

Bear River Little League Board Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2024, 5pm, via Zoom

- 1) Call to order / sign-in / thank you cards:
 - a) Call to order: 5:06pm.
 - b) Attending: Jenn Lukenbill, Eliza Schissel, Tara Zilch, Matt Zilch, Tony Ciafardoni, Lindsey Yurek, Gianna Cooley, Scott Parsons, Wendy StClair, Bob Sharpe, Brittany Duckett, Holly Williams, Rayna Hess, Chris Murtey, Mat Sena, Zac Quentmeyer, Rosa Corrales, Tony Talbott.
 - c) Thank you cards: Jenn has written card for chalk donation. Brittany will need to send cards to donors for end-of-season raffle items. Send card to Gabe for grilling at snack shack.

- 2) Review/vote in April minutes: Rayna motions, Tara seconds, none oppose, minutes pass.

- 3) Treasurer Report (Rayna): Have made \$3,600 - \$4,000 in payouts for umpires from snack shacks revenue; Rayna and Scott will compare to confirm all umpire payments are accounted for, so that snack shack revenues are accurately reflected. \$21,487.20 currently in account, of which \$13k has been allocated to finishing new fields. We had \$5,600 this time last year. Have received money from high school to cost-share servicing fees for portapotties. Snack shack profits are higher than last year. Feels comfortable going into slow period when payments go out but little revenue comes in. Rosa's snack shack numbers will improve once umpire payouts are properly credited as snack shack revenue. We have already spent much more money this year, with sizable one-time expenses to purchase 50/70 mound and build softball fields. Incredible that we are still in such a strong position after our spending.

- 4) Presidents Report
 - a) President's meeting: Tournament draw was in May. We are hosting Majors TOCs. Presidents and district reps get together and drop ping pong balls to determine which teams face off in first round. Tournament brackets are finalized and posted on our website. Our TOC teams will be the Juniors team, the 50/70 team, both Majors teams, and the Red Sox AAA team. For All Stars, we have put forward a Juniors team, Majors team (12U and younger), and Minors team (10U and younger). Jenn sent out email to everyone age-eligible to request who would like to play. There were not enough interested players to have 11U team. Players who are league age 11 are eligible to be chosen for 12U team. The only playoff team still undetermined is which Majors team will be "A team" and "B team" for Majors TOC tournament.
 - b) TOC Tournament: June 15-22, hosted at Bear River. Tara and Jenn will be co-directors. We have posted field prep/maintenance positions. Once those roles are filled, we will post all other volunteer roles. All Star players were just picked in last couple days. Within 24 hours, email will go out to All Star parents to tell them they will need to do two volunteer shifts at our tournament. Randy will announce every game except for one or two. Tara will announce those games. We can pay people to work snack shack.
 - c) Dugout: District asked us to patch the hole in the wooden wall on the side of the Majors visitors dugout, so that parents cannot talk to players or pass them things.

- d) RV: Brittany offered to lend her trailer so that the umpires can rest and eat in shade and privacy between games. The Schumachers lend their trailer every year, and we are so grateful, and this gives us the opportunity to give them the year off. We will need to schedule date/time for board members to decorate field, put up shade tarps, and assemble misters. Board selected Thursday, 6/13 at 5:30pm. Tara and Jenn will go through supplies in advance and order anything needed.
- e) Closing Ceremonies: Low key. BBQ (Free meal for every family member of player, to include hamburger or hotdog, chips, drink), raffle (drawn around 2pm—do not need to be present to win), ball games all day long. Ballots available for next year's board. Parents submit completed ballot and receive tickets for meal, to be redeemed at snack shack. Suggestion to rename "Closing Day" so that parents don't expect a ceremony.
- f) Things to Vote on: Gift cards: We send gift cards each year to Josh VanMatre (President of NCLL, who does baseball game scheduling) and Jaime Baldwin (President of Auburn LL, who does softball game scheduling for AA and up). Motion to send \$250 Costco give gift card to Gabe (for grilling at snack shack) and \$100 gift cards (Visa or Amazon) to Josh and Jaime: Matt motions, Chris seconds, none oppose, motion passes.
- g) Upcoming Calendar Items:
 - a) Baseball TOC Majors Tournament: 6/15 - 6/22.
 - b) Date to decorate for tournament: Thursday, 6/13, 5:30pm.
 - c) June Board meeting: 6/30, 4pm, Trailblazers. Tentative due to All Stars.

5) Softball Update (Lindsay): Lindsay is spearheading softball tournaments. Waiting to learn dates of tournaments. We are supposed to host majors TOCs and 10U All Stars. Jaime contacted Jenn to ask if we would consider including all 4 AAA teams (BR and Auburn) for TOC tournament. Jenn said yes. Lindsay thinks the other BR team wouldn't be able to field a team for it. (Coach Alisha is leaving town in June and her daughter cannot participate.) Lindsay is concerned we are running out of time to plan, and that four teams would make longer tournament that would run into the next softball tournament we are hosting.

6) Coaching Coordinator (Tara): Tara expressed concern about a team manager allegedly not vacating the field and dugout soon enough after their game had ended. Eliza offered a differing account of the incident.

7) Fundraising (Brittany): We made \$950 at the Trailblazers event. Talked to Rayna about doing off-season fundraisers. Has all the raffle prizes needed for Closing Day. People may turn in raffle tickets in advance to snack shack. Tony and Tyler secured dunk tank for Closing Day; looking for coaches willing to get dunked. Tony and Charlie won the poll to get pied-in-the-face. (We may reopen poll during Closing Day.) Rayna asked that we convey to anyone paying with Venmo to indicate what they are purchasing (snack shack, spirit wear, dunk tank, etc.).

8) Facilities:

- a) New Fields update (Tony): Andrew put dirt on field, cut other one and put dirt on it, should have fencing and bases for softball installed before school year starts. Farm field should be cut by then but no bases will be set by then. Will get visitors dugout hole repaired before tournament.
- b) Portapotties (Bob): Ordered handicapped portapotty with wash station. Will increase cleaning frequency and waste management pickup for tournament.

- c) Bathroom (Tony): Working with Rusty on possibly getting trailer bathrooms above basketball courts. Would tie directly into sewer for tournament. Bathrooms would have AC, sinks.

9) Snack Shack (Rosa): Finishing menu for baseball TOC tournament. Very often volunteers who have signed up don't show. Ali and Rosa's daughter are helping and filling in.

10) Volunteer/Membership: Megan (not present) sent update: Snack shack shifts for Closing Day are posted to website. Jenn and Megan worked to identify which adults are parents of which children (if last names differ) so that volunteer hours can be credited to player's family. We expect to make fewer mistakes while cashing volunteer checks this year. We have verified volunteers in team roles with managers (scorekeepers, pitch count, etc.).

11) Player Agent: Charlie absent. No update.

12) Directors: No update from division directors.

13) UIC (Scott): Been a great season. Tony C. thanked Bob for training and scheduling plate umpires for AA games. We will plan to increase to two umpires at AA games next year. There was only one AAA game this season that was not fully covered with multiple umpires. Great success in recruiting and scheduling volunteers.

14) Safety (Jim): Jenn indicated that there was a recent head injury, and she will follow up with family. Not a single other injury report this year.

15) Equipment (Matt): Thinks there is enough chalk for tournament because we just got a big shipment.

16) Open issues

- a) Open positions for next year: Player Agent, Snack Shack, Volunteer, Uniforms, Secretary. Beginning last year, we are listing names on ballot without roles. Membership votes to elect people, but not the positions they will serve. Next year's elected board will vote people into specific positions. We are seeking new board members.
- b) 50/70 mound (Zac): Zac expressed concern that we are claiming to save money for a bathroom but keep spending money elsewhere, and that a \$5,000 intermediate mound was purchased without the board's consent. Recalls that the last time the board discussed, we decided not to buy it. Jenn indicated that snack shack and score shed will be one double-decker building and will go forward. Bathroom is unlikely to go forward in near term. Tony said he applied for a grant to have school build bathroom. We will know in November what funds school will receive, and if we will move forward with our building, or with school's new bathroom.

17) Adjournment: 6:38pm.