

**Rheems Athletic Association
Board Meeting – April 13th, 2015 - Meeting Minutes
Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA**

President Mike De Stefano called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM with the following board members in attendance:

David Kase (lacrosse co-commissioner), Rick Knowlton (volleyball commissioner), Mark Weissend (lacrosse commissioner), Mike Hamilton (softball co-commissioner), Craig Hummer (soccer co-commissioner), Jo Hershey (rugby co-commissioner), and Brian Bell (secretary).

Susan Smith (Treasurer), Brian Heffleger (softball co-commissioner), and Sean Burton (vice-president) were not in attendance.

Joe Carter (soccer co-commissioner) arrived at 7:09.

Kenny Burke (rugby co-commissioner) arrived at 7:35.

Bob Meuser (website administrator) arrived at 7:17.

- Special business/guests – Mike De Stefano read an email from Susan Smith indicating she will not renew her term once it is finished at the end of the year. Mike De Stefano asked if he knows of anyone interested in the Treasurer position.

Craig Hummer indicated we should look into if we can streamline PayPal.

Mike De Stefano indicated he would possibly entertain the position of Treasurer next year.

Mike De Stefano started a discussion on the risk management policy. Craig Hummer indicated two formal background checks are required and they are good for three years. Craig indicated there needs to be a board level position for risk management. Craig indicated we may be able to put the background checks into the website. Craig indicated the board needs to come up with a formal policy.

Mike De Stefano indicated to recirculate the prior email and have a policy in place by June 30th. Craig Hummer indicated to check the state website for parameters. Craig indicated each sports website should add a compliance page. Rick Knowlton stressed the importance to have it on the website.

There was a discussion about website and compliance. Craig Hummer indicated the background checks can be made through links on the state's website. Rick Knowlton indicated to provide a link on Rheem's website.

David Kase indicated there are companies that do background checks. Mike Hamilton indicated the Protect Youth Sports does background checks and tracks the checks. Mike Hamilton indicated the initial quote he got from Protect Youth Sports was \$43. Mike Hamilton

indicated this was an initial reduced price. Mike De Stefano indicated he was not expecting coaches to pay for the background checks. Craig Hummer indicated the League Athletics website can tie coaches to rosters and that we will need to have copies of the background checks. There was a discussion about using websites to help with the management of the background checks.

Mike De Stefano indicated moving forward the board needs to get a policy in place. There was a discussion about who will need to get background checks. Mike De Stefano indicated whoever will need background checks will need to be a part of the policy.

Craig Hummer indicated coaches will be on the field starting July 1st and will need to have the background checks. David Kase indicated to use common sense in determining who will need background checks. Mike De Stefano indicated the head coach and all assistant coaches will need background checks.

There was a discussion about outside agencies (i.e. UK soccer) and how to handle background checks. Mike Hamilton indicated the law is for volunteers only.

Mike De Stefano indicated reiterated to email the policy and get comments via email. Mike De Stefano indicated we need to act in May.

Action Item #1: Email out initial policy for background checks. Note: Subsequent to the meeting the initial policy was emailed.

Action Item #2: Commissioners to determine the number of coaches and assistant coaches in each sport.

Craig Hummer reiterated that a board level position be created for tracking background checks.

Mike De Stefano indicated he is still trying to get in contact with Wenger Feeds concerning their commitment.

- Prior meeting minutes review and approval

Mike De Stefano asked if there were any objections to March's meeting minutes. Mike De Stefano asked if there were any revisions to the meeting minutes. There were none. **Rick Knowlton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes which was seconded by Kenny Burke. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.**

- Finances – Susan Smith

March Finances - Subsequent to the meeting, Susan emailed the financial statements and check Register for March. Susan was not present at the meeting, therefore nothing further was discussed.

- 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. **Closed *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. **Closed– *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 last weekend they had an umpire clinic at the complex. At the end they had a clinic with all the umpires. Softball received \$250 donation for fielding the clinic. Mike Hamilton also indicated they grossed \$700 in the concession stand. Mike Hamilton indicated opening day was this coming weekend. Opening ceremonies are from 10-12 and scrimmages will be from 12-5.

Mike Hamilton indicated championships would in June again at the Rheems facility. Mike Hamilton also indicated he would like to have a tournament at the facility.

Mike Hamilton went over the numbers in each age bracket. Mike Hamilton indicated the Robinson memorial is about done. Rick Hamilton indicated he will contact the founding members about softball's opening day. Mike Hamilton indicated he would wait until next year to dedicate the Robinson memorial when it will be completely finished.

3. Lacrosse - Mark Weissend/David Kase

News/updates – Mark Weissend indicated the girls team won against a true A-team. Mark indicated Wednesday starts wounded warrior week for lacrosse. Mark indicated the 18th is lacrosse day and they are playing LS all day.

David Kase indicated there has been a couple games played. David also indicated he would like to reach out to Mount Cavalry and Jared Griest.

4. Soccer - Joe Carter/Craig Hummer

News/updates – Craig Hummer indicated U6/U8 kicked off and that they were struggling to get coaches. Craig indicated the numbers were flat for the spring. Craig indicated that the new shed was just ordered to fulfill the grant from EPYSA. There was a discussion about U9 travel.

Joe Carter indicated the commissioners will be soon asking for more help. Craig Hummer indicated he and Joe are making a list of positions and people who volunteer will be able to get free registration. There was a discussion about getting people to volunteer and possibly inviting Rick Martin to talk about getting volunteers.

5. Volleyball - Richard Knowlton

News/updates – Rick Knowlton indicated 25 kids had already signed up for Volleyball. Rick discussed running an ad in the merchandiser in early to mid-May. Craig Hummer indicated that soccer could get fall registration up early and be included in the ad. Rick Knowlton asked to combine with rugby also. Rick indicated he would send out a previous version of the ad. Craig Hummer indicated to do a half-page ad and keep it direct. Rick Knowlton indicated he would like to get Donegal kids involved in volleyball. Rick would also like to get yard signs made for volleyball.

6. Rugby – Kenny Burke/Jo Murphy

News/updates – Kenny Burke indicated rugby is getting 15-25 kids coming out on Sunday and Thursday to practice. Kenny indicated the kids did not need to register with RugbyPA since there wasn't a team. Kenny indicated they will soon be focusing on getting the summer numbers up by reaching out to other schools. Registration for the summer program will open in May. Kenny indicated he got a number of jerseys through a donation. Craig Hummer indicated Kenny may be able to piggyback on soccer's sub fundraiser..

7. Facility/Field Maintenance – not discussed

8. Field Usage –

9. Security Clearance – Discussed above

10. Miscellaneous – Mike De Stefano inquired about the status of the Rheems fields. Mike Hamilton indicated he would talk to Chris Geisey about the status of the fields.

Mike De Stefano reminded the board that there should be no vehicles on West Donegal fields.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54

Next meeting date is Monday, May 11th at 7:00 pm at Hope Community Church, Mount Joy, PA.