

November RPGSA Board Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2009
7 p.m.
Rohnert Park Community Center

Board members present for the November board meeting were Misha Miki-Ladner, Marcus McJilton, Sandie Schach, Micah Ruge, Derek Girman, Scott LaFrancois, Dawn Owens, Rich Dodele, Kevin Hager, and Bob Dodson. Board members unable to attend the November meeting were Nancy Stewart, Ray Bielefield, and Laura Dunst. Visitors present at our meeting were Kendra Holmes and Scott Mayer.

Misha Miki-Ladner called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. at the Rohnert Park Community Center. Misha Miki-Ladner had changes for last month's meeting minutes. Those changes will be made and the minutes will be re-sent.

Misha Miki-Ladner shared with the board that the inventory day on Saturday, October 31st was a great success. The equipment in the shed was inventoried and labeled. The "H" and "E" park snack shacks were also cleaned up and inventoried. She thanked everyone who participated.

Misha Miki-Ladner introduced our two visitors as nominations for two of the open board positions. Kendra Holmes was nominated for our Concessions Director. Scott Mayer was nominated for our Minor VP. The board voted on these two nominations and they were both approved for the positions.

Marcus McJilton passed out a sheet that had the inventory that is currently in our equipment shed. Misha Miki-Ladner asked Kevin Hager to please inventory the uniforms for the Rebel's teams. Kevin shared that there were about 590 Rebel pins that were not listed on the inventory sheet. He also shared that he is still needing Rebel equipment from Tammy. Bob Dodson is still waiting for softball bags from Jason Barbedos, Rich Dodele, and 1 T-ball team. He is also needing a key from Jason Barbedos and 1 T-ball team.

We then discussed the proposed Tournament play by-law changes from our last month's meeting. Misha Miki-Ladner suggested that minutes should be taken at the Travel Ball committee monthly meetings. This should be added to 9.1.3.1. Also, it was suggested that the board secretary be added as a member to this committee. This should be added to 9.1.1. Also, the 9.1.4.1 should simply say, "See Description of Responsibilities", and to leave 9.1.4.2 as a further description. It was moved to accept with the changes. Micah Ruge asked why the fundraising aspect was not addressed. His concern was that since fundraising was such an issue last season that it should definitely be clarified in our by-laws for the future. It was explained by the by-law committee that they felt the Fundraising portion of the Travel Ball by-laws should be addressed by the Fundraising Committee. Everyone agreed that

made the most sense. The board voted on the by-law changes and with the exception of Scott Lafrancois, everyone voted to approve the new by-laws with the changes that were suggested.

Marcus McJilton then presented the board with a new set of proposed by-law changes for 6.1.6, 6.1.8, 6.6, 6.7, and 7.3.8. (see attached) In the first proposed change 6.1.6, Rich Dodele expressed great concern with this. His question was, who gets to determine who an evaluated pitcher is and on what conditions does it make a player an evaluated pitcher. After an intense discussion on this proposed change, it was suggested by Misha Miki-Ladner that the by-law committee needs to meet again on this change and to clarify the changes. She also suggested that Rich attend that meeting so that his concerns can be heard and addressed. The remaining changes were discussed and no one had any concerns regarding them. The by-law committee will meet again to discuss the 6.1.6 proposed change and will present these changes again at our next meeting.

Rich Dodele asked what happens in a game when a team doesn't keep track of girl's length of innings pitched. It was discussed since it is not addressed in our by-laws that the ASA rule book should be referenced in this situation.

Within this same conversation it was also suggested that our umpires have some kind of quick reference or cheat sheet that they could refer to quickly for our most commonly disputed game rules. It was also mentioned that the umpires should be held accountable somehow for knowing our by-laws in addition to the ASA rules. Rich Dodele said he would work with the umpires on this.

Dawn Owens gave the board the proposed 2010 RPGSA dates. These dates were determined by the Registration Committee. The dates were kept pretty much the same as the 2009 RPGSA dates. The only change that was made by the board to these dates was the Spring Break, the dates for Spring Break are April 2nd – 11th. The board did discuss pushing the 1st day of practice to begin in the last couple weeks of February. With our Opening Day on March 20th, having practices start on March 1st does not give teams enough time for practicing before games begin. It was thought that we have practices start on March 1st because of some insurance regulation. Rich Dodele recommended having someone check with our insurance because Cal Ripken thought the same thing and after checking into it, discovered that they could practice earlier. Sandie Schach will check with Sandy Scott, from Nor Cal ASA, to see if our insurance allows us to start our practices in February. Dawn shared with the board that the Registration Committee will be getting the Registration flyers approved, printed and passed out to all the schools the week after Thanksgiving break. The reminder postcard will be sent out the middle of December. Dawn also discussed that she is working on some kind of contract for scholarship families. The contract would be more formal in terms of what they are obligated to help with during the season. It was suggested that maybe the Fundraising Director work closely with these families to make sure they fulfill their agreement.

Sandie Schach shared with the board that the Documentation Committee discussed that it would be a great idea that if over the season everyone could keep a journal of the activities that they do for the board. This would include monthly action items that they need to work on throughout the season, their contacts they have and the resources they use for their jobs on the board. The thought is that if all this information can be written down somewhere then when someone else takes over a position on the board all the important information they need would be readily available. Sandie passed out notebooks to everyone on the board asking that they use this over the season to write down any important things that would help the next person who does their job.

Scott Lafrancois gave the board an update on the Finance Committee. He shared that when the committee met they worked on putting together a budget. The board does not currently have a budget and the committee that this would be the best way to start. Scott asked Bob to please give the Finance Committee an estimate on a yearly budget for purchasing new equipment. The Finance Committee will meet again to continue working on the budget. Hopefully with a budget in place it will help with determining player costs.

Bob Dodson thanked everyone for helping with organizing the equipment shed. He did share that there are only a couple bags and keys still needing to be returned. Misha said she will contact Michele Espinoza to try and get the outstanding equipment and key from the T-ball team. Bob Dodson handed over all the keys that he had to Marcus McJilton. Marcus asked Bob to please get him a master list of the keys.

Derek Girman asked who schedules the inter-league play for the T-ballers? It was suggested by Misha Miki-Ladner that Marcus McJilton be the coordinator for all inter-league play for all the divisions. Marcus will work with the division VP's for scheduling purposes but will be making contacts with other cities. It was also discussed to up our age for Major's to 16. Marcus was going to check with the other county leagues to see what the playing ages are for their Major's so that we can make a decision on what we want to do with our Majors.

Kevin Hager asked the board if we were going to be running the Nicole Mattsen tournament for 2010. Kevin is in the process of registering our tournament dates on the ASA website. Misha Miki-Ladner shared that she has had conversation with Raquel about us providing support but that we would not be running the tournament, it would be handed over to the Mattsen family. Misha will talk to Raquel about this and get back to Kevin on what was decided.

Kevin then asked about having an U16 tournament at our Summer Classic. Last year we held an U16 tourney even though we did not have an U16 team participating. It was shared that this was very difficult because volunteers had to work this tournament and some of them missed out on seeing their own children play because of it. It was decided that Kevin would submit an U16 team for the website but that we will decide on actually having an U16 tourney after we see if we

an U16 team this year. It was also discussed briefly about holding a separate U8 tournament.

Next board meeting is December 1st at 7 p.m. at the Rohnert Park Community Center. Everyone is invited to attend.