

EVAA Traveling Baseball Board
April 11, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Present: Dean Stockwell, Amy Conway, Jan Birkenholz, Lori Zurich, Eric Wilson, Sherrie Engst, Chris Hovde, Jeff Boraas, Chad Lindstrom, John Hartig, David Yung, Chris Selchow, Chris Tollefson, Mike Casey, Tim Brunner

Absent: Jill Peterson, Tom Strey, Vince Terlizzi

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

March 14, 2011, meeting minutes approved with the addition of noting that Tim Brunner was present at the March 14 meeting.

Budget/Financial: Coaches payments, volunteer fees, and uniform payments are nearly finalized. Working on collecting team tournament registration fees.

Concessions: Concern about rising food costs. We may need to raise prices to offset rising costs. Sherrie will also coordinate any donations.

Coach Selection: David reported that all the coaches' positions are filled. Dean is still finalizing the paid coaches' contracts.

On behalf of EVAA Traveling Baseball, Vince applied for the Twins Community Fund Grant to help with coaching fees. We will hear by April 30th as to whether or not we will receive a grant.

This year, for the first time ever, we have two 14AA teams (Black and Blue). The 14AA Black team has a paid coach. The Board approved a \$500 payment to 14AA Blue for either a coaches' fee or player development to be used in accordance with our policy. If we receive the Twins Community Fund grant, up to an additional \$1,000 will be given to 14AA Blue as a coach/development fee. The total reimbursement will be no more than \$1,500. This additional payment is considered a one-time exception.

Tryouts: The March 17th parent meeting went well; good attendance.

The Board discussed feedback/comments from tryouts. Suggestions include identifying the starting time for the base running and to close tryouts. (Rosemount and Eagan have closed tryouts, stating that it is to reduce the kids' anxiety.) In addition, a suggestion was made to establish written criteria that evaluators/provisional coaches use to score kids. The Tryout Committee will meet to review the suggestions.

The Board discussed implementing a 24-hour rule following Team Selection. Specifically, no phone call or email will be returned and/or read when received within 24 hours following team selection posting. Other associations, e.g., Rosemount, use this rule

with Team Selection. We use a 24-hour rule for game situations. This approach will also be discussed during a Tryout Committee meeting.

We last did a parent survey in 2008. Dean offered to update the survey. The Board approved sending out another survey this year, perhaps with the end-of-year parent survey.

Team Selection process review: One of the comments raised: if teams do not have coaches available at Team Selection, is there limited opportunity to change the kids? (answer was that the two provisional coaches and the Team Selection Committee review the remaining list of kids to see if any warrant discussion for a potential change). Do we have multiple provisional coaches? Will need to discuss again this fall.

2012 Schedule: 2012 St Olaf spring break is March 19-23. District 196's spring break is March 26-30. We can't try out March 17-18, due to a St. Olaf track meet. Options include tryouts during weeknights or alternative sites. The Board approved that we will have 2012 tryouts at St. Olaf on Friday/Saturday, March 23/24, or Saturday/Sunday (March 24/25), depending upon facility availability. Team Selection will be held on Sunday, March 25th. After we confirm the facility availability, Dean will send a broadcast email.

Clinic/Cooperstown: Tim will take over the chair for the Clinic.

The Board continued to discuss the cost increase for renting the Dome this year. Dean will continue to discuss our options with the Dome management (e.g., if there are options with ½ the facility). In addition, Dean will poll the 11s and 12s group to understand their interest in continuing to support the Clinic.

Another option could be to return to the high school for player development clinics.

Logo Wear/Uniforms: Uniform fitting nights occurred last week.

Online ordering is in process. Dean will send a broadcast email to remind parents that the online ordering is open until April 18th.

Equipment: Chris is waiting for fields to be available before stocking the equipment boxes.

Dean sent out the Rental Equipment rate list to the other associations.

The girls' softball team has requested the use of our fences for May 21-22 and July 16 – an email was sent to VAA to determine if they plan to use the fences during these timeframes (no response).

Handbook: No update.

Umpires: No update.

League Scheduling/Fields: MBL game scheduling will be held on Saturday, April 16th. David still looking for a few volunteers from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at EVHS.

We will hold our practice scheduling on Monday, April 18th, from 6 – 9:30 p.m. at AVCC.

The City is considering taking 2 fields and re-purposing them for lacrosse, and provide us with Redwood fields. This reduction will significantly limit our ability to schedule our required home games. Dean will talk with Scott Breuer and Scott Selby.

Coaches' Meeting on April 5th: All coaches agreed that they would like the Board to register all teams for 3 tournaments. For next year, the Board will take on the tournament registrations and take this burden off the coaches.

State Tournament: Chris H. reminded all Board members that we are all required to work for both the State Tournament and the August Classic.

Registration: We have a total of 252 players in this year's program:

9-10s	48
11s	49
12s	48
13s	35
14s	36 + 7
15s	24 + 5
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	252

Based upon the tryout numbers, the Team Selection committee slightly altered the makeup of the 14/15A team from what was discussed during the March Meeting. Rather than first looking to fill a 14/15A team of 15 year olds first, after consultation with the 15 year old provisional coaches, the Team Selection Committee determined that the significant spread in evaluation points warranted keeping 7 - 14s and 5 - 15s, thereby cutting 3 - 14s and 5 - 15s.

Data Evaluation: Dean will send the anonymized data to Eric for analysis.

Outgoing Board Members: At this time, both Mike Casey and Tom Strey have indicated that this will be their last year on the Board. There may be others so please make good potential candidates aware of the opportunity.

Next Board meeting on Monday, May 9th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.