**Rosemount Girls Traveling Fastpitch Softball Minutes**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Date: 10/15/23**

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Rosemount Community Center, Rm 212

**Present:** Doug Kasper, Chad Kalstabakken, Heidi McDonald, Debbie Stovall, Tricia Paulson, Shelby Nutting-Veliz,

Jill Steenberg, Amy Hall, Cory Samuelson, Shanna Geurink

**Not Present:** Janie Lambert, Nicole Bradley, Shelby Pogatchnik, Danielle Waage, Mindy McBride, Dodi Matti-RAAA Liaison, Mark Reierson-RAAA Liaison

**Guests:** n/a

**Meeting Called to Order**: 6:05 PM

**Secretary's Report: (Janie Lambert)** GTFS Board approved meeting minutes from 9/10/23. Will be posted on website.

**Treasurer’s Report: (Shanna Geurink)** $55,752 as of 9/30/23

**Meeting Topics**

* **Shout Outs/Welcome Guests**
  + Debbie (from Shanna) – for helping with treasurer duties during fall state while her business had its grand opening
  + Debbie (from Shelby N-V) – for helping with coordinating the extra needed volunteers during the fall state tourney
  + Amy & Danielle (from Chad) – for getting the Fall Training in Oct going on Monday nights
  + 8U teen Umpires (especially Gracie Kasper) during 8U fall state tourney – they had to deal with some difficult 8U coaches & did so very, very well
* **Next Board Meeting: November 12th, 6 pm RCC room 212**
* **Upcoming Timeline review (Doug)**
  + Doug provided link to Public Google Calendar for upcoming important dates. Link to be shared

with families for awareness of important dates (state tournaments in spring/fall, parent meeting, etc).

* <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/3?cid=dHJhdmVsaW5nLXNvZnRiYWxsQHJvc2Vtb3VudC1hYWEub3Jn>
* Doug to add calendar updates for 2023-2024
  + Give him about 2 weeks, and then let him know if anyone sees anything missing
* Also plan to send out an email to families with list of important dates for 2024 so they can block their calendars while planning 2024 summer vacations, etc
  + Internal Board Softball Calendar of to-dos from last year
    - Doug provided link to individual board members to utilize for reminders for next year or

reminders when passing on a board position to a new member

**Larger Topics for Discussion & Focus**

* **Fall Clinics – Player Development (Amy)**
  + 2 Monday dates left in October
  + Have had @ 15 players per week
  + Fall outdoors pitching lessons
    - Offered last Saturday by Julie Graf w/ Windup Fastpitch
    - Looking for another date to have lesson outside as long as weather is still good
    - Question about how pitching lesson was communicated
      * Determined information/sign-up didn’t go out to 14U families & probably not summer registered families either, only fall registered families
        + This is an issue with new SportsEngine registration system that RAAA converted to – the communication feature is very difficult

Heidi is planning to change over to some type of MailChimp or some alternative email communication platform option

* **Winter Clinics (Doug & Amy)**
  + Current registration #s are:
    - Fridays = 34 & Wed = 24 (**Budget:** Fri: 56 & Wed: 35 + 14U team both days)
    - Registration closes Sunday, Oct 29
  + Christina Pickett from Windup Fastpitch will be “leading” Hitting & Fielding training
    - Christina will do all the training planning for each week & will be providing training at both Wed & Fri sessions this Winter Dome training season
      * Main reasons for this change:
        + sustainability & consistent winter training program, as our player development volunteer board members change out every 2 years
        + establishing a relationship with Windup Fastpitch so if Christina moves on from their company, then they can provide another coach/trainer to step into provide this training
    - Christina played at Augustana (D2) & is currently going to school to be a Physician Assistant
      * She will be bringing college & high school players with her to help facilitate training
        + We will need to pay these college/HS players separately, so we will need to collect a W9 from each of them

TO DO: Shanna to send Amy blank IRS W9 form

* + - * We will still need parent coaches to volunteer to assist
        + Would we be able to use High School volunteers as well? Gracie & her fried are interested in helping out

YES, per Amy

* **14U Club Director (14U/HS level) (Doug)**
  + RAAA approved Traveling Softball adding a club team 5 years ago, so Doug didn’t need to get additional approval from them (no one on current board was aware of this)
  + Initial thought would be to add a Regional Club level Team
    - Paid coach
    - hoping to keep cost in the @ $1,800/player range
      * (for comparison our current 14U association team cost is $840 annually – includes fall season, winter dome Wed/Fri, 1 winter dome tourney & summer league)
  + We will plan to budget for this type of 14U team in the 2024 budget
  + Board voted unanimously to APPROVE to add a Club Director board position
* **Pitching Winter Lessons (Amy)**
  + Discussion about possibility of changing from Strikezone to Windup Fastpitch
    - Discussion about pitching techniques: Hello elbow vs Whip
  + Need to decide soon
    - If change, would not have a location to hold Windup Fastpitch lessons provided by Julie Graff, so we would need to also find an indoor location to rent as well
* **Team Formation (Doug)**
  + Do we have 2 even teams @ B, C?
    - Discussion had, decision that best for our players development would be to continue to form our teams with higher B, lower B, then higher C, lower C (if we have 2 C teams) instead of creating even teams
    - We don’t feel like this concept would work unless ALL the other associations in tri-counties or at least assoc. nearest to us that we most regularly play (ie Farmington, Eagan, Lakeville, AV/Fusion) we also agree to this same team formation concept change.
  + 8U do we go by age, or have some skill evaluation
    - Discussion had, however Danielle not present, and she was the one that proposed this topic, so the board unable to hear her viewpoint on this subject
    - No decision was made as to “how” to divide the teams, but board agreed that there should be some type of clinic for 8U registered players to demonstrate their skill level to help with team formation
      * Board still to determine if 8U team formation should be split as higher/lower, equal teams, age groups, etc
      * Doug did ask people to consider their thought process as it relates to 10U/12U and consider why or why not also applying to the 8U level as well
      * Future discussion needed

**5 Minute Updates**

* **Finance (Shanna)**
  + 2023 Concessions Summary (Summer + Fall)
    - **Revenue: Budget:** $14,750 **Actual:** $23,940
    - **Expense: Budget:** $ 5,850 **Actual:** $ 9,672
    - **Earnings: Budget:** $ 8,900 **Actual:** $14,258
  + Donations/Fundraising: Budget vs Actual: 2023 YTD Actual +$200 over Budget
    - Purse Bingo, Shamrock Showdown Sponsorships & T-shirt revenue sharing sales at summer tournament were able to make up for the non-executed Wearable Blankets fundraiser that was
    - Still waiting to hear on amount from October Las Tortillas fundraiser event+ upcoming Jersey Mike’s fundraiser in Nov
  + 2024 Budget work starting
    - Submit in 2024 budget expense needs before Nov 12th board meeting to Shanna & Debbie, or sooner
      * Shanna & Debbie will be working together with Doug to create 2024 budget which will be presented to RAAA Finance Committee on Mon Dec 4th
* **Communications (Heidi)**
  + Prefers pictures to be emailed into the main email address instead of sent via Facebook messenger
  + Give Heidi heads up in advance if a special event going on, or that a team is participating in, because sometimes there are planned/scheduled posts & sharing pictures from unknown event may get in the middle of a planned communication campaign
  + She will get all meeting minutes updated on website as only minutes thru March 2023 currently posted
    - From her view they look like they are posted, so she needs to check into further
    - Same with link to Bylaws,
* **Uniforms (Tricia)**
  + Found possible alternative uniform vendor option, but still weighing options
  + Pricing out some alternative fabric options w/ CA Gear as well
* **Volunteer Coordinator (Shelby N-V)**
  + 4 families didn’t complete volunteer hours for Fall
    - They have all received multiple emails, but will receive one last email via Heidi from main email address that their Fall volunteer check will be cashed within 10 business days, then Shanna will proceed with cashing their volunteer checks
  + Shelby & Debbie going to explore the built-in DIBS volunteer registration & tracking option within SportsEngine for use in future vs Sign-Up Genius
    - May need to get some test user access from Amy W or something, more to check into this winter
* **Fundraising (Doug - as Shelby P & Nicole not in attendance)**
  + Jersey Mike’s night – Wed, Nov 15th
    - Participants must say “Rsmt Traveling Softball” when checking out
* **Equipment (Cory)**
  + Needs a contact name/number for someone at Irish Dome so he can get in there & Inventory what we have in our storage cages -- Doug will get info for him
  + Purchased some sliding mats for winter dome training
  + Meeting with Doug, Chad & player development after board meeting to discuss what additional equipment might be needed for winter dome training
  + Per Doug, better to buy now to use up remaining 2023 budget prior to Oct 31st if possible
* **Community Culture (Jill)**
  + Jill has role responsibilities written up so ready for Communications to post her open board position
* **New RAAA Liaison (Doug)**
  + David Asp will be our new liaison, per text from Dodi Matti earlier today
  + Unsure if David is replacing Dodi or Mark or both, more info to come
* **Be Prepared for November’s Meeting to Discuss:**
  + Coach Selection Process
  + Additional Tryout Metrics
  + Team Selection Process without Names
* **Meeting adjourned @ 7:55 PM**
* **Next regularly meeting scheduled for November 12th Time 6 PM, Location RCC, Rm 212**
* **Meeting minutes prepared by: Debbie Stovall, Tournament Director (filling in for Janie Lambert, Secretary)**