



**BTBA Board: March Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2018 – 7pm**  
**Bloomington City Hall – Hage Conference Room**

**Attendees:**

**BTBA Board Members Present:**

**Jim Peterson – President**  
**Scott Baker – Vice President**  
**Robert Chamberlain – Treasurer**  
**George Bender – Secretary**  
**Jodi Syrjamaki – Tournament Director**  
**Aaron Dean**  
**Ryan Schilling**  
**Jean Gonzalez**  
**Scott King**  
**John Coady**  
**Corey Vucinovich**  
**Brian Carter**  
**Adam Brown**  
**Scott Nelson**  
**Austin Hamilton (Field Maintenance Manager)**

**BTBA Board Members Absent: None**

**BTBA Membership Present: 10 Members total from mostly the 13U age level**

### **Agenda Items:**

- 7pm – Call to Order followed by President’s Summary – Jim Peterson
1. Approve Minutes from previous Board meeting
  2. Winter Workouts & New Parent Meetings
  3. Exemption Application(s)
  4. EC approval to hire coaches
- 7:10 – Legal Report – Aaron Dean
- 7:15 – Treasurer’s Report – Robert Chamberlain
- 7:20 – Registration Update – Robert Chamberlain & Scott Baker
- 7:25 – Tournament Director’s Update – Jodi Syrjamaki
- 7:30 – Tryout Committee Update – Corey Vucinovich
- 7:35 – Discussion regarding coaching candidates at Tryouts – Corey Vucinovich
- 7:40 – Player & Coach Development Update – Scott Nelson & Ryan Schilling
1. Positive Coaching Alliance – Scott Nelson & Jim Peterson
  2. Off-season Training Update – Scott Nelson & Ryan Schilling
- 7:50 – Uniform Update – Corey Vucinovich
- 7:55 – Equipment Procurement and Selection Update – Brian Carter
- 8:00 – Other Committee Updates
1. Hrbek Improvements – Ryan Schilling & George Bender
  2. Fundraising Committee – Ryan Schilling
  3. Communications Committee – Jean Gonzalez
- 8:05 – Field Maintenance – Austin Hamilton
- 8:10 – Concessions – John Coady
- 8:15 – Open Discussion
- 8:20 – Adjournment

**Next Meeting:** April 8, 2018 at 7pm

### **Minutes:**

The Board meeting was convened at 7:03pm by Jim Peterson.

A summary of the minutes from the previous Board meeting was read by George Bender. A motion was made by Robert Chamberlain and seconded by Ryan Schilling to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2018 Board meeting. The minutes will be posted on the website.

### President's Update:

Jim Peterson provided a brief update of items the Executive Committee addressed since the last meeting. In addition, Jim is planning to attend the MBL Director's meeting on February 22, 2018.

Jim provided an update regarding the exemption applications requested of MBL for 2018. MBL granted an exemption from 14AAA for the 14U level. MBL denied the 13AAA exemption request for the 13U level.

New family meetings were hosted at Kennedy & Jefferson Activity Centers in February.

The Executive Committee was granted permission to hire any paid coaches. \$5000 was budgeted and a discussion has been ongoing to hiring paid coaches at the AAA level for age groups lower than 15U. Ryan Schilling and Scott Nelson have interviewed two coaches through Starters and would be able to hire them for our budget.

### Legal Update:

Aaron Dean noted the final revisions are being made to the financial risk management policy but the document remains a work in process. The policy will be considered for adoption at a future Board meeting.

### Treasurer's Update:

- Registration numbers (182 players to date) were summarized by Robert Chamberlain. 10U needs a few more players to form 5 teams. Aaron Dean indicated there will likely not be enough players to form a team at the 15U level this season. Most of those registrations typically are received later in April. 16 total teams are likely for the 2018 season.
- Robert Chamberlain reviewed the monthly P&L and Balance sheet financial documents. \$700 was received from the accounts receivable line due to diligent follow-up.
- The 2018 Coopertown team and paid back the \$1000 initial registration fee.
- Checks continue to be received for player registrations and tournament entries.
- It was determined the monthly financial documents will be available upon request moving forward.
- The use of Paypal was discussed for registration fees due to the fee charged. It was determined to continue to use Paypal but receiving checks is a better option for the organization. Payments at tryouts will need to be by check.

- Financial Documents will only be available upon written request to the President or Treasurer from now and into the future. The documents will not be posted to the website for security purposes.

#### Tournament Update:

- The organization continues to register teams for home tournaments. The following hosted tournaments have openings (10AAA – 4 spots, 11U tournaments, 12AAA, & 15AAA). All the other tournaments have been filled.
- The away tournament registrations have been mostly completed.
- The tournaments for the 11U age group are to be paid for 3 teams.
- We have registered for four 14AA tournaments but they may only want to attend three. The team will continue to coordinate with the tournament director.
- 15U would be addressed at a later date.

#### Tryout Update:

- The committee has met a few times since the last meeting and feel ready for tryouts. Coordination with Pitch2Pitch is on-going. The tryouts will occur at their Burnsville facility. P2P still believes the tryouts can be completed in 1 day and the committee concurs this is probable but decided to keep communication regarding the tryouts to 2 days.
- A discussion occurred regarding allowing coach candidates to be allowed to be present at tryouts. It was determined this practice should continue and will still be allowed. A motion was made to not have coaches attend the tryouts. The motion did not pass.
- The tryout manual will be redlined by Scott Baker to change the set-up to match the tryouts being hosted at P2P and any other specifics that require updating.
- It was determined that players will be allowed to use last year's bat at tryouts. No one will be checking for USA baseball stamps at tryouts.
- Pitching machine speeds were set for the age levels. 10U & 11U at 45mph, 12 & 13U at 50mph, and 14U at 55mph.
- Adam Brown will hit grounders at tryouts for the 13U & 14U age groups. The potential paid coaches will likely hit them for the 12U & below age groups.
- All Board members have been assigned tasks on the duty roster Scott Baker worked on. There are also 5 volunteers assisting.
- Robert Chamberlain will receive the Excel file from CJ Woodrow with P2P.
- Discussed tryout scores at length.
- The policy for the organization for viewing tryout scores by membership is a family can only view your player's score upon request.

- A motion was made to have Corey Vucinovich attend the coach selections at the 13U level by Brian Carter and it was seconded by Ryan Schilling. The motion passed.
- A motion was made to have Aaron Dean attend the coach selections at the 11U level. The motion passed.

#### Hrbek Facility Improvements Update:

- A quick update was discussed that revolved mostly about the dugouts and development of a dedicated warmup space for player and spectator safety.

#### Fundraising Update:

- The current plan is to offer advertising space on the outfield fence in the form of 10' x 5' banners. A reminder to make the advertisements safe for players was discussed again. A lump sum fee of ~\$1500 will be charged annually for the space. An additional ~\$200 will be charged for the production of the banner. 4-5 advertisements per field are currently planned. A draft agreement was handed out by Ryan Schilling.
- B-driven armsleeves was brought up as a good idea for the players and for raising some funds. It was well-liked last season.

#### Coach and Player Development Update:

##### • Positive Coaching Alliance-

Further negotiations are required with PCA to match the needs identified for the organization with the offerings and cost. The Coach and Player Development committee will continue to follow-up with PCA. It was discussed to keep utilizing the Trusted Coaches offering. PCA can lead a coach meeting this year but no PCA video will be requested. PCA coaching clinics and optional emails are not desired.

##### • Off-Season Training-

This is through Pitch2Pitch and there are still opportunities available for families to utilize for training. An offering for 10 sessions has been coordinated and made available. The conditioning program has been well-liked by the attendees.

Approximately 50 players are currently utilizing this program with the vast majority of the players being 12U and under.

Any idea to make the off-season training free to membership was brought forth. A motion was made to table P2P and off-season training to later this season. The motion passed.

### Uniforms:

- Uniform coordination is on-track to be ready for the season. Uniforms will be available at tryouts for player sizing. Parent volunteers will be needed to assist with uniform try-on questions and size selections.
- All players will received 2 jerseys, 2 pants, and 2 socks this season.
- Lori will be doing the spiritware again this season.

### Equipment:

- Brian Carter passed out a quote for equipment recommended for the season. A motion was made to budget \$600 per team for equipment for the season. The motion passed.

### Communications Update:

- Facebook is currently the priority for communications in addition to the association's website and emails sent to membership. Encourage people to get on Facebook! Any ideas for facebook ideas would be appreciated.
- Jim Peterson mentioned BTBA is requesting assistance with utilizing social media to the benefit of the organization.

### Field Maintenance and Crew:

- Austin Hamilton has agreed to be the Field Maintenance manager.
- John Kern has agreed to be the Field Crew coordinator and lead crew member.
- A crew member training curriculum still needs to be addressed.
- Pay rates for field crew employees was discussed. The discussion was to offer up to \$10 per hour will be paid to returning crew members. \$8 per hour will be paid to new crew members with a \$1 raise per season of experience.
- A motion was made to empower the Executive Committee to work out pay for the field staff based on receipt of a budget form the field crew leadership.
- April 21 was discussed for scheduling Field Day. A motion was made to set this date. The motion passed.
- Monday, April 23 is the first day of the MBL season for games.
- Acquisition of a trailer was discussed to get gear from Hrbek to Kelly to Dred for tournaments.
- An idea to follow the Minnesota DNR training program for ATV operation was discussed.

### Field Scheduling:

- Heather Bartfield is going to continue to be the field scheduler for 2018.

### Concessions:

- John Coady is planning to continue to be the concessions manager for 2018.
- Most of the concessions crew from next year is planning to come back this season.
- There is a need for a new slushy machine and a second hot dog roller at Hrbek.
- Vendors are being sought for tournaments at Kelly.
- An inventory system is desired to be implemented. John Coady will work with Robert Chamberlain on this.
- The cost for offering a meal and beverages to the umpires at our hosted tournaments is significant over the season. John is considering offering tickets to the umpires to limit this expense. Jim Peterson offered to check with other similar organizations to learn their policies towards this idea.
- Grilling food during tournaments was discussed and the reasons it hasn't been done in the past. John indicated parent volunteers would be needed to perform the grilling.
- An assistant concessions manager was discussed to help John and for succession purposes.
- An inspection needs to be scheduled with the City.
- The Cooperstown team requested to sell raffle tickets at tryouts. It was indicated the facility would not have room for this to occur.

### Open Discussion:

- Drew Barnes brought up the coach selection process. A discussion ensued. The policy will be similar to last year except the top player evaluation score will not be weighted as heavily towards the coach selection.
  - Ryan Schilling and Scott Nelson are making the coach selections this year except at age levels their sons are at.
  - A recommendation was made to offer 2 red and 2 blue jerseys. The request was denied due to the cost involved.
  - A recommendation was made to have a Fall tryout. A discussion followed but was tabled.
  - A discussion over paid coaches came up and was discussed at length.
- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm. The motion passed.