



Exeter Junior Baseball & Softball League Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 6, 2015

2014-2015 Board Members Attendance:

Dave Morissette	X	Doug Lenihan		Paul Imbimbo
Troy Gilbert		Lorraine Crist		Matt Smith
Stephanie Brackett	X	Mike LaNigra	X	Don Perreault
Tim Bond	X	Rick Lafleur	X	Bryan Wall
Shawn Roussin	X	Eric Roffman	X	
Todd Gibbons	X	Bruce Fielding	X	

Guests: Brian Hoyt, Joe Brackett, Scott Wright, Sue Marcella

- Meeting convened at 7:32 pm.
- July minutes are not available for approval at this time. E-mail to follow.
- 12 Yr. Old World Series Celebration: Dave expressed what a phenomenal night it was. Special thank you to Mike LaNigra for spearheading the event, and to all the other volunteers and board members who made the night special. The celebration capped the end of a long season with a positive experience the boys will never forget. Dave expressed that it was great to know that families back home were watching and supporting the team. He stated the kids felt the support from home and carried it with them on the field. Thank you to all who made monetary donations to help defray the costs of travel.
- Treasurer's report: Please see report. We currently have 3 outstanding checks that have yet to be cashed, stemming from state tournament play. Will follow up to ensure checks were submitted for payment by the corresponding coaches. EJBSL should receive a reimbursement check for \$3,000 from Cal Ripken in relation to the 12 yr. old post-season play, Tim will check with Matt to follow up. End of the fiscal year is Sept. 30th. Tim and Eric have been analyzing the financial report to revamp the way EJBSL breaks down fees for the league. For example the umpire fees are lumped into one number for all league divisions (EJBL, Babe Ruth, Softball, etc.), so it would be beneficial to see that broken down. This will give the league a more accurate depiction of where money is being exchanged.
- Scoreboard update: Dave spoke with both Dick Wendell and Paul Flynn. After some discussion Dave feels as though we will have approval for the scoreboard to be placed where we had intended, in right field (behind fence) at Currier. If not approved for that location we will need to put the new scoreboard where the old one exists now. More to come.
- EJBSL Field Update: Field availability is a concern now that the league has lost Walsh Field for the 2016 season. Phase 2 of the construction project involving Main St. and Lincoln St. Schools includes rebuilding Walsh Field. The field would be constructed adjacent to Currier Field. No further information is available at this time in regards to time frame of this phase of construction. It is still uncertain if putting Walsh Field adjacent to Currier is a viable option due to spatial limitations. SAU 16 will ultimately make the decision once the available land is further surveyed. Dick Wendell approached Dave with the possibility of putting a baseball field at the old high school on Linden St. (old soccer field, far left). The SAU would put in a backstop but the league would be responsible for putting up the fence. This would be an option worth consideration should the rebuilding of Walsh Field next to Currier fall through. Dave will research the possibility

further. Brian Hoyt suggested asking to use the old softball field but Dave felt that it would be converted to a lacrosse field. Scott Wright discussed the possibility of Exeter Rec T-ball and Co-Ed softball leagues joining EJBSL. He felt then we could use and take care of the fields there. Dave stated we have tried in the past and there has been an open invitation. This may not be a viable option as the rec department provides non-competitive play at a substantially lower cost, which is the appeal for some families. Per Eric, Bryan said that we would have use of Foss Wasson 3 nights per week. Bruce would like to approach the possibility of using the old 90ft field at the old high school for Babe Ruth.

- Currier Field Improvements Committee: No updates.
- Game Cancellation/Rescheduling Policy: Eric would like to introduce an amended EJBSL league policy addressing the rescheduling and/or cancellation of games, to be introduced for the 2016 season. This policy has been in place but not reinforced up to this point. Stephanie suggested making a check box available within the online registration process that makes parents read the policy and agree to it prior to finalizing his/her child's registration. Paper form could be presented as well to those parents attending in-person registration. Bruce stated that he already has this addressed for Babe Ruth. To be voted on next meeting.
- Babe Ruth update: Regular season went well. Post-season consisted of 3 tournament teams. The 13's and 14's entered pool play before their State tournaments, where they were subsequently eliminated. The 15's went right into the State tournament and were eliminated as well. All teams competed well. The senior Babe Ruth team finished 3rd in the state. Bruce opened discussion for changing the format of Babe Ruth. He would like to change to a 13/14 year-old group and a 15/16 year-old group. This will not change the charters. He stated that he would bring this before the rec. meeting and would bring the decision back to the board.
Bruce also discussed the possibility of developing an Extreme Division. This division would draw kids that wish to compete more competitively. They would play on weekends only, going back to their regular season team play during the week. There would be an additional fee for this option. All of NE has an Extreme league. It is similar to All-Stars, but for the older age group and would have representatives from all towns. More information to follow. Lastly, there is no further update on the injury that occurred this season. All necessary paperwork was filed. There has been no feedback from parent involved.
- Equipment update: The holding tank that was taking up room in the storage unit is gone. Shawn has asked that no equipment be returned until the scoreboard is out. The board felt we needed to get equipment returned by coaches instead of having it out there, especially when we don't know when the scoreboard will be out of storage. There are too many batting helmets, need to go through them and discard any in poor condition. Shawn stated that the league still had gift cards left over from Dicks Sporting Goods. The league is in need of catcher's gear. Rick stated that Rookie league needed at least 4 sets of catcher's gear. Shawn will use the GC and purchase gear needed.
- Open Items:
 - Rick would like to revisit the evaluation process, possibly adding surveys from previous coaches for input. This could help out in instances where kids don't evaluate well under pressure, or kids that warm up and improve during the season, etc. Dave reminded the board that currently USA Training is hired to independently evaluate the kids without bias. If we allow coach input then a case could be made from a parent that their child was unfairly targeted, etc. Dave said this would be further discussed at a future meeting.
 - Dave discussed putting together a fall ball team with Stratham, 12 and under. If anyone is interested in coordinating/helping, etc., please contact Dave Morissette and/or speak with Tom Cote (Stratham).
- Motion to adjourn made by Rick, Mike 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 9:11pm.
- Next meeting scheduled for September 3, 2015 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie Brackett, EJBSL Board Secretary