

Soderville Athletic Association
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 18, 2007

Board Members in Attendance

Steve Voss	President
Rodney Gillund	Vice President
Phil Morem	Treasurer
Curtis Moe	
Marty Tynda	
Terry Speckel	
Brian Braden	
Doug Evans	
Brad Eppenberger	
Dale Blonigen	
Paul Krenz	

Not in Attendance

Greg Stephani
Jim Jarvi

Others in Attendance

Nancy Nelson
Mark Seracki
Luke Scardigli

Meeting called to order by Steve Voss at 8:03 pm.

Phil M. made a motion to approve the January 21, 2007 meeting minutes, Brian B. seconded, motion approved.

Public forum – none

New Business

Photos:

Sports Star Photography – Rick came to present information about the company and what they can do for our association; they will give 3 complimentary photos to each coach, they handed out the order form that they would give to the parents, 100% money back guarantee if anyone is not happy with their pictures, 10% of the sales go back to our organization or 15% with a 3 year contract, they can see their child's photos on the website immediately, they can start saving the photos in an album so eventually they can do "photos over time" for an individual, Mark S. asked if they will be able to do action photos at tournaments and he answered that they can sign their teams up for \$40 and they will come and do them.

Linhoff Photography – John Linhoff, the owner and Mark Bloom, the head photographer, came to present some information on their company; they are a family business and not a photo factory, John says they are small enough to service our needs properly, they brought samples of some photos that were very nice, they have four basic packages and then they can order a la carte if they want, they will have the parents call them directly if there are any problems, Linhoff has a contract with "TOPPS" trading cards and these are shipped directly to the player's house and they would have a different template every year for the look of the card, the price on them is \$21 for 12 cards, they give a 15% rebate back to the organization, it was asked how they will work it when they take action shots at a tournament and they replied there is no extra fee for this and they can sell them onsite or online.

Uniforms – Mark S. went to Ideal and took a tour of their facility as he wanted to have a comparison to what Tahoe has been doing for us, Tahoe said they will deliver them to the building, Ideal said they would sort them by team with a

scorebook in the bag too; Mark S. also needs a decision on coaches hats as they take quite a few weeks to order, he showed some different examples of hats for the Board to choose from; he also needs to know if we are still doing pants for the 8U girls and it was decided that 10U and up would have shorts; the players will now go back to using the hats with the "S" logo and be a solid color that matches the team; going to Ideal will save us about \$4,000 so that part of it is cut and dry but SAA has been going to Tahoe for a long time so it will be hard to change; Mark S. reported that Ideal just remodeled the front into a retail floor and all four high schools are represented in the store area; Brad E.'s concern is that they would not print just a couple sweatshirts at one time if someone needed something later but that could be discussed further with them, Mark S. thinks Ideal would be able to handle our load of uniforms after seeing their facility, Brian B. and Nancy N. brought up that it is a vendor in our community which is always a positive thing too, the earlier we get these ordered the better to make sure all the colors will be available in all the sizes we need; after much discussion Brad E. makes the motion to go with Ideal, Paul K. seconded that motion, motion approved; it was decided we will make a decision on the coaches hats at a later date.

SFYBA – Luke Scardigli was present to discuss the St. Francis association, Luke played in SAA when he was a kid and wants us to know he is a supporter of all the leagues in the area, their program is growing rapidly though and they may increase their program from 3 teams to 10 this season so they are having a field crisis for their 11 year old age brackets and up, they just don't have the quality baseball fields for these teams; he is requesting the use of one field on the west side of Booster Park two nights a week, Steve V. asked Luke when he would like to know what the association has decided on this matter, they would like to know by March 15th, this will be discussed again later in the meeting.

Traveling Fastpitch (account and budget) - Brad E. handed out the 2007 budget for traveling fastpitch, they have added a tournament and the fees are lower for some age groups this year since they play less games, the fees will be made up by the gate fees from the tournaments; they are buying 5 helmets per team, traveling will be able to host a tournament the weekend of July 6, 7 and 8th as it was decided we will keep Booster for the 6U and 8U in house tournaments as originally requested (Jack Davis from East Bethel had asked if we would consider letting St. Francis use the fields that weekend), Paul K. made a motion to approve the fastpitch budget, Phil M. seconded the motion, motion approved; it was discussed a couple meetings ago that fastpitch would have their own account opened up, Brad E. said the exact amount does not have to be decided right now just \$1,000 would be good to start with, Brad E. made a motion to have the new traveling account approved by transferring \$1,000 from the general fund, Terry S. seconded the motion, motion approved; as far as the signers go it was discussed it would be Steve Voss, Brad Eppenberger, Nancy Nelson, Cindy Boden (treasurer for traveling fastpitch), that approval is part of the last motion and has been approved.

Coach Application Reviews - we are getting a lot of questions about why coaches are not being posted on the website like before and we were going to wait until they were officially approved but we need to get going on that, Nancy N. will start the background checks on coaches this week.

Booster Park Concession Stand Storage issue – Nancy N. will need to have discussions with Jack Davis about this as there will be a problem with us storing our product when others will be using the stand, Nancy will also talk to him about any plans to expand that stand because it is so small, Phil M. offered to attend the meeting with Nancy N. and Jack Davis.

Committee Reports:

Concessions – Nancy N. reported that she has some people in mind for the coordinator and assistant positions and will be meeting with them before the next Board meeting; we should be able to make a decision on who should be hired at the next meeting.

Umpires – Doug E. stated that he is very interested in purchasing the software for scheduling the umpires and communicating with them and the cost for this is \$150, Paul K. made the motion to approve this purchase, Brad E. seconded the motion, motion approved. Doug is still working on the cards he would like to give to the umpires to keep the games moving faster; he will be going to Rum River umpire classes starting next week and the guy in charge of this may be interested in putting on a seminar for our umpires if we are not going to do it ourselves; there are only about 15 umpires signed up so far and not many of them are from last year; Nancy N. will advertise in The Ham Laker for umpires in April and Doug E. will let Nancy N. know if he wants any additional advertising; Dale B. reported they would like to do some clinics like last year and also some classroom training at the building, he is also looking at getting someone to come in to get our umpires certified so they can ump elsewhere also; by the next meeting the Board will need to discuss and approve the spending for the umpire gear for the 2007 season; this year it would be nice if they didn't have to leave the equipment they use at the fields so they should each have their own to be responsible for, they would not get their last check until we get the equipment back if it belongs to SAA.

In-house fastpitch – Nancy N. reported that Greg S. asked her to report that he has volunteers for forming teams; Steve V. wants Nancy to let him know that Greg Boster is also interested in helping and has done it before.

In-house baseball (Junior) –Jim Jarvi was not present

In-house baseball (Senior) – Curtis M. reported there is some interest out there in having a mid season tournament; it will have to be decided at the next meeting if they are going to play North Star or not depending on the numbers.

Traveling fastpitch – Brad E. said that some of the traveling committee is interested in having the budget posted on the website but it was decided we would not be able to do this as it would raise too many questions; Rodney G. reported that the fastpitch clinic at Blaine High School went very good today and there were many girls there participating, Brad E. brought up the issue of where the profit is going from the fundraiser for the traveling fastpitch players, the money is going towards field improvements so it should probably go back to the SAA general fund but part of next month's agenda will be to discuss this further; Brad E. asked about if anyone has heard from the City if they are still planning on putting lights at either of the complexes, Nancy N. will talk to Tom Reiner from the City to see if they ended up including this in their 2007 budget.

Traveling baseball – Paul K. reported that registration has been slow so the deadline has of course been pushed back; Paul K. asked if SAA is interested in hosting a Thursday night tournament at Ham Lake Park for BAT as the concessions dollars made last year were very good, traveling will actually run this tournament and SAA will just be in charge of concessions, Doug E. made a motion to host this tournament on Thursday, July 26th, Phil M. seconded the motion, motion approved.

Discussion went back to St. Francis wanting to use one of the Booster fields two nights a week as Doug E. brought up that there were nights we had open fields in Ham Lake when traveling was playing away and he would like us to work with St. Francis on letting them use a field at Booster, Steve V. stated that most of the St. Francis kids are coming from the Soderville program so it would be good to support them in this way; Phil M. made the motion to allow SFYBA to use one of the Booster West fields two nights a week for the 2007 season,(which exact field # it will be will be decided later), Doug E. seconded the motion, motion approved, Steve V. will contact Luke S. and inform him of this decision.

Field/Game Scheduling – Rodney G. let the Board know that he is resigning from his position as Vice President, he said he is willing to help the person that takes the position of field/game scheduler.

Equipment – Paul K. reported that he has information on purchasing a chalker, Dave's Sports has two of them they want to get rid of for \$150, these have the hard plastic wheels and there are some with better wheels; Paul K. is also pricing out new catcher helmets; it was also decided at a previous meeting that we would replace the equipment bags for the older ages and he will get information on those for the next meeting; Rodney G. brought up that fence posts need to be ordered also and they are \$13, Nancy N. will order these from the catalog; Paul K. brought up the fact that the City does not seem to be keeping up good with the maintenance of the fields, Nancy N. will be setting up a meeting between SAA and the City; Paul K. asked if we are interested in him purchasing one of those chalkers or not, there is concern that the wheels will not be good enough so we will hold of on it for now and Steve V. thinks we should make sure the one at City is not repairable first.

Treasurer – Phil M. passed out a preliminary budget for 2007 but there are still some numbers he needs to complete this, we probably have over \$60,000 in cash in all accounts at this time; Phil M. will be switching the accounting system to MYOB as he is more familiar with this and eventually he will show Nancy N. how to write checks off this system, hopefully we will be doing this by January 1 of next year.

Fundraising – Brian B. handed out a sample of the final fundraising card that is going out to the registrants, \$24,000 will be coming back into the association; Steve V. is reading every comment on the registration forms and only about 10 have complained about the additional cost for the fundraiser; the plus for SAA is that there is no cost for us to print the cards, they players will get 8 cards total including the 2 that are already paid for; Steve V. has sent an email to those that register online already - they can come get their packets during either of the last two walk in registrations.

Uniforms – discussed above

Photos – the Board members talked about the two presentations from the photographers given at the beginning of the meeting; Curtis M. commented that he compared the packet price on what he usually buys and Linhoff was less expensive; Steve V. pointed out that Sports Star is someone we are familiar with and many in the association may not like

us taking the risk of going with a company we are not familiar with again, Doug E. said that he liked that Sports Star mails them right to the coach, Phil M. suggests that Mark give a written proposal on the two to help us decide and also to have each company submit a written proposal, Steve V. will pass this information on to Mark S.

Operations Manager Report – N. Nelson

Verizon Wireless Account – Roger Hanson letter – Nancy N. informed the Board that she received a letter from Roger Hanson requesting that we reimburse him for some bills he has received and paid to Verizon Wireless, after some discussion about this it was decided that Nancy N. will write back to Roger asking him to send us specific bills for the Board to review.

Blaine Scholarship Program/St. Francis Graduation Party – both schools are asking for donations and it was decided to discuss both of these at the next meeting when we talk about fundraising more as these donations would be deducted from the fundraising dollars.

Acordia name change – Nancy N. reported that Acordia Insurance has changed its name to Wells Fargo Insurance Services.

Old Business

Registration 2007 – walk in registrations – there are two walk in registrations left and they should be pretty busy since this is the only way registrants can pay by check this year and those that have registered online may come to get their fundraising packets; for the February 24th registration we have Phil M., Brian B. (coming around 12:00pm), Terry S. Nancy N. and Steve V. (will be there part of the time) signed up to help that day; on February 27th we have Phil M., Marty T., Curtis M., Terry S., Nancy N. and possibly Dale B. signed up to be there. Nancy N. will send out a reminder before each date.

Outfield Advertising – Steve V. brought up that we have talked about advertising on the outfield fences at the complexes before, he is willing to get it going but someone else is going to have to commit to keeping up on it in the future, Brian B. brought up that we could consider having this as a paid position, the Board decided to discuss this subject at a later meeting.

Tournament Scheduling – this was discussed under traveling baseball

Volunteer fees – there are a lot of volunteer fees that have not been paid when people have registered online; we will have to decide how to get that fee from those that missed it.

Other

The next meeting is set for March 11, 2007 at 8:00pm.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Brian B, Paul K. seconded the motion, motion approved and meeting adjourned at 11:00pm.