



SSBL Board of Directors Meeting
July 8, 2024, 8:30pm
Via Google Meet

Present: Laura Buccola, Richard Sosa, Seth Goren, Chris Moon, Jimmy DaSilva, Alison MacMillan, Kevin Haggard, Mike Evangelist, Eric Volker, Drew Spitzer, Pat McGovern, Jason Filiberti

Present (General Board): Michelle DeMuth, Jon Goldberg, Remy Bianco.

- I. Welcome / Introduction
- II. Treasurer's Report – Drew Spitzer
 - a. June isn't closed yet so nothing new to report
 - b. Work Bonds should all be up to date
 - c. Will start working through budgets for next year
- III. Softball Travel Update – Jason Filiberti
 - a. Fall registration will open up this week and will remain open through the end of July
 - b. This is the 2nd year with the USA Softball age grouping age up (changes date from 12/31 to 8/31); we know some questions from parents are out there about where their child can play; we can't do anything to modify until everyone is registered
 - c. Pitching clinic sessions – everyone liked but it has been very hot; perhaps it makes sense to do them in the Fall in the future
 - d. Question from Jimmy DaSilva about the Fall schedule? Weekend v. weekday? Expect both weekday and weekends, about 3 days per week; Fall is more mellow compared to Spring.
- IV. Softball Update – Richard Sosa
 - a. No new updates
 - b. Any updates on lower turf and how much we will get? Per Laura, no new updates; perhaps it will be a practice facility. Also continuing to monitor the middle school playing fields.
- V. Baseball Travel Update – Seth Goren
 - a. Everyone went through districts except 7u and everyone played well

- c. NJPTL season – ending early by 5 days and the minimum game requirement was increased which made it difficult to schedule all the games given the Ripken teams robust schedule
 - d. Fall travel– expect to announce rosters by end of July; expect to field 10 teams (2 more than last year); distribution of teams is encouraging (at least 2 teams at the younger age group); coaches will go to the board for approval later this week
 - e. Question – any difficulty finding coaches? Most people were hand raisers for assistant role and therefore the difficult part was finding the head coaches; at this point we are in good shape; 7u had 50 kids coming to try out – so that was amazing!
- VI. Baseball Update – Pat McGovern
- a. Player Development Role - working on a replacement for Minor Huffman in the player development role; it's very important and the consistency he brought for player clinics was helpful; job description is forthcoming
 - b. Baseball Opps role is also open
 - c. All Star games – 3rd/4th grade game got rained out (still planning to reschedule) but the rest had good feedback
 - d. Fall baseball clinics – working on those currently; working around flag football and travel; these are run by parents/coaches and last season had high school players help out with it; it was a good connection for the high school students and the younger kids loved it; it's a good fundraising relationship for them as well
- VII. Marketing Update – Alison MacMillan – no specific updates
- a. Continue to post – please continue to send anything along
 - b. Working on the sponsorship for plaque since don't have the pictures and packages for next year will be given when the plaques are delivered
- VIII. Personell Update – Mike Evangelist
- a. Rec coach evaluation surveys going out this week
 - b. Travel evaluations – Spring surveys will go out now except for teams that are playing during the summer, will wait on those until the season is over
- IX. Fields/CapEx Update – Eric Volker
- a. Thank you to Eric for all your work on the fields for the past few weeks
 - b. Mound/Batters box field upgrades at Long, Jefferson - hired a company called SFS to tune-up and clean-up and level fields; Jefferson and Long is what we started with; moved hose; redid mound entirely and added 4 to 6 foot anchor system so no longer have to nail them; redid home plate clay and leveled it; same thing at Long; reports are positive to date; added new tarps that are chain weighted and 12 foot (testing them first with travel coaches and if it goes well, we will add to other locations; the one drawback is that they have to be taken on and off); expect to get larger tarps for home plate; the anchors for 3rd and 2nds were not in the right spot and put in a new regular anchor that is at the right distance – short at the 70 distance, a base longer

- c. Lincoln field getting updated by DCP – began today
 - d. Jefferson lights – Laura reported that lights have been an issue; it's the lighting supplier not the vendor to fix the flicker in the current light and lights that are out; Laura walk the field with the supplier to fix light visibility at center field; the lift and labor is most of the cost; Laura apologized for the strobe lights at recent games
 - e. Mike Evangelist asked about the fence at the high school? Yes, we have it but waiting for a trial run with Dan Healey; Richard Sosa asked if that opens up more field space? Hopefully but not sure yet
- X. Outside Director Update – Jimmy DaSilva
- a. Continuing outreach to find prospective new members for the Board; will keep everyone posted
 - b. Thank you Jimmy for all that you have done for kids in both sports
 - c. Per Laura, working on Nominating committee – 3 people
- XI. Questions/Comments/Concerns
- XII. Upcoming Board of Directors Meeting August 12, 2024
- XIII. Upcoming Executive Board Meeting: July 16, 2024