

**Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – March 9th, 2015 - Meeting Minutes
Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA**

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM with the following board members in attendance:

Brian Heffleger (softball co-commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner), Jo Hershey (rugby co-commissioner), Kenny Burke (rugby co-commissioner), Susan Smith (Treasurer), and Brian Bell (secretary).

Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner), David Kase (lacrosse co-commissioner), Rick Knowlton (volleyball commissioner), and Sean Burton (vice-president) were not in attendance.

Mark Weissend (lacrosse commissioner) arrived at 7:21 to vote on meeting minutes and left immediately after due to prior commitments.

- Special business/guests – None.
- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to January's meeting minutes. Mike De Stefano asked if there were any revisions to the meeting minutes. There were none. **Mark Weissend made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Craig Hummer. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to February's meeting minutes. Mike De Stefano asked if there were any revisions to the meeting minutes. There were none. **Mark Weissend made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Craig Hummer. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Susan Smith

February Finances - Subsequent to the meeting, Susan emailed the financial statements and check Register for February. Susan discussed the PayPal and the difficulties with reconciling the registrations with each sport. There was a discussion about the reasoning for different registration fields, including the opt-outs for fundraising. Craig Hummer indicated some of the fields could be eliminated that are no longer tracked. Mike De Stefano indicated for each sport to provide a list of opt-outs to Susan. Craig Hummer indicated Bob Meuser was looking into the possibility of moving away from using PayPal.

Craig Hummer indicated there will be carry over in the soccer budget. Part of the carry over is due to the grant received from EPYSA. The remaining grant will be used to purchase a new shed for the fields at Rheems. There was a discussion about carrying over money in each sports budget.

Susan Smith asked about a bill from Elizabethtown Sport Goods for sweatshirts. Craig indicated he and Joe Carter would verify the purchase.

- Previous business - Action Items – April
 1. 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. Bob indicated he and Mike Hamilton started looking into this.**

- Previous business - Action Items – October
 1. Mark Weissend to look into a school intern for Treasurer. **Open**

- Previous business - Action Items – November
 1. Mike De Stefano to sit with Bob Meuser and go over sponsorship program. **Open**
 2. Bob Meuser to provide Kenny Burke and Jo Hershey website access. **Open All agreed to meet on Thursday to go over web access.**

- Previous business - Action Items – December
 1. Susan Smith to be added to Member's 1st account and remove Heather Hassinger. **Open – Started the process**

- New and Ongoing business

1. Fundraising and sponsorship -
Update – No update

2. Softball - Mike Hamilton/Brian Heffleger
News/updates – Mike Hamilton indicated the tryouts went well for softball. Mike summarized the number of girls at each age level. Mike indicated participation is down from last year.

Mike Hamilton indicated snack stand participation is a part of registration. Mike Hamilton indicated the snack stand still needs a manager and that he plans on having coaches get volunteers for the snack stand. Mike Hamilton stated he will need to get a check card in his name to get supplies for the snack stand and he needs to get on the account.

Brian Heffleger indicated there is a need to recruit new families.

Mike Hamilton indicated he could handle the large events for the snack stand but needs to get more people involved.

Mike Hamilton indicated the season starts April 22nd. Mike Hamilton stated that there may be JV games in March depending on the condition of the fields.

Brian Heffleger indicated the Championship games will be at the Rheems complex again and it will be on a Thursday night in late June.

Mike De Stefano asked how the fields meeting went. Mike Hamilton indicated the meeting went well. Brian Heffleger indicated softball gave up Wolgemuth for this year. Brian also indicated all four fields will be occupied.

Mike Hamilton indicated he needs to schedule a meeting with West Donegal Township concerning the maintenance of the fields. Craig Hummer indicated West Donegal Township is using Tomlinson Bomberger for the soccer and baseball fields at the Township building.

There was a discussion about the softball budget. Mike De Stefano indicated to use a global approach to the budget and spend money on the kids.

3. Lacrosse - Mark Weissend/David Kase

News/updates – No update.

4. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

- News/updates – Craig Hummer indicated March 21st is field set up day and that the season will start April 11th. Craig indicated that everyone is staying off the fields until set up day due to the condition of the fields and until the grow tarps are taken off.

Craig indicated the numbers for U6 and U8 are down but may get some last minute sign ups. Craig indicated the other age group numbers look good. Craig indicated they will be getting a shed in the spring to fulfill the EPYSA grant.

Craig indicated tryouts will be around the weekend of April 18th and UK soccer will be running and evaluating the kids. UK will also continue their training in the spring.

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – No update.

6. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Murphy

News/updates – Kenny Burke indicated there were 16 kids at the last practice. Kenny indicated he was letting parents and kids come to watch practice before they commit.

Kenny indicated that he will send out an email soon that all the kids need to be registered

before they can practice. Kenny stated there are two registrations, one for Rheems and one for RugbyPA.

Kenny indicated he registered E-town with RugbyPA.

Kenny indicated there were coaches going to a clinic the weekend after the board meeting. Kenny stated assistant coached will need to register with USA Rugby and that it includes an automatic background check.

Kenny indicated he spoke with the RugbyPA commissioner and the commissioner indicated that it wasn't a problem not fielding a team. Kenny indicated that Penn Legacy and Coventry may allow kids to play on their teams. Kenny indicated practices will be Sunday afternoon at Fairview.

Craig Hummer indicated to talk to Karen at Gears for field usage.

Kenny indicated he was planning on doing rookie Rugby again in the summer and 7's in the fall.

Kenny indicated he is using donated equipment.

There was a discussion about the Fairview field usage. Craig Hummer indicated to bill to soccer. Susan Smith indicated to make sure we are not billed twice. Joe Hershey indicated she is looking to go to a coaching clinic in the future.

7. Facility/Field Maintenance – not discussed
8. Field Usage –
9. Security Clearance – Craig Hummer indicated EPYSA is coming out with a new policy. Craig indicated July 1st is the date for the new background checks. Craig indicated we will need a policy as an organization and that we should add a board position to organize/track security clearances. Craig indicated the policy is for the safety of the kids. Craig indicated the board position would have to manage information on background checks and concussion training.

Mike Hamilton indicated Protect Youth Sports charges \$43 a person for background checks.

Craig Hummer indicated we need to decide as an organization if Rheems will pay for clearances. Craig indicated the checks are good for three years. Craig indicated that clearances should be started soon for July practices. Craig indicated the board needs to create a formal policy.

There was a discussion about a policy for background checks. Due to a number of board members unable to attend the meeting, the discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.

Mike De Stefano indicated he would like to have a draft policy circulated before next month's meeting.

10. Miscellaneous – Mike De Stefano indicated the doctor's office who paid for sponsorship needs to be on shirts and that Wenger Feeds needs to be on all shirts. Mike indicated the softball complex is now the Wenger Feeds softball complex.

Mike Hamilton indicated he found a person to help with the flagpole project. Mike Hamilton also indicated he needs the memorial stone back. Mike Hamilton indicated when the project is complete the Robinsons will be invited to attend. Mike Hamilton indicated there will be a plaque for Wenger Feeds on opening day and that Mike De Stefano will need to attend.

Brian Heffleger indicated there will be an umpire clinic at the comple on either the 11th or 18th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22

Next meeting date is Monday, April 13th at 6:00 pm at Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA.