



Board Meeting

May 2, 2018

Board Members Present: Fred Clarke, Michael Edwards, Lucy Campbell, Larry Holden, Tim Chin, Cesar Garcia, Lu Zhang, Kevin Regan, Eric Lee, Alan Wittman, Elisabeth Carroll

Meeting Start Time: 8:07

Meeting End Time: 9:10

Financial Report

- Revenue and expenses were both down slightly. We would like to break even for the year, but had a \$20,000 decline in registration income. At the end of the season when field fees come in, we will have a better understanding of how things look.
- Uniforms: We have most of the invoices and may be a little under budget after all-star uniforms are accounted for.
- Opening Day: Some families didn't purchase raffle tickets. This could be because raffle tickets were pre-paid and there wasn't a push to sell them. In addition, there weren't many responsibilities for "Opening Day" coordinators on each team so this role may have been unfilled. We should consider the decline in ticket sales next year when we make plans. Income from Jimmy Johns and photography is still unknown.
- Storage: Michael successfully negotiated to keep our monthly rate the same instead of a \$75/month increase. We haven't moved forward on switching units yet since we still need a big one.
- We need to get our tax form in to D-9. Michael will scan it and send it in directly to Bob.

2018 Items to Address

- **Board of Directors – open positions**
 - Uniforms
 - VP Majors
 - Next year we will need a new President, Treasurer, Coast VP, and Softball VP.
 - Ideal candidates for our open positions will be parents with young players.
 - Sponsorships VP: Lucy Campbell was approved to fill this vacancy. She is a smart, fun t-ball parent with experience and connections.

- **Baseball playoffs**
 - AAA, Coast, Majors levels will begin the week of May 14 . Details were discussed to make things as fair as possible and utilize as many volunteer umpires as we can. Scheduling is tricky with the goal of finishing AAA, Coast, and Majors tournaments prior to Memorial Day.
 - City Tournament: We will be working with Bellevue West and Mercer Island on dates and determine who is hosting each level. May 28th is a possible start date. We would prefer to host AAA teams and could possibly schedule games at Robinswood and Lewis Creek. Fred will send out more info when he has it. Fields are always the tightest in the first few rounds. We will buy four sets of trophies. We need to provide umpires for the tournament that we are hosting.

- **All Stars**
 - Teams: We will have teams for 10s, 11s, 12s. Our Junior Team will be joint with Bellevue West. Discussion about coaches who may/may not be available.
 - If we don't have enough players, we could consider pairing with another league/applying for a waiver from the division. Kevin will try to figure out who is going to coach so we can make a plan and submit it to the district. Questions: Does Bellevue East have their own team? What combinations would make sense? (We can only have a maximum of three.) Should we consider an East/West/Thunderbird combination team? Kevin will reach out to help find a coach.
 - Softball – Discussion about 10s, 11s, 12s combining with Bellevue East... We may be able to have a stand-alone team at majors, but need coaches. We have one junior's team with 18 girls. We will find out more after some more communication happens.
 - Coach Selection: Fred and Eric will reach out to solicit nominations. Michael will help facilitate majors nominations. Managers may give input about their assistant coaches, but the board will ratify decisions. Coaches do not have to have a player on the All-star team. The board will review nominations and approve coaches.
 - Pool Selection: Fred will talk to Peter and separate players into age groups for 10s, 11s, and 12s. Twelve players from EACH age group can be nominated. Our numbers are low at 11s. If a strong player would be a "significant contributor" to an older team, they may be considered to play up. We will try to announce the pool at midnight on June 1. Tryouts will happen over the next two days, then teams will be announced and practices can start.

- **Fields** – We need fields Mondays-Saturdays throughout June. Lu will work on this.
 - Juniors Softball: We are responsible for hosting this tournament this year. The varsity softball and Tyee fields will be our best bets. If we need fencing, the funky pieces may have ended up under the football bleachers at Newport High.
 - D-9 has been asking if we have fields. In the beginning of the tournament, we will need two, and then we will only need one for most of the tournament. Lu doesn't think more fields will be available than in the past. We should look at working with

Bellevue East to share fields. It would be great to use the Big Picture School and Multi-use field at Tye.

- **All Star Uniforms:** The uniforms are the vests. Parents could purchase jerseys for the whole team, but only if everyone chips in and covers expenses for players who need financial help. Thunderbird doesn't have a budget for this. Each kid gets a t-shirt, hat, and Fred will order patches.

Other Business

- **Equity:** Teams seem to be doing a nice job rotating players and making sure that all kids have had a chance playing a variety of positions and at least two chances to pitch by this point in the season.
- **Following Safety Rules:** Safety rules require coaches to NOT warm up pitchers. Every coach is aware of this. Violations should be written up by the umpire and submitted to the president. We can provide suggestions/reminders to coaches:
 - The right fielder could warm up the pitcher while wearing a mask/helmet. This is a good choice because it gives the outfield player a chance to have fun and complies with safety rules.
 - Catchers must wear catcher's gloves.
 - Neck protectors must be worn. (More are needed to store in the green boxes, Ryan can order them).
- **Substitute Players:** Our local rules say that subs may not play in another game on the same day. Sometimes we need substitutes because many players are not available.

We would like to consider amending our rule to allow players to participate in two games on the same day, while respecting pitching limits. Idea: "If you have pitched over 40 pitches on a day, then you could not be a catcher on the same day." When subs come in, there would need to be communication between both coaches. This would be hard to monitor though... Another idea: "If a player plays in two games on the same day, they may NOT pitch or catch on the substitute team."

Changing the rule is an operations manual item. Perhaps it may not be changed mid-year? Larry will look into it and rewrite it if that is an option. We will continue to review this and make a decision.

2017-2018 Calendar

- **Board Meetings** – first Wednesday each month (Room 1113, NHS, 8pm)