

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The meeting covered various administrative and operational matters for a sports league, including discussions about coach conduct, league structure, and financial updates. Key topics included the handling of incident reports, team assignments, and the implementation of new systems for managing player positioning and coach assignments. The group also addressed plans for upcoming events, merchandise sales, and facility improvements, while considering ways to maximize playing opportunities for all children while managing both recreational and travel teams.

Next steps

- Leah to set up Squad Locker for team store within 48 hours and post to the website with 5% profit margin
- Leah to inform Paige that Lakeview Playground will not be affiliating with Little League anymore
- Max to handle the shack setup and coordination for St. Michael's event on November 15th
- Emily to coordinate with high school students for service hours to help at the St. Michael's event
- Max to contact Stephanie Hilferty about getting new light poles or funding for field improvements
- Leah to communicate with Dave about basketball team assignments and to share message girls' basketball parents about playing in younger age groups due to low registration numbers
- Lindsay to obtain and post league rules on the website
- Tony to get someone to apply a temporary fix for the leaking roof until a permanent solution can be found
- Max to create a new email address for sending official communications
- Leah to look into purchasing merchandise items to sell at opening weekend

Summary

Coach Concerns Addressed

The meeting began with public comment, where concerns were raised about a letter being sent for incident documentation.

Max discussed the process of handling incidents in the league, emphasizing that it involves a board decision with the Enforcement Committee and is not a judge-jury scenario. He discussed that incidents were reported last summer and more recently with the volleyball team, leading to the need to document incidents. Max addressed concerns about the competitiveness of the leagues and mentioned efforts to create a more competitive and

less competitive league structure across all coaching staff. He noted that the league has grown significantly, from 770 to 2,000 participants, and expressed appreciation for coaches while acknowledging the challenges of managing such a large program.

Max discussed the importance of addressing player and coach conduct issues promptly and transparently, emphasizing the board's process for handling complaints. He acknowledged the challenges of managing perceptions and the need for clear communication, while also highlighting the board's commitment to maintaining confidentiality in such matters. The discussion also touched on the need for improvement in player positioning and the importance of playground members expressing their concerns during board meetings.

Board Appointment and Financial Update

Max announced that Matt Grau has been appointed to the board to replace Kyle Rose, who resigned. He reviewed the financial status, noting they have \$32,245.71 in checking, \$2,864.94 in a second checking account, \$10,307 in business companion savings, and \$25,000 in a 12th to 17th month CPA account.

Youth Basketball Team Draft System

Max discussed the handling of youth basketball teams, focusing on team assignments and player grading. He proposed a draft system for players aged 7-12, with head coaches and assistant coaches assigned, and emphasized the importance of formal grading before drafting. Concerns were expressed about safety and liability, particularly regarding younger players, and suggested offering parents options for their children's participation. She also mentioned a potential 3-on-3 league for older players. Girls will be rostered down with the option to play “up”.

Fall Sports Scheduling and Logistics

Leah discussed fall sports logistics, including cabbage ball and baseball scheduling. She emphasized the importance of maintaining consistent rosters and requested notification of any roster changes. Leah also addressed issues with coaching assignments and clarified the process for registering as a coach. Max provided field assignments for fall cabbage ball games and encouraged scheduling practices through Play Metrics.

St. Michael's Event

Max discussed plans for a November 15th tournament event for St. Michael's, where they will provide services and potentially donate profits to the school. All board members are encouraged to attend when possible.

Merchandise Planning and League Decision

Leah discussed plans to bulk order merchandise like magnets, car decals, and adjustable hats for opening weekend sales, with a focus on items that aren't size-specific. She also mentioned the launch of a new online team store via Squad Locker, which will allow fans to order various apparel items, with a 5% profit margin. The group briefly touched on the need for football decals or magnets for cars, and Leah suggested having a spirit shop for opening weekend to sell t-shirts and other merchandise.

Little League

Max addressed an ongoing issue with Little League affiliation, noting complaints from coaches about exclusion of players, which she attributed to miscommunication during registration. The Board concluded that the organization would not affiliate with Little League again and would continue using USSSA for All Stars and Babe Ruth rules as needed. Leah will let Paige know.

Team Management and Facility Funding

Max discussed the challenges of managing both rec and travel teams field usage. Emphasis to reconcile the playmetrics calendars as essential. Max addressed communication with NORD, including a freeze on spending and hiring, and reviewed emails from Larry Barabino regarding facility usage and maintenance responsibilities. The group considered seeking funding for facility improvements, such as new lights and playground equipment, and discussed potential strategies to secure financial support from various sources including possible GoFundMe and Capital Campaigns.