastpitch friday
 - Jill - sewing the bow net bags
 - Heidi - awesome communication through emails, facebook posts, working on philosophy & coaching application process
 - Chad & Amy for going to coaching clinic

- **Booster Club**
 - Ken Fry visiting to present on RHS girls softball new booster club. Had two daughters in the traveling program and also served as a previous fastpitch board member. The goal of the new booster club is to raise funds for the softball program.
 - Currently 6 members on booster board
 - \$100 fee to the booster club with scholarships available
 - Have various fundraisers planned
 - Coupon cards similar to football program, restaurant nights
 - Funds to be utilized for new coaches, equipment, uniforms, senior banners, etc
 - Hoping to partner with youth fastpitch program for community outreach and support.
 - Planning possibly multiple youth nights (traveling and in-house), grill-outs activities, softball toss, planning skills camp (early/mid August?)
 - HS girls advocating for travel program
 - Still in the early phases - board agreeable to support Booster club and will remain in contact with Ken on ways we can help

- **Board Member Elections - Recognition**

- Vote needed
- Candidates interviewed and allowed to answer questions. Term commitments discussed.
 - Nicole Bradley applying for Co-Fundraising/Concessions
 - Nicole left the room
 - Board voted to approve 12-0 (1 voting member not present)
 - Term end date: 2/28/2025
 - Shelby Pogatchnik applying for Co-Fundraising/Concessions
 - Works in fundraising for St Joseph's School
 - Shelby left the room
 - Board voted to approve 12-0 (1 voting member not present)
 - Term end date: 2/28/2025
 - Secretary to update board member contact list
 - Communications to update website

- **Next Board Meetings**

- March 5th, 2023 at 5:00
 - Meeting 1 hour earlier for team selection
 - Rooms 212 & 215
- April meeting moved to April 16, 2023 due to Easter (4/9)
 - 6:00 PM at RCC in room 212

- **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=dHJhdmVsaW5nLXNvZnRiYWxsQHJvc2VtY3VudC1hYWWEub3Jn>
 - Reviewed important dates for upcoming events/deadlines (assessments, dome training, parent meeting, uniform try-on, etc)
 - Pre-assessment clinics start this week Friday 2/10
 - Uniform try-on 2/15 & 2/16 at CA Gear
 - 2/17/23 - 12U assessments, 10U pitcher/catcher 5:30-7
 - 2/24/23 - 10 U assessments, 12U pitcher/catcher 5:30 - 8
 - 4/3/23 - Parent meeting at RCC Auditorium
 - 4/5/23 - Hands on coaching clinic at the Dome
 - We will have dome time for first weeks of practice (time slots will be determined after teams are made)
- 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 (Shanna)**
 - 14U second settlement charge upcoming
 - Tournament budget being finalized for coaches/teams
 - If needing to be reimbursed by the club, check requests need to be completed by Monday AM to be submitted to RAAA
 - After submitting to Shanna, allow 3-4 days for her to submit
- **Player Development (Amy & Danielle)**
 - Hoping to collect feedback regarding collaboration/training with St. Kate's coaches/players during Friday night dome
 - Overall agreement it was a positive experience
 - Hoping to keep connection for next year
 - Potentially expand on what St Kate's can/will cover: defense, etc instead of just hitting
 - Board members inquiring if possible to offer a Wednesday night St Kate's option?
- **Fundraising/Concessions (Tricia & Shelby N-V)**
 - Wearable blanket update
 - Doug called supplier, unclear answers for cost from supplier
 - Should we continue to pursue (cost vs benefit) or look to other options
 - Purse Bingo
 - Shelby N-V completed/submitted the application, hoping for an April date
 - 2/14 is the deadline for applications so hoping to hear if we are granted the date by next meeting
 - Shelby P will begin to look into community fundraiser restaurant nights and begin to schedule
 - Is there an option for coupons from restaurants to give to our tournament participants to use the week of the tournament?
- **Uniforms (Tricia)**
 - Try on dates are scheduled 2/15 & 2/16 from 4:30-7 at CA Gear
 - Need help on Wednesday night
 - Shelby P able to help 5:30-7
 - Uniform design updates
 - Split voting between green vs gold socks/belts - board provided vote as well
 - Obtained pricing for potential visors
 - \$20/piece at CA Gear
 - \$18/piece through Sarah Martin
 - Coaches shirt options being designed, proposal to consider other fabrics while remaining in budget

- Proposed considering other options for uniform material for next year based on feedback from last year
 - May be increased cost
- Tricia to begin number assignments once she receives the registration list

- **Communications/Website (Heidi)**
 - Working on building a new website, ~80% done and hoping to launch this month
 - Heidi is requesting a headshot for the website for all board members - please email her ASAP

- **Volunteer Coordinator (Shelby N-V)**
 - Will begin collecting checks during uniform try-ons
 - Once final registration numbers are complete, will begin calculating volunteer hours

- **Secretary/Marketing (Janie)**
 - Will begin removing registration signs from around the community

- **Community & Culture (Jill)**
 - Has St Kate's game schedule and looking for a date for girls to attend a game/youth night
 - Has started to create a timeline for team managers with important dates (ordering pins for nationals, out of town tourneys, etc)
 - Developing the definition of what it means to be a team manager
 - Continues to research best options for group apps for communication

- **Equipment Manager (Cory)**
 - Has been to the Shannon Park shed to obtain blue flame machine being used for pop-ups during assessments
 - Beginning to take inventory of equipment, organizing sheds (considering shelving options), determining equipment budget
 - Question proposed if catcher's are able to borrow equipment to practice
 - Consider developing a check-out process and letting the program know it's an available option
 - Concessions requesting new coolers for tournament
 - May price out large coolers from Sam's Club

- **Field/Umpires (Chris - not present)**
 - Heidi attended the RAAA field meeting, no updates for travel softball
 - Working plan for potential use of UMore fields - no updates

- **Tournament Director (Debbie)**
 - Had quick meeting prior to board meeting to begin discussions
 - Opening Shamrock Showdown up to 10/12U A level for this year
- **Parent Liaison (Mindy)**
 - Would be willing to help as booster club liaison

- **RAAA Liaison (Jen)**
 - Had the outdoor facility group meeting, no specific updates for travel softball

Larger Topics for Discussion & Focus

- **Last Month Review (Doug)**
 - Free Fastpitch Fun Summary
 - 26 different families
 - Consider trying to make it more of a true fastpitch experience next year (using helmets, drills, etc)
 - Registration Summary
 - 98 total (102 in 2022)
 - 38 lost including players who aged out to 14U
 - 14 to club ball
 - 2 changed sports
 - 3 moved out of town
 - 35 new players to the program
 - 10 of these players new in fall ball now registered for summer
 - 4 new from dome training
 - 4 from Free Fastpitch Fun
 - 2 from siblings experience
 - 1 back after taking time off from softball
 - 1 moved into our area
 - Volunteers
 - Coaches = 27 (39 in 2022)
 - Softball board interest = 4 (0 in 2022)
 - Team manager = 9 (2 in 2022)
 - Spring Dome season = 31 players registered
 - 12U = 13
 - 10U = 18
 - Recruit more 10Us?
 - Dates are different than originally advertised. Doug to send clarification
- **Assessments**
 - Review of process
 - Chad sent updated process/plan for 2023
 - Board with no further questions/concerns
 - Board members will be assigned to help on Monday 2/6/23
 - Friday 2/10 will be a run-through/prep; those helping encouraged to attend Friday to understand set up/expectations
- **Team Selection Process - Discussion**
 - Review Proposal and vote
 - Process:
 - Players are ranked using their assessment scores
 - Top 5 players are locked into the team being selected

- Coach is allowed (only shown) to choose from player 6 through team size + 4 (16 for a team size of 12). Evaluation committee assists coach with team selection
 - Caveat - pitchers and catchers are allowed to 'play down' to get more playing time at their position. Determined based on not being in the next top 2 of their respective position. Player can only move down 1 team
 - Board approves team
 - Remaining players are moved to the top of the list with the top 5 locked and the process is repeated
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- Board voted 15-0 to approve
 - Will update by-laws with new approved process
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- **Program Philosophies**
 - Heidi & Chad reviewed ideas and established rough draft
 - Heidi sent to board for review
 - Open for feedback from board - email Heidi/Chad with feedback
 - Would like to include into the coaching interview process to know that coaches agree with our philosophy
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- **Miscellaneous Topics**
 - Volunteers needed to be evaluators for Farmington 8U assessments on March 5 in AM
 - Debbie able to help Farmington
 - Apple Valley requesting help in mid-March; date unknown
 - MN Softball is changing birth year protocols to be more in line with grade year (more to come)
 - Coach selection process overview:
 - Anyone that applies for a head coaching position is interviewed by player development, directors (other board members may be included if applicant is a board member)
 - Coaches are ranked after interview
 - During team selections, look at pick pool and see what coaches available - highest ranked coach candidate is called, proposed to the board and board votes to approve
 - Waiver protocol
 - Need to establish guidelines/protocol for girls requesting waiver to move up levels
 - Recruiting 8U for numbers - consider late registration options
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- **Meeting adjourned @ 8:21 PM**
 - **Next regularly meeting scheduled for March 5, 2023 Time 5:00 PM, Location RCC, Rm 212 & 215**
 - **Meeting minutes prepared by: Janie Lambert, Secretary/Treasurer**