

EPGBA BOARD MEETING

September 21, 2014 7:00pm
Eden Prairie Community Center



MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Reid Baynes, Suzanne Becker, Jeff Burke, Corey Cain, James Clairmont, Matt Davies, Lisa Ellis, Denelle Flesner-Czech, Rayanne Foss, Brenda Gorsett, Rob Laumeyer, Joel Matthews, Jon Nordquist, Julie Peyer, Bob Wentzel

Coaching Directors Present: Denny Tape and Chad Flies

Non-Board Members Present: Kori Kotschevar

Board Members Absent: Jennifer Mathews

Meeting called to order: 7:05pm

Meeting Agenda: *Motion to adopt meeting agenda made by Rob Laumeyer and seconded by Brenda Gorsett. Motion carried.*

Previous Meeting Minutes: *Motion to adopt August Meeting Minutes made by Reid Baynes and seconded by Suzanne Becker. Motion carried.*

Positive Coaching Alliance Presentation

- Andrew Pillsbury from Positive Coaching Alliance MN gave Board presentation on their sportsmanship training program. They offer separate training sessions for coaches and parents.
- Will inquire with other sports associations (EPBBA, EPBA, etc) to see if there's any interest in partnering and purchasing sessions together to reduce costs.
- If we use them, will need to determine if just purchase a single year and see how it goes, or purchase a 3-year package which comes with a lower cost per session.
- Board members should look further at provided materials and a vote will be taken at the October Board meeting.

Travel Committee Report

- EP Tip-Off Tourney is up to 104 non-Eden Prairie teams – anticipating there could be a few more.
- Uniforms were available at try-outs for girls to try on and website ordering information provided. Website ordering only available through Tuesday so uniforms can be ordered and delivered in time for Bloomington Jamboree in case any teams opt to add this tournament to their schedule.
- Spirit Wear website will be open on Monday and will remain open until Oct 8.

In-House Committee Report

- Online registration is open. Postcards have been mailed out to Eden Prairie residents notifying them of this.
- Gym space requests have been sent to Cheryl. Oak Point has already been reserved for coaches training on Oct 25 and for player evaluations two weekends in November.
- Uniforms will be ordered this week.
- Still looking to fill some of the Commissioner roles including a high school commissioner.
- High school in-house program starts practices week of Dec 17 and games start in January.

Marketing & Operations Committee Report

- Rob has discovered that EPGBA owns the 'EPGBA.org' domain, but does not have physical possession of it. Rob is working with a former EPGBA board member who initially set it up to transfer possession to the EPGBA. Rob has registered 'EPGBA.com' as a backup. He currently owns that domain but will be transferring that over to the Board once all of this gets straightened out.
- Website clean-up continues – several outdated headlines/announcements have been deleted significantly reducing time to load home page. File storage is also being organized by Rob with assistance from Denelle.
- Conducting a Schwan's fundraiser has been further explored. Premise is that a \$25 gift card is purchased of which \$10 is given to a charity of choice (in this case, EPGBA). Then 40% of Schwan's purchases made during the first 40 days of the program are also given to the EPGBA. We would then make 5% of sales for the remaining time of the sales program (typically a year).
- Board discussed providing an incentive for players to sell multiple \$25 gift cards. Could possibly offer credit back on player registration. How would we refund registrations that have already been paid? How would we track sales by player – does Schwan's offer this capability? Could funds be used to purchase new uniforms next season?
- James will follow up with Schwan's to determine what type of record-keeping is done on their end and available for us to use. Would like program to kick off once In-House season begins to involve both programs in sales.

Other Business

- Rob asked Board to discuss salary we pay outside paid coaches. We are not on par with other associations in the SW metro and our starting salaries have been the same for several years. This hurts our chances to attract top, qualified coaches to our program. Board voted and passed to increase starting coaches' salaries to \$2000/season, which seems to be the most common rate with other associations in our area. This will be effective starting this season.

President's Report

- Try-outs concluded with overall opinion that things went very well. Splitting the grades into separate check-in areas within the lobby made the check-in process go more smoothly. Although there were a couple of teams where numbers posed some small challenges, the good news from try-outs was that all girls who tried out were deemed travel-capable and no cuts needed to be made.
 - ❖ 4th Grade: 9 girls tried out and all made team – unless determined otherwise during the season, will play as an 'A' team in tournaments that make a distinction for 4th grade.
 - ❖ 5th Grade: 20 girls tried out – 10 placed on 'A' team and 10 placed on 'B' team. Vote was taken and passed by the board to approve 10 players on the 'A' team.
 - ❖ 6th Grade: 26 girls tried out – 8 placed on 'A' team, 9 placed on 'B' team, and 9 placed on 'C' team. Policy 3.D.ii.5 states that grades with 3 or more teams should cap 'A' & 'B' teams at 8 players. Evaluators felt that there were 9 capable 'B' players.
 - *Motion made by James Clairmont to allow the 6th grade 'B' team to have 9 players this season based on the evaluators' assessment of skills for this grade. Motion seconded by Matt Davies. Rob Laumeyer abstained from vote. Motion carried.*
 - ❖ 7th Grade: 23 girls tried out – 8 placed on 'A' team, 8 placed on 'B' team, and 7 placed on 'C' team. Concern with having only 7 girls on a team – plan is to recruit 1-2 girls signed up for In-House to join the 'C' team.
 - ❖ 8th Grade: 18 girls tried out – 9 players placed on each team. Evaluators' assessment of this grade was that the playing level of these two teams most closely aligned with being a 'B' and a 'C' team. (This grade lost 4 previous 'A' level players to high school try-outs and playing for a different association.) Vote was taken and passed by the board to call these teams 'Red' and 'Black' and allow flex-scheduling for their tournaments. The 'Red' team will play in a combination of 'A' and 'B' brackets and the 'Black' team will play in a

combination of 'B' and 'C' brackets. The tournament schedulers and coaches of these two teams will communicate throughout the season to ensure the teams are facing appropriate competition in tournaments.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for Oct 19 which is Sunday of MEA weekend. Quick poll taken to see how many members will be missing from that meeting. Although it looks like 6 members may be missing, the meeting will proceed as scheduled. The President and Secretary will each appoint another member of the Board to assume their respective roles for this meeting.

Meeting Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn meeting made by James Clairmont and seconded by Reid Baynes. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:51pm.*

Next Board Meeting: October 19, 2014 @ 7:00 pm; Eden Prairie Community Center

Respectfully submitted by Denelle Flesner-Czech, EPGBA Secretary