MARS BASEBALL
FAST PITCH SOFTBALL

PO Box 630
Mars, PA 16046
www.marsbaseball.com

October 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 10/18/23 (OPEN)

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Adams Township Building

Board Attendees:

Executive Board:

President - Larry Fox
VP of Baseball Ops - Brad Schmidt
Director of Facilities – Chuck Palasik
Treasurer – Eric Schrecengost
Secretary - Sandy Sanderson

Board of Directors:

Opening Day Chairperson - VACANT
Assistant VP of In-House Ops – Ron Shebek (ABSENT)
Assistant VP of Travel Ops – Sean Ranson
Assistant VP of Softball Ops – Shane Malone (ABSENT)
Community Outreach Coordinator - VACANT
Equipment Manager – Steve Norris
Field Maintenance Assistant – Ryan Moore/Michael Sirney (ABSENT)
Umpire Coordinator - VACANT
Assistant Treasurer of Travel – Joe Derouin
Concessions Stand Manager – Christy Wilson (ABSENT)
Fundraising, Signs, and Sponsors – Adam Dunn
Registrar - VACANT
Uniforms and Spirit Wear Coordinator – Jenn Bauman (ABSENT)
Assistant Secretary of Social Media – Priscilla Knieriem
Assistant Secretary of Website Management – Priscilla Knieriem
Immediate Past President - VACANT

Discussion Items:

Brad Schmitt: Open Meeting

Larry Fox:

Sandy Sanderson:

- Exec Board elections: President/Facilities/Secretary – for 2023 only, the board unanimously approved the postponement of the Exec Board Elections to the November meeting in order to allow time to

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evaluate board member desires to rerun for their position and seek nominations for other candidates to run for election.

- Proposed changes to bylaws:
  - We should vote on making the Assistant VP of Softball Operations position (Shane) an official Board of Directors position. – Unanimously approved.
  - Eliminate the "Community Outreach Coordinator" board seat. Currently vacant and to me this is the same as social media position. – Tabled for future discussion.
  - Update Article 2 (Objective) to include softball verbiage not just baseball. – Unanimously approved.
- Making it much clearer that MBA offers baseball opportunities at 13-14U. Lots of people think they have to leave after 12U. – MBA has 13-14U (PONY) offerings and has for years. Including 26 players in 2023. Need to make sure PONY level spring registration opens up in December at the same time as all other age levels. Need to create more of a PONY age group presence on the new MBA website so that it is abundantly clear that MBA baseball does NOT stop at 12U.

Chuck Palasick (Fields): NOT ADDRESSED IN SEPT

- New equipment (possible quad for rotory/vfw/centennial). – May need to purchase another quad (preferred over tractor), will price out and develop field maintenance budget to determine purchase feasibility.
- What to do with batting cage formally at adams1/2. – Need a group of volunteers to help relocate.
- Lights for fall ball at the vet. I would prefer manually turning on and off, would require a key for the concession stand. – Can we give commissioners and/or coaches light app access so they can turn on/off lights as necessary?
- Dirt needs spread at Adams 1&2, need to schedule a Sunday and get volunteers to help spread dirt. Can "Field Day" volunteers receive "Volunteer" credit from player registration?

Sean Ranson (Travel Baseball): NOT ADDRESSED IN SEPT

- Leasing NOS (heard rumors they are looking to sell) for MBSA - Just a soft rumor, that may or not be true.
- Purchasing of tarps for fields – Will price out through AD STARR
- Purchasing 3 JUGS machines – Desires more pitching machines for use during evaluations. Is the investment worth it for equipment that may only get used 1 week a year? Would an Atec R2 Defensive Training Machine be a better investment?
- Rebuilding the relationship to use Centennial Turf – No progress
- Player discounts for board members (at least volunteer credit off registration - sandy) – Should coaches, board members, field day volunteers, get the volunteer credit off player registration?
- Could potentially need new portable mounds.

Ron Shebek (In House):

- Opening Day date 2024 discussion – Not Discussed

Shane Malone (Softball):

- Sunday NOS Winter Training slot is not needed

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- Missing base plugs at Kiwanis. – Not Discussed
- Can we get lights on the Kiwanis field – Not Discussed

Eric Schrecengost/Joe Derouin (Finances):

- Accountant is working on processing Tax Return
- Laptop for Joe has been purchased so Quickbooks can be accessed
- Travel credits applied to all accounts except 12U

Christy Wilson (Concessions):

Jen Bauman (Spiritwear):

Priscilla Knieriem (Website/Social Media):

Steve Norris (Equipment):

- Wants to take a full equipment inventory after fall ball.
- Will create an equipment budget to determine what is needed for 2024.
- Can no longer get heart guards to replace worn out missing ones.
- Will get pricing on portable mounds and tarps.
- Requests we pay in house umpires more as kids don't want to ump for $20. Others suggest pay $50 for patch umps instead.

General Public:

- Gary – Requests we try and operate in house by a consistent set of Pony International Baseball Rules. Need to have commissioners explain uniform rules to coaches at preseason coaches meetings so all coaches are operating with the same understanding of rules.
- Gary – Would like Travel Players to get feedback following evaluations. Would like to see evaluation scores posted publicly.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 11/15/23 (OPEN)

Minutes Submitted by: Sandy Sanderson - Secretary

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