



Board Meeting

January 3, 2017

Board Members Present: Fred Clarke, Larry Holden, Paul Santulli, Tim Chin, Lu Zhang, Michael Edwards, Mike Garret, Eric Lee, Kurt Fluegge, Steve Wilkos, Alan Wittman, Lucy Regan, Kevin Regan, Peter Koo, Chris Freer, Ryan Mullenix, Elisabeth Carroll

Meeting Start Time: 8:01 pm **Meeting End Time:** 8:58 pm

Financial Report : Some adjustments were made to reflect projected costs for the softball pitching clinic and winter training. Fundraising income was included. The budget was approved.

Board of Directors – open positions

- Sponsorships: Our biggest need is someone to fill this role. Board members should consider helping with this instead of their current position. Sponsors are lined up, but we need a contact to facilitate the donations. No experience is necessary, please help.
- We also need a Majors VP and Training/Evaluations VP. Steve plans to move to Indiana at the end of the year and will leave a vacancy for an A/AA VP.
- Ideal candidates will have a player at the AA level or be able to serve three years in a new position.

2017 Items to Address

- **Registration:** We have 174 players registered, less than at this time last year. We will remind families that the discount is ending and evaluations are coming. This year we were late putting out signs, but noticed an immediate impact on registration right after they were distributed. We need to focus signs in the Puesta and Newcastle neighborhoods. Our last two Facebook posts have hit 1.200 people. We want to keep this going. Any of us who are on a neighborhood messaging group should put out a plug for Thunderbird at least once.
- **Marketing:** We need to focus on t-ball A and AA. Last year we merged two levels into Rookies and we would prefer not to do this again.
- **Winter training** will be from 5:00-9:00 pm. (5-6 pm A/AA, 6-7:30 AAA and Coast, 7:30-9 12 year olds.) Fred will be at the front of Stods checking players in. We will rotate to each be in charge of a night since there isn't one person to head it up.

Leader Schedule: Jan 7: Steve, Jan 14: Alan, Jan 21: Mike, Feb 4: Alan, Feb 11: Steve. Note: Additional help will be available from Alan and Kurt on most

Sundays. Larry will reach out to a contact for winter training volunteers. Mark Linden will NOT be at winter training since we didn't budget for his fee.

- **Evaluations** – Paul would like anyone available to help on January 28th from 8am – noon. We need people at stations and at the front desk checking players in. In the past we used electronic scoring. Michael can get the login information and arrange to have documents collated. The high school will provide 12 volunteers for evaluations. Feb 3rd will be make-ups
- **Team selection nights:** Majors: February 8, Coast: February 9, AAA: February 12. Fred's house is perfect since he bought a cord to plug his computer into his TV. Before we put teams together, we need information from last year's coaches. VPs should collect the coach evaluations of last year's kids.
- Majors coaches from last year should reach out to their 12 year old players individually to suggest that they register for intermediate teams. It is important to connect with each family to recommend this. We would like to get at least one team together. Conversation about whether or not this would hurt a player's all-star eligibility... A player could play in both groups to meet the minimum requirements. Intermediates is lots of fun and can be relaxed and casual. We could register players into a pool and rotate them in and out between two teams. This would be a good value and shouldn't conflict with the select schedule.
- **Equipment:** We will purchase at least one "team bat" for each A/AA/AAA team. Families that don't want to purchase one can have their player share. Larry will send out a message that tells families about the new bat rules. Old bats must not be used.

Alan will order USA aluminum bats so that each coach at the levels mentioned above will have one for their bag. He ordered balls and didn't need as many as last year. Alan will take inventory and invite coaches to either keep their bags or return them.

The storage unit place now closes at 6pm. We might have to pull out some boxes of balls and keep them in our garages.

We need to organize a "getting the chalk day" with five or six people to pick up 1200 pounds of chalk. Michael will offer use of his Suburban and we can store it at Puesta and the other places we keep it. March might be a good time to schedule this. We should get the kind that soaks up the water.

Ball pitch machines need recalibration down to the correct level for A/AA. They are in rough shape so new springs were ordered. We need to have a machine repair party.

- **Fields:** Question – the great field at Lake Hills Park (next to the one we used) seemed unused last year. Could we reserve it for Coast and AAA? Lu will check.

Michael reported that the city is not interested in putting posts in the outfield. They put in the posts at Hidden Valley just because it is a championship quality field. The school district isn't moving forward to put posts in either. We will need to put cones at the 200 foot marker.

Questions: There was a fence last year that is now missing. Maybe it is with some segments behind the sheds at Puesta? Does anyone know how to use small gas engines? We need someone to help us with some equipment in the shed at Puesta.

- **Safety Clinic:** Ryan is having a hard time finding a venue. Brainstorming... Maybe we could meet at the YMCA, the Church, the Newcastle library, Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle Elementary, or meeting room at the Newport Way library? The clinic has always been the first Saturday of March. It is nice to get an EMT to come in for the first aid training and someone from Peak Sports and Spine. The training was great last year.
- **Opening Day** is planned to be the same Saturday as in past years. We need someone to reach out to contacts on the baseball/softball sides to confirm that there aren't any conflicts. Chris will book the facility.
- **2017-2018 Calendar**
 - Board Meetings – first Wednesday each month (Room 1113, NHS, 8pm)