

**Rheems Athletic Association  
Board Meeting – August 11th, 2014 - Meeting Minutes  
Babbo's Italian Grill, Rheems, PA**

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Brian Heffleger (softball co-commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Susan Smith (treasurer), Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner), Sean Burton (vice-president), Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner), and Brian Bell (secretary).

Rick Knowlton (volleyball commissioner) and Mark Weissend (lacrosse commissioner) were not in attendance.

Bob Meuser website administrator was also in attendance.

- Special business/guests – Kenny Burke (Rugby), Mike and Kellie Peters (Snack Stand supervisors), Roger Garber (Conoy)
- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to June's meeting minutes. Mike De Stefano indicated he had some minor edits to the meeting minutes. **Sean Burton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as amended by Mike De Stefano which was seconded by Brian Heffleger. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Susan Smith

June/July Finances - Subsequent to the meeting, Heather emailed the financial statements and check Register for June/July.

Kenny Burke indicated that the Rugby numbers did not match and he will need to check and find out who paid and who did not pay.

Mike De Stefano indicated the following:

- The organization finished paying off Becker landscaping for their previous work in 2013.
- Insurance payments are now paid directly to the parent company.
- There is \$4200 in the concession stand account.

Mike De Stefano also discussed moving the deferred revenue from EGSA into softball's account.

Mike De Stefano introduced Susan Smith as the incoming Treasurer and to give her time for check requests.

Susan Smith indicated checks can be picked up and dropped off at her house.  
Mike De Stefano informed Susan that requests under \$250 do not need board approval.

Susan indicated she met with Heather once already and will meet at least two more times.

- Previous business - Action Items – April
    1. Sean Burton to follow up with Mike Hamilton about placing sign at Black Gryffin.  
**Closed – No progress. To be revisited at a future date.**
    2. Bob Meuser to add Protect Youth Sports to website. **Open - Bob Meuser indicated Mike Hamilton emailed Bob about adding Protect Youth Sports. Bob indicated he needs more background information to add the checks. Mike De Stefano indicated that Bob should work with Mike Hamilton to get it on the website for softball. Bob Meuser discussed ways to get documentation onto the website.**
  - Previous business - Action Items – May
    1. Sean Burton to indicate to Elizabethtown Boys Club that Rheems is adding rugby.  
**Closed - Mike De Stefano indicated he sent Sean an email. Sean indicated the Elizabethtown Boys Club was informed.**
  - Previous business - Action Items – June
    1. Craig Hummer to discuss getting 501(c)3 status with Rob Cronin. **Open**
    2. Bob Meuser to provide a list of email opt outs. **Open – Craig Hummer still needs a list for the current soccer season.**
    3. Mike De Stefano to provide an update on Member’s First sponsorship. **Open – Mike De Stefano is still coordinating with manager. Kellie Peters indicated she will follow up with manager to get in touch with Mike De Stefano.**
  - New and Ongoing business
    1. Fundraising and sponsorship -  
Update – Mike De Stefano provided an update on fundraising. Mike De Stefano reiterated the 5 year commitment from Wenger feeds and indicated they will need to have prominent representation. Mike De Stefano indicated the organization needs someone to fill the fundraising position and it should be posted on website. Craig Hummer indicated to send out a mass email about the open position. Bob Meuser indicated he would be willing to contact companies about fundraising. Bob stated he is willing to be a salesman, but not set the vision for fundraising.
- Rugby – Kenny Burke provided an update on the Rugby season. Kenny indicated there were 26 kids participating in the summer season. The season lasted five weeks with practices on

Thursdays and Saturdays. Kenny indicated there were a lot of volunteers and he is identifying additional people to help next season. Kenny also would like to do a winter season at an indoor facility. Kenny provided a discussion about the older kids which occurs in the spring and is more competitive. Mike De Stefano indicated Kenny should look into the old high school gym for the winter season.

**Craig Hummer made a motion to add Kenny as Rugby Commissioner which was seconded by Mike Hamilton. The position was unanimously added as a board position.**

**Sean Burton made a motion to create Rugby as a sport offered by Rheems Athletic Association. Joe Carter seconded the motion and was unanimously passed by the board.**

## 2. Softball - Mike Hamilton/Brian Heffleger

News/updates – Mike Hamilton provided an update on the softball season. He summarized the teams and age levels. Brian Heffleger indicated Rheems hosted the championship tournament for the league and got positive feedback. Brian Heffleger also indicated it was good for the snack stand too. Brian Heffleger indicated the fall season is starting and summarized programs for younger teams.

Kellie Peters and Brian Heffleger discussed snack stand help and finding ways to get parents to help staff the stand. Bob Meuser indicated the process starts with the commissioners. Bob indicated he would talk to the commissioners about website access.

There were some discussion about lessons learned during the season.

Mike De Stefano discussed softball fees. Mike De Stefano indicated softball invested a lot into getting the snack stand running and any profit should be moved in softball's account. Mike De Stefano indicated he will discuss with Heather about the account set up. Mike De Stefano discussed bringing the deferred EGSA money into softball balance sheet as profit. **Craig Hummer made a motion to transfer the EGSA money into softball as profit which was seconded by Sean Burton and unanimously approved by the board.**

Roger Garber provided an update on Conoy for softball. Roger indicated Conoy prorated each girl for softball and will provide Elizabethtown Fast Pitch with about \$1500 for the season.

Mike De Stefano indicated softball should revisit fees for next year to price appropriately to support the expenses to be incurred.

Mike Hamilton indicated the softball fields need Dimetex. Mike Hamilton recognized the Peter's for their significant effort to reinvigorate the snack stand. Mike Hamilton summarized the past year for softball and how far they came in a short time with the

mergers. Mike Hamilton and Mike De Stefano indicated this would not have happened without the support of Elizabethtown Boys Club.

3. Lacrosse - Mark Weissend

News/updates – No updates, not present.

4. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

- News/updates – Registration - we are seeing the numbers increase in registration and expect them to continue as we get closer to the fall season. Our travel players are already registered since they were determined in the spring and our numbers look comparable to last year. We have 150 travel players between the boys and girls teams ranging from ages U-9 up to U-15. Our teams will be participating in the LANCO and CPYSL leagues. Our intramural program for U-6 and U-8 will begin after Labor Day and we are seeing numbers in the 130 range for boys and girls. Our older teams, U-10, U-12, U-14 and U-17 teams are being pulled together now and we have identified coaches for each team. One thing that we are excited for is that we were able to put together 2 girls' teams in the U-11 and U-9 age groups. This is a first for us that we are aware of and we are curious to see how this year plays out as we have them registered in some of the lower tier levels of CPYSL.

Coaching - we are still in need of a long terms solution for our boys U-10 team as we had the coach of the team move out of the area. Brian Bell, who coached the team last year, moved down to coach the U-9 team and Ed Hoffman, his assistant has moved to Wisconsin.

Field Usage - We will be using the following fields this fall - West Donegal Township, Greentree, CMS Church field and Rheems Elementary. We do not expect there to be any issues with baseball in terms of sharing the field, but will be sharing Rheems Elementary with Lacrosse on Sundays. During the week, we expect each field to be used heavily for practices.

Player Development - we will again be using the UK soccer program for our teams at the U-8 and U-9 levels. For our U-6 age group, we will be using Ed Spayd as our in-house coordinator and he will be following the program Dave Hershey put forth last year.

EPYSA Grant - we are happy to report we were awarded \$ 7,000 grant in late June - we will use for a new shed, new goals and other field improvements.

Craig Hummer indicated the numbers for the young kids look good.

Bob Meuser made a challenge to the commissioners to send a brief paragraph every two weeks and start selling the programs for next spring.

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – Not present. Mike De Stefano indicated it was the last week of volleyball and that Rick was pleased with the number of kids.

6. Facility/Field Maintenance – Kenny Burke indicated that Rugby needs a bigger field.

Brian Heffleger indicated Gears approached Rheems for women using the Rheems fields. They used the field for one month and utilized the lights. Mike Hamilton determined field usage charges for the Rheems facilities. Mike De Stefano indicated Softball may want to post the costs to use the field on the website. Mike Hamilton indicated that the cost he came up with is only for covering Rheems AA's cost.

Joe Carter indicated the EPYSA grant is for improving the facilities. Joe indicated a new set of 11 v 11 goals were purchased. A large shed is planned for the Rheems Elementary location. Joe indicated the fields at Rheem's elementary are in bad shape and they need a lot of work this fall. Joe indicated they are still planning on playing U-6 and U-8 there. There was a discussion about a soccer concession stand and the location of the proposed shed.

7. Field Usage – Not Discussed.

8. Miscellaneous –Mike De Stefano indicated that Rob Cronin (Nikolaus & Hohenadel, LLP) is going over the process for the 501(c)3. Mike De Stefano indicated the fee for the application is \$350. Mike De Stefano indicated the IRS can take up to 270 days to process the application.

Susan Smith asked for a printer scanner when she takes over the Treasurer position full time.

Kellie Peters presented a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for Rheems on Friday September 12<sup>th</sup> from 5-9. Mike De Stefano indicated we would need school approval for the celebration. Mike De Stefano also indicate there should be a Wenger presence at the celebration.

**Joe Carter made a motion to approve the celebration which was seconded by Craig Hummer. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.**

Brian Heffleger made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Joe Carter.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

Next meeting date is Monday September 8th at 7:00 pm at Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA.