

Soderville Athletic Association
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 15, 2009

Board Members in Attendance

Greg Zimmer	President
Mike Laciskey	Treasurer
Derrell Singh	Secretary
Dale Blonigen	
Steve Miller	
Tom Dreshar	
Heather Lund	

Not in Attendance

Greg Stephani	Vice President
Brian Braden	
Brad Hensler	
Nick Braden	
Justin Dahlberg	

Others in Attendance

Pat Carlson (Taho Sports)
Clarence (Andover Awards and Apparel)
Ernie Johnson – BATBA
Randy McArthur
Jeff Henry
Nancy Nelson

Meeting called to order by Greg Zimmer at 7:03pm.

Tom D. made a motion to approve the January 18, 2009 meeting minutes, Mike L. seconded, motion approved.

Public forum – none

New Business

Uniforms – Pat Carlson was here from Taho Sports to show the Board uniforms to consider for the tournament teams. Right now we are predicting there will be 9 teams of 12. Pat is wondering what colors we are thinking about going with so there was some discussion about that. We want them to look significantly different then the regular teams. The material he showed us would be more breathable then a cotton t-shirt. 13's, 14's and 15's will be using the same uniforms all season but the 10's, 11's and 12's will only be using them for the tournament weekends.

Blaine High School Baseball Donation – Brian Braden could not be here tonight but he sent an email saying he wanted to donate \$500 to the Blaine Baseball program. Steve M. let everyone know that fastpitch donates to the BHS fastpitch program but BHS helps traveling fastpitch with the clinics that they put on; Tom D. said that Brian told him it would be a good will donation to show we support the program; Mike L. said that we did not budget for it, Mike L. motions that we wait until our numbers come in and see how many register, Tom D. seconds the motion, motion approved.

Ernie Johnson from BATBA – Ernie said that they are aware of the field conditions at Ham Lake Park and they are willing to help with getting those fields in shape for the season; Ernie then talked about the tournament they will be having again at the end of the year and he wants to know if we know how many teams SAA will be sending and we said it will be 2 at each age group at this point, Greg Z. said we will try to separate the 11's and 12's for that tournament; registration for BATBA is February 21st so we know that if people are asking; Ernie said there are some people upset with BATBA, he talked about the field request he had submitted in December to us and that MYAS was upset about the fact that BATBA would not be able to host that tournament now, Steve M. interjected and said that there is no way that fastpitch could request fields any earlier as traveling fastpitch does not find out what tournaments they have until early February, Steve M. said they will not for sure get the same tournaments every year, the BBC will not work for BATBA for that tournament as they don't have fields there for the 13 year olds to play on, MYAS likes the Ham Lake Parks as there are 8 playable

fields for the 13's age group that are back to back, Greg Z. said that we do have to look at our own association first so even our tournament teams could end up hosting tournaments next year, Greg also talked about the issue with there being empty fields at Ham Lake Park last year that were supposed to have BATBA teams on them and we have teams way up at Booster when they could be in Ham Lake, Greg Z. told Ernie that he may be notified that they may not have those fields two nights a week that were already promised to them if our registration numbers are higher than expected, Randy will be able to get a schedule together before BATBA will be doing their scheduling with MYAS, Ernie said they are trying to get the Happy Acres Parks up to the standards so they can use those more, Ernie thinks they would be willing to donate funds to help with field maintenance, Steve M. said that after the last tournament of the season when BATBA used the fields the bases were moved and the plugs were not put back in, pitching rubbers were moved and not put back so when they went to play fall ball they had to measure everything so they need to leave the fields better this year, Mike L. asked if SAA is able to come to their meetings and Ernie said that for sure that is fine and they are the 2nd Sunday of every month, Ernie will try to continue to come to our meetings also, Mike L. wanted to express that he does not feel that kids have to play traveling baseball necessarily to play high school baseball and Greg Z. commented that Tim from BHS used to think this was true but may be changing his mind on that.

Uniforms – Clarence was here from Andover Awards and Apparel, he said he did our uniforms from last year and it was quite a job to clean up the mess we had, he talked to Derrell and Nancy about what SAA is looking for as far as the tournament team uniforms, Clarence had many samples to show us for uniforms, it is hard for him to give any pricing until we are ready to say exactly what we want and how many teams we are ordering for but what he brought really helped the Board in deciding on what to use for the tournament teams and older boys uniforms.

The Board then took time to discuss the different uniform options that we have to choose from. Derrell wrote down that for 6U and 8U it all stays the same except they will have minor league hats, for 10U – 12U it will all be the same also except for changing to major league hats, for 13U and up for senior boys they will have a button up Henley shirt and stripe pants and a solid sock, the girls uniforms will stay the same, Greg Z. said he wants the uniforms for the Tournament teams to stay at \$60, the 13U and 15U tournament team uniforms might be upgraded from there; Derrell also talked about there having to be a deadline date of having to put the names on the jersey's if we have Clarence do that again. Derrell will get bids now from different places based on the Boards decisions on the uniforms.

Committee Reports:

Concessions – Pierro – not present

Umpires – Hensler – not present

In-house fast pitch – Lund – not present – but Steve M. said that Centennial is considering hosting the in-house girls tournament this year and it would be the last weekend in June.

In-house baseball (Junior) – Stephani – not present

In-house baseball (Senior) – Blonigen – Dale heard that we are getting numbers for the 17U-19U teams, Dale thinks they will have to play on Friday nights and he is not sure how that will go over.

Traveling fast pitch – Miller – Steve said they are hosting the 12U State tournament, try outs are next Sunday, they may even have an 18U team this year.

Traveling baseball – Zimmer – no report

Field/Game Scheduling – McArthur – there was much discussion about finalizing the tournament weekends for all the age groups, in the future SAA will tell BATBA that nothing is for sure as far as using our fields as based on the discussion above when Ernie from BATBA was here. Much of the tournament schedule depends on if Centennial decides to host the fastpitch tournament and if traveling gets the Elite tournament they want in July.

Equipment – Braden N. - not present but per an email from Brian and Nick B. - We have updated the equipment list and have planned order quantities and costs. We have met with DAVES sport shop salesman and plan to also talk to TAHO. WE will be ordering the majority of our equipment items in the next 2 weeks. The baseballs have been received. We built a pitching mound and ordered the carpet top for the mound. We moved all of the supply - equipment into locked storage at SAA. We want to have all of the equipment at SAA in March so we can review and update the bags for the new season.

Treasurer – Laciskey – The January P&L and Budget vs. Actual reports were looked at. January results came in right on budget; Nancy will look at the number for building improvements and for utilities that Mike had a question on.

Fundraising – Braden – Nancy talked about Glen Cary doing fundraising with Impact Fundraising but they will not have any of the same vendors on the card and will only sell about 60 cards, Greg Z. read off notes from Brian B. per an email: Cards were completed. We added a 16 vendor rather than having a general vendor card. Jon Frank was concerned that the general card would be confusing to vendors. He thought if a card holder brought in the general card and it wouldn't describe the vendor deal. Similar to previous years, each of the vendor cards lists the specific vendor deal. Since we needed to get the fundraising cards printed we followed the same approach as previous years.

Uniforms – Singh – Derrell talked about umpire uniforms and what we want for that, he will call Brad Hensler about it as Brad may want them to buy themselves a nicer uniform this year, Dale stated that we should still have something basic for the new umpires to use until they know if they are going to continue, Tom D. asked Derrell when the tournament team uniforms would need to be ordered so deadlines were discussed.

Photos – Nelson – Nancy talked about the option of doing just indoor pictures this year instead of outdoor, Nancy will see if they could do pictures outdoors at McKinley if it is nice out.

Operations Manager Report – N. Nelson

Registration – financial issues – Nancy is wondering how to deal with payment issues this year if there are more than usual due to the economy and the Board said to use her best judgment on helping these families.

Registration question – 15U player first week June – this player's mom passed away and the aunt wants to know if he can start playing when school is out since he lives far away, the Board said yes so Nancy will keep in touch with him.

Old Business –

New Ball field at Ham Lake City Park – Greg Z. said that he and Nancy were at the Council meeting last month talking about a new ball field at the park, Greg is hoping that some businesses would donate some items toward the field, Tom D. thinks it would cost \$40,000 just to clear cut the area, Mike L. thinks we should only show the association the completed look of the complex and not the sketch we have so it gives them a clearer picture of what it will be like.

Finalize tournament dates – discussed above

Tournament teams – Per an email from Brian B:

We have listed on the website for registration tournament play 10-12u. We are currently expecting at a minimum, 1 team at 10, 12, 13 and 2 at 15u. For the 10-12u teams we will hold tryouts in mid-March. If we have more than 1 team at 10-12u... we will hold the tryouts and then have the 2 coaches select the teams. Includes 2 MYAS Tournaments, plus Blaine all-star tournament and a uniform.

The 13u and 15u tournament teams are being formed by the 3 coaches. There will be no tryout process for these 3 teams. The 13u and 15u teams will receive 2 paid MYAS tournaments and a uniform for the \$60 tournament fee. We are currently reviewing uniform options.

We are planning to have all of the tournament teams receive similar uniforms. Current thought, a button down jersey, pants, cap, socks. The jersey will say SAA. We want to order the uniforms in March to have them available in early May for the teams.

We have reserved 2 tournaments for the teams ... the Champlin Classic weekend of June 5th and Zimmerman, weekend of June 29th. Both tournaments are class AA and are Gopher State Qualifiers.

Rules - Mike L. had a copy he passed out of some rules that need to be clarified so the Board went through them:

Proposed Amendments to 2009 Rules for SAA 10U & 12U Baseball

SAA Regular season

- 6U/8U/10U No inning will begin after 8:15 (all season)
- 12U Prior to June 15 no inning will begin after 8:15; as of June 15 innings will not start after 8:45
- 6U/8U/10U - the batter may not steal first on strike 3

SAA In-house tournament

- team rankings decided by W/L records, runs scored, face-to-face results
- pitchers can pitch 3 innings/game, 6 innings/day, 9 innings/weekend (weekend = Fri – Sun)

MYAS state tourney - invites in order of preference

- 1) the playoff champion in top half bracket
- 2) the regular season first place team
- 3) the playoff runner-up in top half bracket
- 4) the playoff champion in bottom half bracket
- 5) the playoff third place team in top half bracket
- 6) SAA Board selects

- coaches must take kids on original roster, coaches may invite additional kids to play on their state tourney team but roster cannot exceed 15 kids, all other rules are governed by MYAS

Tournament BB teams

- Tryouts will consist of hitting, pitching & fielding drills. Tryouts will be run by the tournament team director and independent evaluators. The independent evaluators will select the players who are eligible. The coach has the option to select 1 player.
- Roster is a maximum of 12 players
- Maximum of 2 teams each @ 10U, 11U, 12U (age as of May 1)
- Teams will participate in minimum of 2 weekend tournaments within the metro area. Teams will also participate in the BATBA all-star tournament.

Greg Z. makes a motion to implement the rule changes, Steve M. seconds the motion, motion approved. Times should be the same for fastpitch too.

Other

The next meeting is set for Sunday, March 15th, 2009 at 7:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Derrell S., Greg Z. seconded the motion, motion approved and meeting adjourned at 10:02pm.