

EPGBA BOARD MEETING

January 17, 2016 7:00pm
Eden Prairie Community Center



MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Carmen Bamlett, Reid Baynes, Suzanne Becker, Jeff Burke, Corey Cain, Matt Davies, Lisa Ellis, Denelle Flesner-Czech, Rayanne Foss, Rob Laumeyer, Jon Nordquist, Julie Peyer

Board Members Absent: Blythe Davis, Beth Peta, Bob Wentzel

Non-Board Members Present: Riley Moorjani, John McNulty

Meeting called to order: 7:04pm

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

Previous Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve meeting minutes for November meeting made by Reid Baynes and seconded by Jeff Burke. Motion carried.*

Regular Business Agenda Items

In-House Committee Report

- Season is off and running – so far so good!
- Team/player pictures were held on a Wednesday this year. Lesson learned that this is not a good day of the week for pictures and need to check school calendars before scheduling. Too many girls were missing due to church activities and the evening also conflicted with a 3rd grade school performance.
- Veil Orthodontics was present at a recent In-House event and handed out free water bottles. Expressed interest in becoming a sponsor next season.
- Parents of 7th/8th grade teams participating in the West Metro League say the season is better this year than last. Last year there were some teams in the league that were essentially 'too good' for In-House. This year all teams are more competitively balanced.
- Parents are again this year asking why our In-House fees are so much higher than neighboring communities. Corey will create list of what other communities are charging. Julie working on an analysis of grade-by-grade expenses to help with budgeting for next year.
- 3rd/4th grade teams switched to half-court practices this season and coaches weren't too happy with the change. Changes were made to the overall schedule to get most of their practices back to full-court.
- Per McKella Nordquist (head of in-house referees), so far game officiating is going well. Seems to be fewer issues with parents and coaches this season.
- Looking into getting a long-time adult referee to come and work with some of our youth referees in some sort of training role.
- High school in-house season has kicked off. On-going issue is that teams would prefer more 'seasoned' referees, but it's hard to find non-youth referees who are willing to work a two-game shift.

Finance Committee Report

- With remaining Tip-Off Tournament expenses in, the balance sheet reflected a more "normal" balance by the end of December. The positive balance will continue to decline for the rest of the

season as most of our revenues are in and we still have some outstanding expenses (i.e., court fees). We do still expect to finish the season in the black. Hosting a spring tournament will give us a little better margin.

Marketing & Operations Committee Report

- We were able to change our night for EP Gopher Night to January 26 in order to have our girls attend the game that was also the Gophers' community night for former EP alum Shayne Mullaney. Bus transportation has been arranged and due to the later game time this year, box lunches will not be provided. With Rob's help, registration will be set up online – just waiting for link from Gophers for purchasing group-rate tickets.
- Our second "Dine Around Eden Prairie" event at Chipotle made \$210 for EPGBA. This was a little disappointing, but recent issues with salmonella and E. coli at other Chipotle restaurants probably contributed to lower participation. Beth is working on coordinating our next event with Noodles & Co.
- Planning has begun for Youth Night (February 19). The summer challenges awards will be presented at halftime and we will do the bean bag toss we did last year or a similar game for gift cards. Cupcakes and small waters will be available in the commons after the game. Also looking into a trinket giveaway for players who attend (last year we did lip balms with EPGBA logo).
- Need to make sure the summer camps tab specifically states that EPGBA is not recommending any camps listed on this page. We are simply providing links to additional information. We also need to make sure this page is kept current.

Player Development Committee Report

- Suzanne has been meeting with HS Coach Johnson regarding summer training. Coach Johnson is looking to run something similar to what HS Coach Flom does with the boys program. Still finalizing logistics around the details and exactly what the EPGBA's involvement will be. We'd like to keep EPGBA out of the process as much as possible, but Coach Johnson may need our help with setting up online registration and possibly collecting/tracking fees. We are also able to secure courts at a lower rate. Coach Johnson intends to provide the training staff.
- Rob expressed some concern with turning full control of summer training over to the high school coach. If the summer training program is branded as training provided by the EPGBA, we need to ensure we can maintain its integrity and quality in the case that Coach Johnson leaves Eden Prairie (not expected, just risk-assessment thinking).
- Matt suggested that next year we present awards earned for summer challenges at the beginning of the season – kind of a badge of honor to have during the season – rather than waiting until the second half of the season at Youth Night.
- Due to participation levels last spring, the board agreed we'd like to run a Spring League again this year. Rob & Jeff offered to coordinate getting spring league going. Chad Flies already indicated he would provide assistance in coordinating coaches and assembling girls on teams. Some existing travel teams plan to keep their team intact for spring play, but we will also set up open registration for any girls interested in participating. We will get an information night set up for in-house families in order to encourage players to sign up to experience what travel basketball is like.

Travel Committee Report

- Would like to send out a mid-year survey to EPGBA parents this coming week. The survey has been shortened and simplified from last year. Hoping to be able to get results by team so can better pinpoint concerns.
- We will also send out an end-of-year survey and this year we'd like to share feedback with coaches in hopes of helping our coaches improve each year.
- As we did last year, we're hoping to hold a post-season meeting with all coaches on March 7 (location TBD).
- Would like to establish a better communication channel for parents for voicing concerns with coaches or other team issues. Currently issues are being expressed to several different board

members and it would be easier to address issues if feedback was consolidated and communicated in a consistent manner. Right now some parents feel as though their concerns aren't being addressed.

- The 4th grade team has switched to playing as a 'B' level team for some of their remaining tournaments, including Rochester, and they will not be participating in the MYAS Gopher State tournament.

Spring Tournament

- Looking for a board member to lead coordination of this tournament.
- We anticipate getting help from the HS girls' basketball program in covering some of our volunteer shifts.
- Need to determine how much help from parents we will be expecting and get the word out to them as early as possible. Parents should be made aware of some expected commitment when they sign their daughter up to participate in spring league.

Other Business Items

- Have had some issues arise with teams wanting to add additional tournaments on top of the two extra teams are currently allowed to add. The current policy does not allow teams to request to add any more tournaments beyond two.
- This issue should be addressed by the Travel Committee and then a recommendation can be brought to the Board for a vote if warranted.
- It was recommended that that Travel Committee consider not counting the pre-season Jamboree or the MLK Tournament as additional tournaments.
- Briefly discussed the Get-a-Grip Golf League which would provide a cross-marketing effort for us. This league will be held at Glen Lake golf course this summer and is geared as an introduction to golf for girls. This would potentially be a joint effort with Edina.

Meeting Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn meeting made by Rob Laumeyer and seconded by Matt Davies. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.*

Next Board Meeting: March 20, 2016, 7:00pm; Eden Prairie Community Center

Respectfully submitted by Denelle Flesner-Czech, EPGBA Secretary