

## Board Meeting Attendees & Special Guests

AABA Board Member Participants:	
Jerrod Hammerback	President (Absent)
Bob Booth	Treasurer (Present)
Steve Radke	(Absent)
Christy Caspers	(Present)
Brain Stockert	(Present)

AABA Board Member Participants:	
Robert Davis	(Present)
Mike Lucas	(Present)
Larry Novotny	(Present)
David Setterstrom	(Present)

Special Guests:	
Mark Ripley	Select Digital Memories & Consultant
Kerry Donley	Lake Country Sports & Lettering
JR Richardson	Lake Country Sports & Lettering
Cletis Vickstrom	Cowing Robards
Becky Galligan	Bold Fusion
Greg Galligan	Bold Fusion
Stacy Nathan	Eko Backen
Kodi Herman	Eko Backen

### 6:30 PM: Call to Order

1. Introductions of newly appointed board members not available to participate at previous meeting (Larry Novotny & David Setterstrom).
2. Reviewed vendor presentation scheduled time slots.
  - 6:30 PM: Presentations from **Lake Country Sports & Lettering**.
  - 7:20 PM: Presentations from **Cowing Robards**.
  - 8:00 PM: Presentations from **Bold Fusion**.
  - 8:40 PM: Presentations from **Eko Backen**
3. Mark Ripley updated board on the status of his activities & action items.
  - Registrations letters have been sent to potential players.
  - Website has been updated (including the 2009 registration form).
  - DMS media center has been reserved for April 7<sup>th</sup> (parent meeting, registration begins).
  - DMS softball complex has been reserved for April 18<sup>th</sup> (Beetle & Minor team try outs).
  - Waiting on details regarding updated board positions & responsibilities.
  - Waiting on details regarding updated league rules
  - Inquired about policy to be posted regarding rostered players wishing to reenter the draft.
  - Inquired about scholarship funding availability and the policy to be posted reflecting this.

4. **Discussion Topic:** Rostered Player Redraft Requests:

Mark Ripley mentioned that he did receive an enquiry regarding a player wishing to reenter the draft. Thoughts & comments were shared as to why this would be deemed appropriate or inappropriate.

**Decision:** A redraft policy would be prudent to have posted on the website. Eligibility of rostered players to reenter the draft would require the situation to be reviewed and approved by board members on a case-by-case scenario. Christy Caspers to submit an initial statement for consideration to be posted on the website (see A2).

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5. **Discussion Topic:** Scholarship Availability and Player Eligibility Considerations:

Unanimous agreement that kids should not be prevented from participating in the league due to financial hardships facing the family. However, the reality is that a limited amount of funds are available to award as scholarships. Options offered for consideration included full & partial scholarships based on actual needs as well as the possibility of the league to offer a payment plan.

**Decision:** Bob Booth to review current financial records to provide feedback as to what can be made available. Topic to be further discussed prior to posting a policy to the website (See A3).

6. **Discussion Topic:** Sponsors and Potential Fund Raisers:

Previous approaches to generating addition funding for the program were discussed. We reviewed practices from previous years involving the use of sponsors and the resulted benefits to both the donor & the league. Thoughts & comments were shared regarding fundraisers. One idea was to offer something that may interest both the players as well as their families. The idea revolved around having the league logos (the teams) provided on clothing and made available for purchase through a participating vendor with proceeds returning to the league for future funding needs.

**Decision:** Bob Booth to review past sponsors & donors to the league and Topic to be further discussed at next board meeting (See A4).

7. **Discussion Topic:** Status of Existing Equipment and Uniforms:

League currently looking to replace at least (Qty 4) sets of uniforms (Qty 2) in the Beetle league & (Qty 2) in the Minor League). It was estimated that this would require (Qty 52, (12 players x 4 teams + 1 spare each)) uniform shirts to be purchased from a to be determined vendor. Status of equipment bags & storage bins were also discussed.

Cletis Vickstrom (Cowing Robards) mentioned that the status of the Dragons as a Minor league team has come into question. Mentioned due the discontinuation and unknown availability of the current Dragons baseball hats (See A5).

**Decision:** Robert Davis will verify the condition of the Dragon uniforms (See A6).

**Decision:** Robert Davis to bring samples of uniforms (Husky's, Blue Thunder & Bees) to review with the board representing a sample of some of the previously provided items from select vendors (See A7).

**Decision:** Robert Davis will review & comment on the condition of our equipment bags (See A8).

8. **Discussion Topic:** Electronic Registrations:

Benefits and costing to the league regarding the implementation of an electronic registration were discussed.

**Decision:** Board members voted and elected to not implement an electronic registration process for this season.

9. **Discussion Topic:** Board Member Assignments & League VP's:

League VP's were assigned and addition members were tasked with projects.

**Decision:** League VP's to be a shared resource and assigned as follows:

**Beetle League VP's:** Steve Radke & Larry Novotny.

**Minor League VP's:** Robert Davis & Mike Lucas.

**Major League VP's:** Brain Stockert & David Setterstrom.

**Decision:** All VP's to be responsible for released equipment. Robert Davis to continue to oversee this area.

**Decision:** Christy Caspers to be the go to person regarding the drafting of any league related letters or special documentation.

**Decision:** David Setterstrom w/assistance from Christy Caspers to be the go to person regarding the drafting and submitting of meeting minutes.

**Decision:** David Setterstrom to take a first pass at reformatting the Beetle & Minor league rules (See A9).

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10. **Discussion Topic:** Grounds Maintenance:

Mike Kluver has elected to pass this years responsibility of maintaining the fields to any other interested party. Two willing individuals have offered to take on this responsibility. Mr. Billy Krivanek and Mr. Steve Radke. Board members offered opinions and character references of both individuals (all of which were extremely positive).

**Decision:** A vote was taken to get a general consensus as to which candidate should be approached first for additional discussions & commitments. Bob Booth will update Jarrod with the consensus of the board and ask Jarrod to follow up with the candidates regarding a decision (See A10).

11. **Discussion Topic:** Potential Coaches:

It was agreed that a list of all the potential coaches (focusing on the teams that will need coaches for teams with exiting & incoming players) as well as a list of their support staff.

**Decision:** A list of current & potential coaches and their assistants to be generated. The list to be reviewed at future board meeting and assign someone to contact individuals for feedback (See A11).

**Decision:** Follow up required confirming the commitments from previous coaches and their supporting staff.

12. **Discussion Topic:** Focus Groups:

An idea was shared regarding the approach of using focus groups to evaluate, provide opinions and possibly even provide feedback on select items such as style of awards to be issued. An example was offered such as involving a group of kids to provide feedback on the color & graphics for the division & league championship shirts as well as the league championship medals.

**Decision:** Idea has merit and was worth adding as an agenda item for further discussions (see A12).

## Next Meeting Schedule & Action Items:

Comments & thoughts regarding the presentations from visiting vendors were shared. Unanimous agreement regarding the professionalism, presentation packages and scope of work each vendor was willing to provide. Board members were also impressed with each vendor's willingness to work closely (partner) with the league to make this a positive and memorable experience for the kids. However, the costing, quality and service (timeliness, and willingness to partner with the league through both the ups and downs) need to be fully evaluated

**Decision:** Agenda item for next board meeting. The review of vendor proposals & the awarding of the bids to participating vendors for the league uniforms, caps, awards & other league needs (see A1).

**Decision:** Next Board meeting targeted for March 24<sup>th</sup> 2009. Jarrod to confirm time & location.

Board Action Items:		DUE DATE	√
A1	Review & awarding of bids to vendors for the league uniforms, caps, awards & other league needs	3/24/09	
A2	Christy Caspers to submit an initial statement regarding the league policy on rostered players eligibility to reenter the draft.	3/24/09	
A3	Bob Booth to review current financial records and propose available funding for to support a scholarship program.	3/24/09	
A4	Bob Booth to review & document past & present sponsors & donors to the league.	TBD	
A5	Verify status of the Dragons as a valid Minor league team (and their logo).	TBD	
A6	Robert Davis will verify the condition of the Dragon uniforms.	3/24/09	
A7	Robert Davis to bring samples of uniforms (Husky's, Blue Thunder & Bees) to next meeting.	3/24/09	
A8	Robert Davis will review & comment on the condition of our equipment bags.	3/24/09	
A9	David Setterstrom to take the first pass at the reformatting of the Beetle & Minor league rules. Updated documents to be submitted for approvals prior to being posted to website.	3/24/09	
A10	Jerrod Hammerback to follow-up with additional discussions & commitments with our candidates for this years grounds keeping responsibilities.	TBD	
A11	Generate a list of all the potential coaches and their supporting staff.	TBD	
A12	Agenda item. Generation of a focus group to evaluate, provide opinions on select items.	TBD	

9:00 PM: Meeting Adjourned.