

MBYLL Board Meeting Minutes

April 2009

The following are the minutes from the April 20th 2009 board meeting. THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE May 19th followed by June 9th both at Skipjacks (Kevin please secure). All board members were present with the exception of Bob Trocchi. Paul Zaylor was also present and will take over the SSC&I from Brian at the end of the season. Fred Mueller attended and gave the update on the SportsManager program.

- MBYLL.org website – there was a number of comments regarding the dissatisfaction with the website that related to the actual content (lack of it), the display of that content, the timing of the having key initiatives up and running on the website as well as what should be the primary and secondary functions be of the website.
 - First it was determined that Don Devaney will send out to the board the link of the jamboree registration by the end of today (Wednesday 4/22) so that final sign-off can be provided and the site is confirmed to be ready for registration that will happen on April 27th.
 - The schedule function is up and running. Please get back to Don if there are problems.
 - Gus Bickford has agreed to take the lead on analyzing the various technology options MBYLL has, including: type of website structure & who manages it; do we partner up with an organization such a League Athletics, Sportsmanager; how do we approach scheduling for games, referees and jamboree. Gus will present his findings at the May meeting and thus allow the board to make decisions regarding the future at that meeting and begin work immediately.
 - It is critical that Gus receives assistance from board members that have some level of expertise and or experience in the related technology issues we discussed. Please respond directly to Gus with thoughts and ideas in the next week or so.
- There was an excellent discussion about what is the value MBYLL brings to its constituents. Much more needs to be discussed, but the outcome of this is as follows: 1) the June board meeting will be mostly dedicated to this “needs analysis”. 2) May meeting will be focused on technology issues, but we will need to come up with the basic content for the newsletter MBYLL will send out the 1 week of June. 3) Chris R. has agreed to take charge of creating a questionnaire to be distributed to all members of the MBYLL community (**see Chris’ e-mail dated 4/22 that begins the dialogue and respond with feedback**). This will be reviewed and signed off on by the board. Don and Gus will check into the delivery vehicle for this (Survey Monkey?) and the cost. Chris has agreed to sort out the data as a 1st pass and then Gus will assist in further analysis. The results will be included in the newsletter.
- As part of the value proposition, Tom S. presented the template for the laxplan.org that will tap into the vast resources we have as a league and create a modular oriented approach to assisting coaches to teach lax theory, during games and most importantly on the field in practice. There was discussion of “naming” one or two designated coaches (well known?) as the lead for creating and updating each of the age groups. **TOM – can you confirm what you see as next steps on this?**
- MBYLL expenses: Bob Rice presented the numbers indicating a short fall in the area of \$35,000 for 2008. While this does not put MBYLL in a deficit due to reserves, it does demand that we balance our books for 2009 and beyond. Bob will organize the expenses for 2008 and then project 2009 in a fashion that shows the details of all

expenses such that we can determine what is critical and what can be cut from the budget. I would like to see if we can have those numbers by the May meeting (let me know if that is not possible Bob). Once we figure where we spend everything then we can discuss raising town fees to the appropriate level or charging for clinics, etc. **I want to thank Bob for the time consuming and tough task of keeping the books.**

- Each region was going to submit the number of towns (and teams) that has U9 this season. We will discuss before the fall how MBYLL will deal with this age group.
- The issue of “select” or “all-star” or “tournament” teams will need to be addressed (it will be on the agenda for the June BOD meeting) and in the interest of time the following talking points need to be thought through by board members to prep for that meeting:
 - Does a player need to commit to MBYLL to play in both leagues
 - Should MBYLL leave a night (s) open for games or a practice
 - State MBYLL’s policy be to embrace/accept towns that have players that only play in these types of teams and other that play in both or just MBYLL
 - Do we move to a grade base approach – consider multiple towns funneling kids to grade based
 - Does MBYLL create a subset to the core Sunday game philosophy and provide all our resources to this type of league
- We received an update on Sportsmanager from Fred. The comments and lessons learned will be considered in what Gus is looking into.
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