

MISSION STATEMENT

"To guide and assist our youth in their pursuit of personal growth and the meaning of sportsmanship through athletic excellence, that will improve the lives of all that are involved."

RASA MINUTES

July 10, 2011

Attendees

Stacie Calder
Paul Hetrick
Bill Coblenz
Rich Scott

Craig MacIntyre
Dave Bolton
John Pepkowski
Ray Fox

I. Secretary's Report: Paul Hetrick motioned to approve the minutes from June 12th and Rich Scott 2nd, all approved. Paul Hetrick motioned to approve the minutes from June 23rd and Ray Fox 2nd, all approved. It was noted that all the team/sponsor pictures have been handed out and a corrected invoice from Buxmont Trophies has not been received yet. The Pride of the Diamonds (POD) check has been received.

II. Treasurer's Report: attached

Reviewed Treasurer's report. The following checks were approved for payment:

Richland Township	Allied (Trash June) Mr. John (Port-a-Potty, June & extra cleanings-higher rate charged on Sunday) Water Bill (to July 15 th) PPL Bill (May 14 th -June 15 th)*
QCSD	TNT Tournament cleaning
Premier Signs	Giovanna's sign
John Pepkowski	2 Ipods from Best Buy without Sales Tax (raffled at the TNT tournament)
John Gluck	Rec league umpiring

*It was noted that the PPL bill year-to-date for 2011 is only slightly more than the year-to-date 2010 bill despite having the lights on earlier for the spring league and later without the drop dead time 8pm rule.

Ray Fox motioned to pay the bills and approve the Treasurer's report. Rich Scott 2nd. All approved.

III. Old Business:

TNT College Showcase Wrap Up: Attendance was definitely down (120 teams versus the usual 150 teams) There were still teams from all over the country (Seattle, Minnesota, Canada) and all the teams raved about the fields. Whenever anyone asked for a recommendation Bill directed them towards one of the RASA sponsors. The community greatly benefitted.

The raffle of one Ipad and two Ipods was a success. It was suggested that next year we start earlier and get sponsors to purchase the raffle items.

The parking donations collected were used to pay for labor (parking and trash). This means the entire tournament fee will go directly to RASA.

There was a problem with the School District Fields. People smoking, littering, parking in fire lanes and on the grass. The School District said they couldn't identify a RASA person to talk to and they had considered cancelling the rest of the games and not allowing RASA any future use of the fields. They also were considering contacting the police. Bill went to the district on Wednesday (7/6/11) and met with Kelly Harper the interim facilities director. Bill offered to donate bases to the school and to assist in field prep to get the fields into better shape. Going forward a RASA person must be at the School District fields during all tournaments and must ensure that NO SMOKING takes place anywhere on the property and to direct parking. All smokers must cross the street and smoke on the opposite sidewalk- RASA must also ensure that the sidewalks are kept clean-no cigarette butts. If a person is smoking and refuses to put the cigarette out or leave than that person's daughter's team may be forced to forfeit the game. Jeff Kittle has ensured us he will make sure his people are on top of the smoking and parking at all the USSSA tournaments. The District has stated they will halt any functions if the above rules are not followed.

New RASA sign was donated by Premier signs and it was up for the tournament. The sign was hung on the back of field 2's outfield fence, facing the parking lot. There were many positive comments about the sign.

Field Prep/Facilities (Bill Coblentz): Ray Fox wanted to make sure everyone was aware of exactly how many hours Bill puts in keeping the park in shape and cleaned-up for tournaments. A huge, "Thank You" to Bill for all of his dedication.

Bill will be contacting Larry from Upper Perk to get him to come over and cut/level our fields with his machine. Hopefully we can get the top fill spread this fall and all the fields leveled before the winter. This should help with the standing water on the fields.

Men's Tournament (Rich Ponak): The Men's Tournament was a success and Rich will be donating the profit to RASA and Special Olympics. The money was raised by volunteers manning the refreshment stand.

IV. New Business:

***Young Lungs Anti Smoking Signs (Ray Fox):** The signs are in and Ray will pick them up this week. We are giving the School District 6 signs to hang up on the softball fields.

***U14 Travel Team (Rich Scott):** The email has been sent out to all RASA girls of eligible age informing them about the travel team and try-outs. Ray Fox sent an email to all the U12 Sunday Select coaches to forward to their teams. An ad has been placed in the Penny Power. Rich Scott is in the process of setting up an Eteamz page but has some questions that he needs Pete Hall's help. Rich will also make sure that the fields have been blocked out for the try-outs. The possibility of so many girls coming out that perhaps two teams could be fielded was brought up. Maybe RASA could have a B and a C team. This would be discussed more later but at present there are no coaches for a C team. It was also recommended that all parents have to give references and that they be checked out carefully. The name of the travel team will be the Pennsylvania Panthers. Going forward all future RASA travel teams will be under this name. The RASA Venoms will be a U18 team this coming year and once the team has aged out there will be no more Venom name in the RASA travel teams.

U16 Travel Teams: Dave Bolton and Craig MacIntyre have asked permission to start a U16 travel team at RASA. They would be committed to a 2 year team. They have a copy of the Budget and Plan the U14 team turned in and will make a presentation to the Executive Board on Sunday 7/17/11 at 7pm to get approval so they can begin this year.

U12 Travel Teams: Rob Shuck is still working on getting coaches in place and finding practice space for a team. He is planning on starting a travel team in 2012. He has approached an Upper Perk coach about being the fundamentals coach for the team. Ray Fox has also been approached by a different Upper Perk Sunday Select coach, Jackie Fretz, asking if we have a U12 travel team. She is interested in finding a travel team for her daughter. Ray asked if she would be interested in helping to coach the travel team. He is waiting to hear from her.

***Fall Ball:** Rob Shuck had expressed interest in running Fall Ball and an email was sent (during the meeting) to him seeing if he was still interested. Fall Ball should have Rookies one night and Minors/Majors a different night. VIGS will be playing Sunday afternoons. North Penn has already contacted RASA asking if we are interested in playing them this fall. It was suggested that Fall Ball be Monday/Wednesday nights this year to avoid the QMFA Tuesday/Thursday night schedule. Also Ray Fox thought it would be a good idea to have the High School team come help on the Rookies night. Pete Hall has the application completed and once the registration fee can be confirmed the application can go live. It was decided to keep the registration the same as last year. Pete and Stacie will check the website to confirm last year's fee.

***Richland Township Day:** Tim Arnold asked Bill if RASA would have a booth at the township day August 6th. Bill thinks we will put a tent up and a table with the trophies, information about the Fall Ball and travel teams. It was suggested to set up our tent near the batting cages and have the pitching machine going for the kids to try. John Pepkowski thinks he could get a Dunk Tank. Bill would like all the executive board to take a turn sitting in the tent.

***USSSA Magazine (see attached):** Jeff Kittle approached Bill and Ray about putting an article in the magazine about RASA. They gave an interview to a writer from the magazine and it was published in the Summer 2011 edition on page 100.

***Rec League Equipment (Stacie Calder):** All equipment has been returned except for Rich Ponak's who is still using his for Special Olympics. It was noted by most coaches that the catcher's equipment is getting worn out and needs to be replaced. Stacie will work on an order to be placed this winter so everything is in before the Spring league begins.

***Softball Trophy case and shelf (John Calder):** The shelf is finished and should be installed this week. The softball display case is also almost completed and will be installed in the next two weeks.

Adjournment:

Rich Scott motioned to adjourn at 8:07 PM and Ray Fox 2nd. All agreed.

Next meeting – Thursday, 7/21/11 at Veteran's Park Clubhouse