

# EPGBA BOARD MEETING

September 18, 2016 7:00pm  
Eden Prairie Community Center



## MEETING MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Carmen Bamlett, RebeccaLyn Brettin, Jeff Burke, Corey Cain, Matt Davies, Lisa Ellis, Denelle Flesner-Czech, Rayanne Foss, Guy Grussing, Amy Helget, Todd Holloway, Riley Moorjani, Beth Peta, Julie Peyer

**Board Members Absent:** Reid Baynes

**Non-Board Members Present:** Sarah Jordan, John McNulty, Colleen Schlagel

**Meeting called to order:** 6:03 pm

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

### Previous Meeting Minutes:

- *Motion to approve meeting minutes for August meeting made by Julie Peyer and seconded by Matt Davies. Motion carried.*
- *Motion to approve meeting minutes for special September 6 meeting made by Corey Cain and seconded by RebeccaLyn Brettin. Motion carried.*
- *Motion to approve meeting minutes for special September 11 meeting made by Julie Peyer and seconded by Jeff Burke. Motion carried.*

### Speaker Request

Sarah Jordan requested to speak in front of the board to address why she was told she would not be coaching her daughter's 4<sup>th</sup> grade team.

- Sarah was asked by some fellow parents last spring to coordinate and coach a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade spring team. She worked with Chad and the EPGBA to make that happen and felt the team had a great experience.
- She acknowledges there was some backlash from other parents in that grade who wanted to know how/why certain players were selected to play on that spring team and that not all players were asked.
- Sarah feels that despite some of that backlash, she's received nothing but positive feedback from the families that participated on that spring team regarding her ability to coach. She's concerned that there are unfair and untrue comments being made that are swaying the EPGBA coaching committee's decision.
- Sarah's qualifications for this position include her extensive playing career, past coaching experience starting at the youth level and through high school level, and her career in education.

Matt explained that although she is more than qualified, the coaching committee could not disregard the many concerns expressed by parents and other in-house participants – and not just in regard to the spring team, but her in-house coaching as well. Common themes from these concerns included her high intensity coaching style and too much focus on winning. The committee felt it would be best for this grade in the long run if she steps aside from coaching this season. She can re-apply next year when hopefully the turmoil has settled down.

**Regular Business Agenda Items****Finance Committee**

- Tabled vote on approval of August financials until next month.
- Carmen has secured \$2,750 in sponsorships.
- Recorded \$9,500 in travel program registrations.
- Only major expense this past month was the \$1,900 bill for Positive Coaching Alliance. This is the year two payment of the three-year contract.

**In-House Committee**

- West Metro League is raising team fees from \$200 to \$300. Corey following up on.
- Anticipating having three 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade teams and two 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade teams.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade registrations are looking low compared to last year. There were 19 4<sup>th</sup> graders who tried out for a travel team so that explains why the numbers are low.
- Other grade registration numbers are looking similar to last year.

**Marketing Committee**

- Beth has Red Savoy lined up as a dining partner for a Nov 7 dine out fundraiser. Has also spoken with Chipotle, Noodles, Pei Wei, and Smashburger. It was agreed in the meeting we should go ahead and pursue these for dine outs starting in October and hopefully holding one per month throughout the season.
- It had been discussed at the end of last season that we should consider moving Youth Night to a high school game earlier in the season – preferably before the holiday break. Also, last year we held a “Big Sister” night following a varsity scrimmage over the Thanksgiving Break. It was not as well attended as hoped so maybe we could combine that event with Youth Night. Beth and/or Julie will talk to the varsity captains’ moms once their season starts and will work with them to figure out a plan.
- Carmen has secured \$2,750 in sponsorship funds so far and is expecting another \$1,250. Optimistic goal is to reach the \$5,000 mark.

**Travel Committee***Travel Coaches*

- Committee has been working on assigning coaches now that we’ve determined our travel teams. Still working on coaches for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 7A, and 8B/C. A travel coach’s meeting is scheduled for Oct 9 in Rm 232 at the high school.

*Uniforms / Spirit Wear*

- There were 33 new players in the travel program this season and all of them got their orders placed in time. There were not very many re-orders from existing players so anticipating we’ll have a larger number of re-orders next season.
- The Spirit Wear website opened on the 15<sup>th</sup> and will be open until Sept 25<sup>th</sup>. An e-mail was sent to parents with this information.
- The Spirit Wear website will reopen for the in-house program on Oct 15. Rayanne will work with Corey to select a day to have samples available for trying on for the in-house players.
- Rayanne, Corey, and Julie will coordinate what we have for remaining in-house jersey inventory and what we need to order.

*General*

- Most of this past week since tryouts concluded has been focused on dealing with parent questions, team coaches, and tournament scheduling.
- Overall, tryouts went better than in the past few years.

**President's Report**

- Both Matt & Julie were satisfied with the travel tryout evaluators. They did a good job at adjusting some of the drills based on how things were going with the group of girls they were working with, particularly the 4<sup>th</sup> graders. We may want to think of ways we can make the tryouts less intimidating for girls trying out for the first time in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Most of parent calls regarding tryouts coming from 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents. Questions are regarding formation of two equal teams (vs. A & B) and the decision to not place Sarah Jordan as the head coach on her daughter's team.
- We need to do a better job at "educating" 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents. We should focus on items such as spring league vs the travel season and why we prefer to create equal teams for 4<sup>th</sup> grade travel. Finding other communities are struggling to get enough players to form 4<sup>th</sup> grade teams.
- Coach Johnson has asked to come to one of our Board meetings. It is tentatively planned that she will be at our October meeting. She's working to better understand the role of the board and would like to make herself available for any questions we may have. We'd like to ensure we have a solid relationship between the EPGBA and the high school program.

**Meeting Adjournment:** *Motion to adjourn meeting made by Jeff Burke and seconded by Corey Cain. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.*

**Next Board Meeting:** October 16, 7:00pm; Eden Prairie Community Center

Respectfully submitted by Denelle Flesner-Czech, EPGBA Secretary