

# **BHGS Board Meeting Minutes**

**Date: April 4, 2018**

Location: Round Table Pizza

Official Start Time: 7:35pm

Official Adjournment Time: 9:22pm

## **A. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Attendees: James Reddell, Nick Pearsall, Heidi Owens, Katie Coyne, Christine Knecht, Ben Scripoch, Butch Coyne, Steve Augenstein, Ron Chun, Lindsay Pearsall, Mike Bugliarello, Sheryl Tamashir (new website coordinator),
2. Absent: Dan Liddle, Sarah Ebert, Stacy Avalos, Sarah Ortiz, Jamie Merz, Erika Reddell, Mrs. Bugliarello (new yearbook coordinator).
3. Nick motioned to approve the March minutes and Ben seconded. The Board approved minutes from last meeting.

## **B. The board reviewed a serious incident that occurred on Saturday involving BHGS umpires and the Almaden Valley Girls Softball League fans at great length. The board unanimously approved a series of actions including the following:**

1. Investigating our options to pursue criminal charges, civil charges, or a restraining order.
2. The board will request and schedule a follow up meeting with the Almaden Valley Girls Softball League president and several members of both leagues to discuss specific repercussions and next steps. The two fans involved in the incident have been banned from attending any future games there, but we would like to press for more action.
3. Implementation of crisis management and de-escalation training for the executive board, umpires, and coaches.
4. A new requirement for an executive board member (or BHGS umpire coordinator) to be present on the field in a non-coaching capacity at all times during interleague games. This will require additional scheduling and we will implement that immediately.
5. The specific team does not have any further games scheduled this season at Branham Hills, but we will not allow the team on our fields for rain makeup games on our field for the remainder of the season.

## **C. Makeup games for rainouts**

1. The board discussed rain makeup games at great length.
  - i. For 6U and 8U, practices provide more skills development opportunity than games do.
  - ii. 6U players tend to like practices better than games.
  - iii. Field space is already being used to full capacity for the season dates.
  - iv. Additional time for recreational teams, after closing ceremonies, would be disruptive to summer Thunder travel teams since the same players are on both.
  - v. We could cancel our playoff tournament and instead have three weeks of rain makeup games, but some coaches will balk at that idea because there is a point of pride in winning the playoff tournament.
  - vi. The 12U and 14U players begin interleague playoffs at the end of the season and BHGS does not have control over that schedule.

- vii. The board discussed potentially officially changing scheduled practices into games. This would require scheduling umpires and some calculus to figure out which games were cancelled and how to put those back into the schedule.
  - viii. There is a great deal of feedback from parents at the 8U level about the value of their registration fee per game with so many rainouts.
  - ix. The league has no control over the weather and can't predict conditions when we create the schedule.
  - x. In the past, the schedule extended much longer for this reason, but many families were absent toward the end of the season as they went on vacations. Also, the state of affairs has changed with the older girls going to interleague play earlier.
2. After lengthy discussion, the board unanimously decided to add a consolation bracket to the season-end playoff tournament for 8U and 10U. This will create an additional week of games for any teams that would have been eliminated in the first round of playoffs.
  3. We will not officially change the schedule to create rain makeup games (adding umpires and figuring the exact games to add back). However, teams that are eager for gameplay may coordinate with the other team to scrimmage during shared field practices. Coaches should balance the eagerness for gameplay with the knowledge that 6U and 8U girls need practices for skills development.

#### D. Clinic Planning and Thunder Planning

1. The committee that met to discuss all possible options for earlier Thunder activities reported back their decisions. They proposed three advanced skills development clinics, with "Thunder" intentionally left out of the naming to encourage all players. They will be for combined age groups (8U, 10U, 12U). They will run through advanced skills training to bring up the level of play, identify high potential players, and encourage Thunder participation.
2. The Friday, April 6 clinic will be cancelled due to rain.
3. The April 20<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup> clinics remain on the schedule with six coaches.
4. Thunder Tryouts
  - i. 8U will be Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.
  - ii. 10U will be Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10am
  - iii. 12U will be Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 12pm.
  - iv. Thunder coaching applications are due April 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - v. We will identify the coaches and communicate an approximate Thunder fee range in our emails about Thunder tryouts.
  - vi. BHGS is expecting to have two teams at both the 8U and 10U level, and one team at the 12U level. We will start registering for summer tournaments now.

E. Treasurer's Report - The treasurer gave a full report of the league's financial standing.

F. Sponsorship – The board discussed sponsorship program communication and coordination.

G. Executive Board Elections - The board discussed roles, responsibilities, and dates for the executive board elections.

H. Cutting Edge Helmets - The board decided not to purchase helmets from Cutting Edge.

I. Umpire Training - The board discussed formal umpire training and informal umpire coaching during games.

- J. New Golf Carts - The board approved a disposal plan for the old Toro golf cart to make room for the new one.
- K. Adjournment
  - 1. The meeting adjourned at 9:26PM.
  - 2. Next meeting is Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 7:30 at JJ Magoos.