

April 15, 2007

## Baseball Meeting Minutes

### Attendance-

Ron Ehley  
Gwen Eglund  
Steve AJ Foyt  
Bill Korlath  
Don Connelly  
Shane Martin  
Dean Kossila  
Nancy Fordahl  
Kathy St. Marie  
Rob Bonneau  
Terry Bye  
Chris Riley  
Tom Cameron  
Dave Jopp  
Rich Evans  
Scott Sorrenson  
Heidi Olerich

## ASSOCIATION & MINORS LEAGUE

This will be the first year that Zimmerman Baseball Teams play only against each other. We will still play against Elk River ( who said we could host one of the tournaments, either minors or association) during the mid-season tournament on June 9 & 10th for both minors and association teams and then again for the end of the season playoffs for association teams on July 13-15.

Registration results...74 players for association and 61 players for minors. Association will have 6 teams with 12-13 kids on a team and Minors will have 5 teams with about 13 kids on a team.

Coaches will be notified and will plan to meet in the next couple of weeks to form their teams.

It was talked about having all association teams use the pitching machine until the mid-season tournament and then have players to start pitching in games. Meanwhile have teams to develop pitchers from the start of the season.

Need to double check with Elk River to make sure they are still using the pitching machine during the mid-season tournament games (most likely they will due to time issues).

## UNIFORMS

Bill is working on travel team uniforms. 7 travel teams this year. We will use the old inventory we have for practice games and update what we need. Younger teams start earlier and will need uniforms first.

## ZAYAA ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

May 19-21

11A & 12A from Big Lake has signed up, we expect to hear from more teams now with the warmer weather. 4-6 teams, round robin or break into 2 teams with the winner of each team playing each other.

Concessions, Smith's will do the same as last year. There is quite a bit of money to be made from the concession stands, just keep it simple.

It would be best to keep inventory for concessions instead of using tickets.

We will use two of the grass fields at the high school for the older kids games and the school is in charge of taking care of the fields.

## TOWNSHIP PARK BOARD MEETING

Meeting held tomorrow night, April 16th at 7pm.

Would be nice to show support for Mike Kerr who is in favor of putting a small field in at the township for minors

and association teams.

Randy Johnson field being used for t-ball and soccer, Thursday nights reserved for softball, youth slow-pitch. We have used that field for the last 2yrs.

Terry will talk with Pauline and hopefully change it back so we will once again have that field to use.

We do not have enough fields period. Hopefully, we will be able to sell the idea of more ballfields tomorrow night instead of prairie fields.

Full Township Board Meeting on 4/23

#### TRYOUT AND CLINIC RECAP

We made \$2705.00

All travel teams have been decided upon.

#### PLAYING TIME RULES RE TRAVEL

We now have Shane on board as coach coordinator to help with any issues between players/parents/coaches. League rules states that every player to play in the field for min. of 2 innings. and every player sits out 1 inning in a game.

Most players have 2 positions they play. One issue was that some players never sit out. Coaches need to decide their line-up and to develop players.

As a league we want coaches to keep a sit-out schedule, so we can have a record if any issues come up during the season. It is harder to have pitchers and catchers sit out because we have less players in that position.

A question brought up was...what do you do with kids who don't show up for practice? We shouldn't punish players if there parents don't bring them to practice. We should talk with the players and there parents and maybe figure out a solution if there is that problem. Also, maybe Shane can help, coaches can go to him and he can act as a mediator w/ parents who have issues w/ kids making it to practice or who are upset about playing time.

State Tournaments seem to be where these issues come up the most.

As a league we need to have rules and guidelines.

Playing to win and developing players during the season. We are basically developing kids to play high school baseball. We want to give as much playing time to each kid as possible. Maybe we could add something to the MBA letter that goes out to each parent w/ something that states how complaints are handled and have each parent sign it. Shane volunteered to write up a parent conduct form. Also, for the record, there does not have to be equal playing time, we will play kids the league min. if not more.

It was voted to stay with the league min. playing time.

#### COACHES MEETING

Travel teams

Anoka American Legion, April 29th, 12:30-7pm

#### TEAM UPDATE

We have 23 teams this year

#### FUTURE BOARD POSITIONS

Start identifying people for positions because we are going to start losing some people. November will probably be when we start changing positions.

We hope to keep Zimmerman Baseball Association going.

#### SPONSORS

We have 16 house teams and 7 travel teams this year.

Need to talk to ZAP, maybe Joel will be willing to move up to be a travel sponsor.

AJ will talk to Elk Lake Easyriders

We should be fine for house sponsors but we are about 2 travel sponsors down.

House sponsors donate \$250 and Travel sponsors donate \$500. Travel sponsors will get a banner at games and their name on the sleeves of the undershirts worn beneath the vests. House sponsors have their name on the back of the t-shirts.

#### TOURNAMENT SIGN UP

Every team gets to sign up for 3 tournaments, we want our Zimmerman tournament to be one and the state tournament for the other, in the event that you don't make the state tournaments then you will have one extra tournament to choose and you can pick a later date in the season tournament. Let Heidi know when you need a check for a tournament and she will cut you one. You may play in more than 3 tournaments but your team will be responsible for that payment. Our tournament is one of the cheaper ones, so if you decide you want to play in more than 3 tournaments it might be better to pay for our Zimmerman tournament yourselves to save you money.

ALSO...

Kathy is our Fundraising/Special Events Coordinator.

Baseball Pictures scheduled at Westwood on May 1 & 3.

Fundraising. No mandatory fundraising. Individual team fundraising can be done thru the league if you want something special or extra for your team (ie: jackets, etc.)

Fundraising idea's-selling Twins programs, good team bonding, a lot of fun, free tickets, need to have a min. of 10 people.

Target Center concessions-adult only.

Rogers Applebee's for pancake breakfast, sell tickets.

Bill has a new company-Promotional Products

company is similar to screen printing but uses dye.

Some products include, tags for bags, clipboards with permanent grids, & plaques.

Fields.

KJ's Refuge in Orrock, wants to know what nights we want the use of their field. Mon. - Thurs.

They need a waiver for liability.

We need to know if any other towns plan on using that field.

The field already has bases, could use a little TLC, need to take a look to see what it actually needs. They also have a concession stand out there. As a thank you for using the field we could put their name on a house jersey. We were the first ones to ask for the field so we need to lock down the nights we want it for association and minor teams.

Terry is going to meet with Dave Horlath.

The city is going to start charging us a fee per player for field maintenance. The city will drag the fields, the school district will not do it. They will also chalk the lines and everything. We need to negotiate the best price, instead of per player maybe we could get a flat fee and also get w/ softball and soccer to help chip in for their fees. The adult leagues are paying the city too.

We also need to get with basketball to collect our registration money and also with all the other sports using the ZAYAA web-site, currently the baseball association has been paying for it.

All Pro Batting Cages will give 1 free token to each person wearing any Zimmerman hat or shirt, on any night of the week. No limit on the amount of times you visit.