

EPGBA BOARD MEETING

August 23, 2015 6:00pm
Bobby & Steve's Auto World



MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Reid Baynes, Suzanne Becker, Jeff Burke, Matt Davies, Lisa Ellis, Denelle Flesner-Czech, Rayanne Foss, Jon Nordquist, Beth Peta, Julie Peyer

Board Members Absent: Carmen Bamlett, Corey Cain, Blythe Davis, Brenda Gorsett, Rob Laumeyer, Bob Wentzel

Non-Board Members Present: Coach Faith Johnson

Meeting called to order: 6:08pm

Meeting Agenda: Suzanne Becker requested that discussion of the Travel Budget be removed from the Agenda due to time constrictions. *Motion to adopt adjusted meeting agenda made by Lisa Ellis and seconded by Matt Davies. Motion carried.*

Previous Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve meeting minutes for June meeting made by Suzanne Becker and seconded by Jeff Burke. Motion carried.*

Regular Business Agenda Items

Introduction of Coach Faith Johnson

The Board was introduced to Coach Johnson, the new EP high school girls' basketball coach. She expressed her excitement to get back into coaching after a one-year hiatus and was looking forward to working with the EPGBA.

EPGBA Policy Document Changes

The following changes to the EPGBA Policy Document were recommended by Suzanne & Denelle:

- M) Practice (pg 14)
 - i) *For travel, player attendance at practice is expected and is to be treated as the player's primary extra-curricular activity during the season.*
- N) Games (pg 15)
 - i) *For travel, player attendance at all games is mandatory unless it is an excused absence that has been approved in advance by the player's head coach.*
 - ii) *Playing Time*
 - 1. *Players should receive at least 50% of playing time over the course of each tournament if eight or fewer players suit up and at least 40% of playing time over the course of each tournament if more than eight players suit up.*
 - 2. *The head coach may make exceptions to the playing time policy above if a player is unable to meet any of the following basic requirements:*
 - a. *Attendance*
 - b. *Effort and focus*
 - c. *Attitude and coach-ability*

A) Senior Scholarships (pg 16-17)

- ii) *There will be an option for an additional \$1000 available each season that may also be awarded at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee. The Executive Committee will review the financials each spring to approve the additional scholarship funds.*

Advancement of Middle School Athletes

If a player tries out and makes a high school team after being placed on an EPGBA travel team, she forfeits her position on the travel team and no refund of expenses incurred for that travel team will be granted.

- ❖ *Motion to approve the above policy changes as written was made by Julie Peyer and seconded by Jeff Burke. Motion carried.*

Travel Committee Report

- Tournament scheduling for the upcoming season is almost completed. We have the typical reciprocals. The C teams will have a slightly different schedule than other teams due to Osseo/Maple Grove, Minnetonka, and Chanhassen not offering C brackets in their tournaments.
- Due to the length of the season and the fewer number of tournaments, it was difficult to avoid 3-week breaks for the 5th and 6th grade teams. We will inform those teams that they can add an additional tournament if they would like to fill that gap.

Upcoming Tune-Up Clinics and Travel Try-Outs

- Registration to play travel was opened on July 29 and early registration will end on August 27. Any registrants after August 27 will be an extra \$25 for their entry fee.
- Gym space scheduled for try-outs was bumped by a change in the high school volleyball team's schedule. 4th, 5th, and 7th grade try-outs will be moved to CMS. 6th and 8th grade teams will hold their try-outs at the high school.
- Sample uniforms will be available for trying on at both Tune-Up clinics and try-outs. All players will be expected to fill out an order form at one of these two events.
- Spirit Wear will be available for viewing and sizing at the final day of try-outs. Like last year, orders will be done online by each family. Families can either have orders shipped directly to their home or they can be picked up at BiG.
- The numbers of girls trying out for 5th grade teams is lower than we expected. We will look into who played in Spring League compared to who has signed up for Travel. Carmen will look into trying to recruit some additional 5th grade girls in order to be able to form two teams for this grade.

Coach Recruiting

- Carmen used Indeed for coach recruiting and found that to be very successful.
- It is looking like we will have eight paid coaches this season.
- Chad & Denny were very pleased with the quality of coaching candidates we had.

Tip-Off Tournament

- Anticipating 95 teams this year compared to 124 last year. Moving our tournament two weeks later puts us in direct competition with other established tournaments and will hurt our attendance.
- Due to the lower anticipated number of teams, we may not need to use CMS to run a one-day 4th grade tournament as was previously discussed.
- Jeff pointed out that running 4th grade as a one-day actually hurts our gate fee revenue. CMS is also more expensive to use than the high school.

Spring Tournament

- Need to make a decision by Nov 5 on hosting another spring tournament. We raised just over \$5500 by hosting a spring tournament this past year and that will be enough to cover the cost of the new travel uniforms.
- Jeff informed the Board that if we don't host a spring tournament or don't come up with a similar fundraiser, we will likely operate in the red this year. Part of the reason we need to raise additional funds is because we took a financial hit with our summer training programs.
- We currently have gym space reserved for two weekends – the last weekend in April and the first weekend in May. The last weekend in April would be a 2-day tournament; the first weekend in May would be two 1-day tournaments. Both of these weekends should yield higher attendance than the weekend we used this past spring.
- Hosting two 1-day tournaments actually costs us some revenue as we pay MYAS \$10 per team that we host. It would be financially advantageous to host a 2-day tournament.
- The Board decided that if we decide to host a spring tournament, it will be held the last weekend in April. The gym space for the following weekend will be released.

Marketing & Operations Committee Report

- Carmen has been able to secure some sponsors for our association. We do not have any sponsors that are opting for the higher sponsorship level so we will not be including any sponsor names/logos on our shooting shirts.
- Beth looking into setting up a fundraiser with the Epilepsy Foundation. They have a program where they will park one of their trucks locally and the association would encourage its members to donate items. The association would receive a per/pound financial donation.
- Beth also looking into setting up a Chipotle night or a Red Savoy night. Also still exploring working with iMyne (online shopping).
- Beth putting together brand guidelines and once completed, these will be distributed to all Board members so we can incorporate these guidelines in all of our communications in addition to our marketing materials.
- Beth setting up meeting with Rob to review website redesign and incorporating our brand guidelines there.
- Beth will also make recommendations on applying best practices to our web pages. Would like to see the overall design simplified for our users.

In-House Committee Report

- Key program dates have been posted on the website.
- Registration opens Sept 4. Estimating 241 participants which would be 20 less than last year.
- Still exploring uniform options for a reversible mesh jersey with numbers printed on front and back. Have received a quote from BiG and looking to obtain a quote from another vendor.
- In-House committee voted for uniforms more like the boys' In-House program. They did not want their jerseys to be the same as or similar to the girls' travel program.

Finance Committee Report

- Financial assets improved by about 40% over last year. We are in a 3-year trend of strong financial improvement and consistently operating in the black.
- Jon would like a recommendation to the Board of an amount (range) that should be targeted for having in our savings account that would allow us to reasonably cover any unexpected expenses or decreases in expected revenue and not suffer a financial hardship.
 - ❖ *Motion to approve 2015-16 budget as presented made by Suzanne Becker and seconded by Julie Peyer. Motion passed.*
- Still missing some expenses on our financials due to the fact that the high school only sends out invoices for gym space use twice a year. Our last invoice from the high school covered gym space used through March 31.
- The Board was not able to approve the 2014-15 year-end financials due to the missing gym space expenses. We are anticipating that invoice will be sent at the end of August.

Other Business Items

- The Board agreed to move next month's board meeting up one week to coincide with the conclusion of travel try-outs. We will be back to our normal 7:00 meeting time.

Meeting Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn meeting made by Suzanne Becker and seconded by Matt Davies. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.*

Next Board Meeting: September 13, 2015, 7:00pm; Eden Prairie Community Center

Respectfully submitted by Denelle Flesner-Czech, EPGBA Secretary