

Chatfield Diamond Club Meeting Minutes



Date: 11/12/2012

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Chatfield Auditorium

Meeting called to order by Rod Carstensen

See the Chatfield Baseball website at www.chatfieldbaseball.com for the schedule of Diamond Club meetings for the remainder of 2012 and the 2013 season. The next Diamond Club meeting will be Wednesday, December 5th, in the Library.

Chatfield Senior High Diamond Club Board Members:

President:	Rod Carstensen
Vice President:	Lori Jackson (Communications/Outreach)
Vice President:	Denise Chamberlain (Fund Raising)
Treasurer:	Meagan Jarecki
Secretary:	Kristin Walker

- **Introduction of Coach Brad Thayer: – Rod Carstensen:**
- Rod introduced our new head coach Brad Thayer and gave a bio summarizing Coach Thayer's experience.
- Coach's wife is Michelle. They have three boys, Dakota who wrestled for Chatfield and is now wrestling at the colligate level. Jake is a Senior at Chatfield and plays baseball and Riley is a Freshman at Chatfield and is also a wrestler.
- Coach Thayer was most recently the Assistant Varsity Coach here at Chatfield under former Coach Yansak. He was the Sophomore Coach in 2010 and Summer C Level Coach in 2009. He also has 6 years experience as a Youth Coach within South Jeffco and was a Youth Wrestling and Football Coach as well.
- Coach Thayer has been with the Denver Fire Department since 1995. He was promoted to Captain in 2003 and is with the Denver Fire Department.

- **Coach's Comments: - Coach Brad Thayer**
- Coach Thayer greeted everyone and advised he will take the program from where Coach Yansak left off and rebuild the program. All levels had a great summer, so we are ready to take off and there will be a lot of teams chasing us now due to our impressive summer play.
- Coach stated that "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard." Coach acknowledged that we have a lot of talent on our teams and challenged the Seniors to out-work every other team in the program and to be an example for everyone in the program at Chatfield on how to work hard.
- Coach stated that character and academics supersede athletics. He reminded us that the players are student athletes, not athlete students. Players need to have good character and grades. He will continue to hold our players to higher academic standards than CHASSA requires. Therefore, if a player has one "F" or 2 "D's", the player will be ineligible to play.
- 11 of 15 Varsity players last year received Colorado All Team Academic Honors.
- The parent/player handbook will be handed out at the Ice Cream Social when the teams are announced on March 6, 2013.
- Coach also expressed enthusiasm for how good the new outfield is looking and recognized Roger Homringhausen for all of his countless hours he has put in to make our field, dugouts, concession stands, etc. one of the best in the state!
- Coach advised that we will need up to three people to take over for Roger as his son is a Senior and if anyone has an interest and skill, please see Rod or Coach.
- **Budget Review: - Rod Carstensen**
- **Please see a Board Member for a copy of the 2012-2013 Budget**
- Rod explained that the Diamond Club Board and Coach Thayer have met on several occasions for at least 10 hours to come up with the 2012-2013 Budget with the following goals in mind:
 - 1.) Support Coach's new vision for the program.
 - 2.) Address the disparity in Level III vs. JV and Varsity player program commitment fees trying to take all previously mentioned concerns into account.
 - 3.) Have the Varsity team travel as a team to the Spring Trip in Arizona going forward. The trip will be to Phoenix this year and traveling as a team is very important to Coach Thayer. Part of the player commitments will go toward transportation vans, coaches travel expenses/stipend and two team meals. The Varsity players going on the trip will also be responsible for an additional \$600 for the trip. (approximate)

- Player commitments have been changed to reflect the goals. Level III teams' players' commitments will be \$325 this year, down from the previously stated approximate \$375. JV's players' commitments will be \$400 this year and Varsity's players' commitments will be \$500 this year.
- Rod reviewed the Budget Line items and explained what is needed on a yearly basis, what is new for this year and that the goal next year and moving forward will be to include a capital budget for long term projected expenses such as outfield fence and dugout improvements, etc.
- As in previous years past, we have several fundraising opportunities available and funds raised over the required commitment amount can be applied toward the Varsity Spring trip or toward Summer Fees, which is a change from the past.
- Rod explained that we will ask all current players to return their game day polo's and these will be redistributed. We will need to purchase a few more Polo's and there is also money slated in this year's budget for new Catcher's gear which will be used and passes down for a few years.
- Rod explained that with this player commitment structure, we should come in \$300 - \$400 over our projected budget of \$41,430. This is based on 60-62 players. If the program ends up with less players, the commitment numbers could increase but they will not go down.
- Rod also reiterated that if a player is cut from the program, or leaves voluntarily, any funds raised through program fundraising efforts remain with the program.
- All player commitment funds are due no later than the Ice Cream Social on March 6, 2013. If commitments have not been met through fundraising efforts, a check may be written for the difference.
- Rod also reiterated that if any player does not pay their commitment, then the budget will have to be cut.
- Coach Thayer was asked if he plans on carrying a team of 18 on Varsity. Coach explained that he plans on carrying 15 – 16 players and anyone asked to go on the Arizona trip or play at Coors Field will also be expected to pay the \$500 commitment level. You won't know what your commitment level is until you know which team your player has made. There are 12 returning Varsity players. 17 Seniors have signed up to try-out so far, 12 Juniors, 20 Sophomores and 13 Freshman. If you are a Senior and don't make the Varsity team, you are cut from the program, same for Juniors on JV, Sophomores for the Sophomore team and Freshman for the Freshman team.
- Coach also stated that if family has more than one player in the program and one player is cut, funds raised can be transferred to the sibling.
- Lori Jackson made a motion to approve the 2012-2013 Budget. Josh Moss seconded the motion. All in attendance approved and the 2012-2013 Budget was passed.

- **Fundraising Review: - Denise Chamberlain**

- Raffle Dinner – This is our LARGEST fundraising event. All players are asked to sell 150 tickets for \$2.00 per ticket. At the dinner, we raffle off some really great prizes, such as flat screen TV's, IPod, tablet notebook, and other purchased or donated items. If you know of anyone who wants to donate any sort of prize, please let us know! MVP Sports also brings pictures and sports memorabilia and does a silent auction and donates a portion of the proceeds to the club.

- The first 20 tickets sold go to the Diamond Club then a portion of the ticket sales that your player sells goes to his player account – typically between \$1.50 - \$1.75 of each ticket sold. The amount each year depends on the cost of the dinner and the prizes. Last year, Rod Carstensen graciously provided a catered dinner from Del Taco and has agreed to do so again this year!

- Coach will have a more organized effort this year for groups to sell tickets at King Soopers or in neighborhoods, etc.

- Tickets will be available by mid December, in time to sell over Winter Break. Ticket money will be collected at the end of January. **Please everyone, put the money in the bank and write a check for the total amount that your player collected!**

- **If your player chooses not to participate in the raffle fundraiser, an additional \$34.00 will be added to their player commitment.**

- New this year is the opportunity to fundraise over your player commitment amount and roll over any additional funds raised to Summer Fees or to the Varsity Spring trip.

- The Raffle date for this year is set for Monday, 2/4/2013.

- King Soopers Cards – This is an easy and great fundraising opportunity. King Soopers re-loadable cards are available to purchase tonight or contact Meagan Jarecki to purchase your cards. They cost \$2.50 and are pre-loaded with \$2.50. You re-load them at King Soopers. For everything you purchase at King Soopers, including gas, 5% of your total purchases will go toward your individual player commitment account. These cards are good at any Kroeger affiliated grocery store in the country so if you have relatives or friends out of town/state that shop at a Kroger, you can purchase one for them to use too!

- Texas Hold'em – Byron Gaiter has organized this in the past and it is a fun event to get baseball parents together or invite friends to help raise funds toward your player's account. They have either been held at the Mirage or the Draft Sports Restaurants. There is a \$40 buy-in, \$20 of which goes toward your player's commitment/account and \$20 that goes to the Diamond Club. Each additional \$20 buy-in goes toward your player's commitment/account.

- **If your player chooses not to participate in the Texas Hold'em fundraiser, there will be an additional \$20.00 added to their player commitment.**

- This event is scheduled for Saturday, 2/23/2013 at the Draft Sports Bar.
- **Corporate Sponsorships (additional fundraising opportunity) and Fan Wear: - Lori Jackson**
- Corporate Sponsorships – Lori Jackson is spearheading this fundraising project. The goal is to get our entire outfield fence filled with sponsor advertising signs. Sponsors also have the opportunity to advertise in our Roster and Media Guides and our Memory books. The levels start at \$250 and go up to \$1,000 at least. 20% of sponsorships obtained will go to your players account if you coordinate obtaining the commitment, artwork for sign, etc. Otherwise, you may provide Lori the business name and a “warm lead” and she will follow-up with the potential sponsor. If the sponsor commits, 10% will go toward your player’s account. **(See and print Sponsorship Program Flyer on website.)**
- There are also additional fundraisers that we are experimenting with this year. Therefore, we have not attributed any dollar amounts in the budget for these fund fundraisers. These include a pancake breakfast at Applebee’s, a Winter Youth Camp in January, Bricks for Baseball, Trendz, etc.
- There is now Fan Wear available to order on the website. If you get your order to Lori before the Monday after Thanksgiving, 11/26/2012, orders will be available prior to Christmas. **(See website for link to order form.)**
- **Financial Audit: - Rod Carstensen**
- Rod informed us that every year, the Diamond Club is required to submit to a financial audit. This year, John Falbo and two DC board members will complete the audit.
- **Volunteers: - Rod Carstensen**
- Field Maintenance – We need a minimum of one Freshman, Sophomore and Junior parent to assist Roger throughout the Spring and then lead through the Summer.
- Banquet Coordinator – Ann Marie Falbo volunteered to coordinate the 2013 Chatfield Baseball Banquet.
- Ice Cream Social – Paulette Hope and Karen Lamar have volunteered to coordinate the Ice Cream Social.
- Applebee’s Fundraiser – Kara Moore has volunteered to coordinate this. Coaches Thayer and Chamberlain will also coordinate.
- Texas Hold’em – Byron Gaiter will coordinate.
- **Super bowl and March Madness pools** – volunteer needed.

- Bricks for Baseball – Joni Winkler volunteered.
- **Alumni Outreach** – Volunteer needed.
- **Scholarship Committee** – Chris Blake and Joni Winkler volunteered. We still need two more volunteers.
- **Wrap up: - Rod Carstensen, Lori Jackson, Coach Thayer**
- Rod introduced the remaining DC board members.
- Current CHS Financial Report as of 11/12/2012 – **Contact Meagan Jarecki if you would like a copy.**
- Register on line for Winter work-outs. FYI – if you or your player has not registered on the website, please do so IMMEDIATELY or you will not get important emails. You can register online and pay online or write a check for winter work-outs.
- **Details about Varsity Travel to Arizona so far from Coach Thayer** – Jenny Dems and Nancy Fenimore have been looking into tickets.
- We will be playing in the Big League Dugout tournament in Scottsdale, AZ and games will be played at Horizon High School.
- Games are scheduled for Monday – Thursday, with Friday being open for any rain delay make-up games.
- Travel will be Sunday 3/24/2013 on Southwest Airlines leaving Denver at 11:55 am with an arrival in Phoenix at 12:50 pm.
- Return is Friday 3/29/2013 leaving Phoenix at 6:40 pm with an arrival in Denver at 9:20 pm.
- There have been a block of rooms reserved for the players and Coaches and extra rooms reserved for parents if parents want to stay at the hotel too. Reservations are at Sleep Inn in Scottsdale.
- It is not mandatory that parents attend the tournament as there will be four Coaches there who will act as chaperones, driving vans, etc. If your player makes the team and you want to drive, this is fine, but the player does need to stay at the hotel with the team and we are highly encouraging the team travel together.
- Adjourn – Next meeting is Wednesday December 5th in the Library.