

SACHEM YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 18, 2014

Present: Rich Michienzi, Kevin Murray, Tricia Henderson, Rusty Sullivan, Bernie Schipelliti, Christie Falkenberg, Chris Centurelli, Matt Henning, Joe McCabe, Eric Hoertdoerfer, Mike Degnan, Jeff Andrews

Call to Order – 7:40 p.m.

I. MINUTES

The minutes of the June 16, 2014 Board of Directors meeting were unanimously approved.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

No report.

III. VP REPORTS

A. SOFTBALL

Bernie Schipelliti reported that the softball spring season went well and we fielded 5 teams this year. The new equipment also worked out well.

Middle School had a good season overall. There was an issue with a player who was on the spring roster to meet the requirements for playing on the Middle School team, even though she did not intend to play in the Spring SYBS league. This should be addressed by SYBS for next year.

Bernie recommended paying a \$500 stipend to the two middle school coaches for all of their work with the teams this year. The Board unanimously approved the stipends.

B. BASEBALL 13 AND OVER

No report.

C. BASEBALL 10 -12

Rusty Sullivan reported that the 2014 spring season went well. Double elimination format went well and Rusty feels we should stick with that going forward.

D. BASEBALL 6-9

Christie Falkenberg reported that the spring went well. Marty Mahoney was a fantastic commissioner. Joe did a great job with spring and summer. He generated a lot of enthusiasm and will come back as summer commissioner.

IV. DIRECTORS REPORTS

A. SUMMER BALL RECAP

Bernie reported that for summer SB it is hard to get one team fielded, and we got one fielded. Tim Leisure coached and did a great job. We barely had enough players signed up, and then word got out and we had 30 kids sign up. The problem was that we only committed to one team with Middle Essex, which has to be done in advance. We took as many kids as we could. Impartial evaluators worked out well. Team started out 0-2 and ended 9-4. We went to the states – great experience and excitement from the girls.

Note – parents whose kids didn't make the team were initially upset, so Bernie put together a Wednesday night practice at Ambrose. The Varsity coach showed up to help run it – it was free for kids and parents were thrilled. Nice alternative. There is talk of fall ball at Middle Essex. Bernie would love to field 2 or 3 teams next year.

Report from Mike Creane - 14 & 15's did well in States. Senior Babe Ruth won the championship this year for the first time in a long time.

Summer – 9s did very well and 8s played until August 17th. Enthusiasm from kids was great. Joe said each team played 11 games. Kids had a blast, improved, and had fun. The Winchester Cup game was a highlight for the kids.

Rusty said that Keith did a great job as summer commissioner for Middlesex. We had a lot of teams. 10's did well, 11's had a successful summer. 12's didn't do great in the districts but made final 4 of 70 ft playoffs. Rusty felt the move was very successful to the bigger diamond.

Rich noted that Joe's "get the word out" emails really helped drive the numbers. Eric did a great job with scheduling, as did Matt with umpires.

Rusty will send a note coaches to get the books back to Mike Degan to make things easier next year. Mike recommends selecting teams earlier, which makes the process easier to be ready for districts. He said May 15th for picking summer teams would be ideal, Rich and Rusty agreed.

Mike suggested we get birth certificates from players. Rich agreed and thought 9 is probably a good point to start since that is when summer ball starts.

B. SCHOLARSHIPS

Kevin Murray reported that two scholarships were awarded - one baseball and one softball for \$1000 each. Rich will get pictures of the winners and some publicity for SYBS. We need to update website – last year’s winners are still posted.

C. FALL CLEAN UP DATE

Jeff Andrews asked if there were any known conflicts he should consider when scheduling. Other than majors tryouts, none mentioned.

D. MAJORS TRYOUT DATES

Tryouts will be Sept 27 & 28. Last year we streamlined them - 10’s one day, 11 & 12’s one day. We will plan for mid afternoon for tryouts - 1.5-2 hrs per day depending on size of the groups (10’s big, 12’s small). Need to get the word out sooner. Mike mentioned there is a perception that the Majors are not a good place for 10 yr olds because they will play right field only. The Board agreed this is a misperception.

E. OPEN MAJORS MANAGERS

Rusty reported that there is one vacancy for majors confirmed (Cardinals).

F. REGISTRATION FEES

Rich asked the Board to consider raising registration fees to cover added expenses. Additional expenses expected from:

- Contracting to professionally landscape and maintain all West Side fields
- Other capital improvements (redo A & B diamond)
- Trash removal
- Continuing to hire for concessions.

The commitment to improvements will be made public on website.

The Board unanimously approved raising the registration fees for 2015 spring and summer seasons as follows:

Spring	
Softball Clinic	\$75.00 to \$100.00

Softball Junior	\$110.00 to \$125.00
Softball Intermediate and Softball Sr.	\$140.00 to \$175.00
Baseball Clinic, Rookie, and A	\$110.00 to \$125.00
Baseball AA, AAA, Majors, BR Prep and BR	\$140.00 to \$175.00

Summer

All \$175.00

Family Maximum for Spring \$500.00

Early discount and Town of Winchester user fee remains the same.

G. FALL BALL

Rich said we have been approached by Arlington and Woburn for 9, 10 & 11 fall ball. Joe will check on interest. It would be a short schedule, no registration fee, flexible.

H. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kevin will head the nominating committee this year and needs to know is not coming back. Rich mentioned that Mike Degan is not returning to the Board due to other commitments. Kevin asked the Board to let him know if they want to come back, and whether they are interested in the same position or different position.

I. AWARDS SUMMER TEAMS

Rich reported that the Senior Babe Ruth team earned jackets for their Districts success. Rich made a motion of \$45 per kids to purchase sweatshirts. This has been a tradition with teams having success in the Districts. The expense was unanimously approved.

J. NEW UNIFORMS

Chris Centurelli reported that the summer uniforms are pretty old for SB and baseball and suggested we order new ones now. Chris will get some pricing, but all agreed with the need to upgrade.

Meeting adjourned – 9:00 P.M.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014
7:30 P.M.**

**MYSTIC VALLEY ROOM
TOWN HALL**

TO DO LIST

<u>TASK</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE PERSON</u>	<u>DATE OF MEETING</u>	<u>COMPLETED</u>