

Minutes from Irondale Girls Fastpitch Association Meeting

Monday, June 23rd, 2008

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Dooley	<input type="checkbox"/> Jane Norgren	Parent Representatives
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Bergman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Pate	<input type="checkbox"/> Randy Kapelke
<input type="checkbox"/> Wally Eshenaur	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collette Pitzen	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Hauble	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dean Samuelson	
<input type="checkbox"/> Melinda Johnson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wayne Spiering	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Krummel	Guests:	

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved

Financial Update

- Dean submitted a financial report for the records. Current checkbook balance is estimated to be \$6,308.50. There are a few minimal outstanding items (Returned/ new tournament fees, PO Box fees, potentially additional \$500 for umpire fees) but no outstanding bills.
- Additional expense noted; notified by suburban league that there will be an \$80.00 gate fee per team.

Old Business

1. Refund of registration fees/ Team formation

- Members reviewed all five written requests for refund of registration fees including reasons why player quit the team.
- Team size continues to be an issue. Some issues/ feelings/ suggestions were not brought to the director's attention until after the decision was made to leave the team. Perceptions by parents of discussions occurring between MVA and IGFA were not necessarily accurate and neither association wanted to give up players. Board desires to provide the opportunity for girls to play and improve but needs to be mindful of team size
- Suggestion was made as a way to deal with the issue of team size in the future:
 - Have try-outs for all teams regardless of how many girls register
 - Team size limited to 12, 13 at the most
 - Refunds only to players who don't make the team, no exceptions
- Members voted to do a one-time refund to these five players. Collette will communicate with parents and provide contact information to Dean so a check can be mailed. Total cost is \$775.00.
- Agreed to firm up registration processes and add "No Refunds" to the registration form

Action: Agreed to a one-time refund for five players totaling \$775.00. Will include language into the registrations form and registration processes to indicate that refunds will only occur if the player does not make the team.

2. Fundraising

- Gift cards for Timber Lodge, Majors. Dropped for now as Champs is not available. Suggested that Scrip (high school is doing this) might be a better option for fundraising.
- Twins Play Ball. Need 8 – 25 people to sell programs (magazines?) and scorecards for \$2 each, our association would receive \$0.50 per item sold. Kids and parents can work, there is no age limit, but would need enough adults to properly supervise. No more than 25 individuals. Workers would need to arrive to sell two hours prior to the start of the game, no selling after the game starts and workers get to see the game for free! Games are still

available for August and September. Chuck and Collette will work together to pick some dates and then send out an email to all asking for interest, a coordinator. Thoughts are that the first 25 people responding will get to go. Think that the pre-game selling and the free ball game would be a good social outing.

- July meat raffle was successful. Need to formally request a donation from Tri-City in order to receive money.

3. Team Pictures

- Unable to coordinate for this year, can think about doing for next year. The group is called Star Action Photography. There are no up front costs for the association and the group gives us 10% of the dollars collected as a fundraiser.

New Business

1. Use of Irondale fields for practice/ Community Education

- Bill, Wayne and Doug Austin (Athletic Director at Irondale) met with Nick Tamali from Community Education in regards to the new hourly charges for use of the fields. It is felt very strongly by board members and others that our fastpitch teams should not have to pay to use the fields that were built from fundraising money from the association and boosters. Nick is amenable to us continuing to use the fields free of charge on the condition that during the summer season, the association is fully responsible for maintaining the fields. Nick Tamali/ Community Ed wants this agreement in writing.

Action: Wayne and Bill in conjunction with Coach Melinda will compose a document.

- Discussion of the potential someday for a sports complex; land in Mounds View and New Brighton is a barrier.

2. Fall Ball

- Registration deadline is August 1st, Play begins August 17th
- Need to create a flyer and communicate to coaches – Wayne volunteered to do this and get a flyer to Mary Krummel to post on the website.
- Information can be posted on the website and the summer registration form can be modified for use in the fall. The 10Us are expressing interest in a fall team.

3. MN Irish

- Requested the use of our varsity field for a game with a Duluth team (so as not to drive so far) on July 7th. This use was deemed reasonable.

4. Future Meetings

- Decided that we need to meet in July and August to plan for the fall league teams, take a break for September and October, and begin meeting again in November.
- Email lists to go out to all board members

5. Equipment

- Purchased three xtra-small helmets for the 10U team
- Need to conduct an inventory of all our equipment (and write it down)
- Storage: Bill says he has very little left ... but where will equipment be stored in the off season?

6. End of Year Survey

- A suggestion was made; there was a good survey for Irondale Youth Hockey Association. [Collette checked out on their website --- is currently not available] Jim volunteered to work on/ look for a survey.

7. Still need to do/ Items for Future

- Pitching/ Hitting Clinics
- Items for follow-up with Coach Johnson
 - Pitching/ Hitting Clinics
 - Conduct a Saturday clinic for younger players and Varsity players helping
 - Written drills for coaches
- Team Pictures ??
- Evaluation forms for families to give feedback about the season
- Have a monthly planning document
- Purchase school mailing lists for recruiting players
- Mission statement
- History of organization
- Make sure all contacts changed for community ed resource books
- Make sure contacts changed for suburban league, FastSports, etc
- Federal Tax ID for non-profits
- Registration form/process needs to address refunds of registration fees.
- Registration on line with Pay-Pal (?)

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm