

Mahtomedi Fastpitch Association  
Board Notes  
January 21, 2010  
6:30 p.m., District Ed

**Members Present:** Kevin Brown, Greg Eick, John Kieger, Mark Kuschke, Tom Moore, Bill Putney, Kari Rambo

**Members Absent:** Susan Anderson, Tina Ziemer, Paul DeWitt

**Insurance Update**

Bill announced that we are covered, effective January 1, 2010, with team coverage and D and O for the board.

**Action Item:** None, Complete

**Evaluation Task Force**

The Evaluation Task Force made their recommendations to the full board. The date for tryouts has been finalized for Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Hamline University field house. Exact times for each group will be finalized within the next few days. It was decided to use independent evaluators for all scoring at this years evaluations. 8 coaches from the East Side Twins will be responsible for the scoring of all drills. The Board members will still be responsible for the overall organization of the tryouts, including set up and tear down. There will be some minor modifications to the process in regards to the individual skills tested, fly balls from a machine, less repetitions on some skills, etc. Evaluations will be for the 12U, 14U, and 16U groups only. Pitchers and catchers will have an additional evaluation either on March 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> in Mahtomedi. Angela Vettters and Tracy Jones will assist in the pitcher/catcher evaluations. 10U will have a separate tryout in early April.

**Action Item:** Publish times for each group, 12U, 14U, and 16U. Greg Eick to establish date for the 10U players in early April and also for the pitcher/catcher evals, either March 29<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>.

**On-Line Registrations**

On-Line registration will be available February 1<sup>st</sup>. The link on the fastpitch website will be added early next week.

**Action Item:** Greg Eick to make final adjustments to the process prior to February 1.

**Player Fees**

The board agreed to raise the player fee this year to \$200.00. After reviewing 2009 financials, our player costs were exceeding our player fees. (The average cost per player last year was \$185.00 without uniforms versus the 2009 player fee of \$160.00 without uniform.) This will be the first increase since 2005. The Association has seen increases in cost of Insurance, fields and prep, umpires, and equipment.

### **Try-out Fee**

The board agreed to initiate a try-out fee of \$15.00 for each player at the Evaluation. This fee will help cover the cost of the facility and the use of independent evaluators.

### **Uniforms**

We have completed the evaluation of suppliers.

**Action Item:** John Kieger to confirm costs and will be ready for the January 26<sup>th</sup> Open House.

### **Website**

The calendar page will be developed and populated in February with key dates. The link to on-line registration will be added by Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Coaching Openings**

We still need coaches at most levels and Greg asked each board member to get the word out to potential coaches/parents/ex-players. We would like to have all our coaches identified prior to team selection in late March.

**Action Item:** Board members to get the word out and solicit support. We will place a “Coaches Needed” announcement on the website in a more prominent location.

### **Open Gym**

We will try to schedule an open gym time the week of March 23<sup>rd</sup> prior to evaluations to give the players a chance to tune up before try-outs on March 28<sup>th</sup>. We will also look to book some open gym times through April for the teams to get some indoor practice time prior to the regular season starting.

**Action Item:** Greg to book gym time if possible.

### **Code of Conduct**

The board agreed to adopt a Code of Conduct that covers players, coaches, and parents. We currently have individual documents for each category. A check box will be added during the on-line registration process.

**Action Item:** Add document to on-line registration process.

### **Grievance Procedure**

The board reviewed a grievance procedure and decided to make some adjustments to simplify.

**Action Item:** Bill Putney to review and modify. Will present at next month’s meeting.

### **Tri-County**

Kari Rambo, our Tri-County rep gave a brief update on their past meetings. We will continue to be aligned with MMFL as in the past. The league has added a new team from Somerset, Wis. League fees will remain unchanged for 2010.

### **Information Open House**

An information open house will be held for new and existing players on Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. We will have uniforms on hand for fitting purposes. 5:30 – 7:30 PM Greg and John K. to cover.

**February Board Meeting will be Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m.  
District Education, Room #107  
Submitted by Kevin Brown**