

Thunder Baseball League

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2019

The Thunder Baseball Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 8:30pm at Thunder Academy on Sunday, January 20th.

Present Attendees:

Darron Cox – President

Shawn Williamson, Executive Director

Lisa Dittberner, Secretary

John Reiser, Executive Operations Manager

James Ramsey, Community member-at-large

Shawn Hermosillo, Machine Pitch Director

Motion by Shawn Williamson

Move to approve the minutes of the November 17th meeting

- Seconded and carried without dissent.

Presidents report:

A new facility for Thunder has been placed on hold until more financial information is available. Most places are approximately double the price. Baseball tuition would have to double to offset cost. The board is concerned the price increase would deter families from the organization.

Cleaning of the Thunder Baseball facility will be posted effective immediately. The club needs to ensure there is cleaning product on hand, garbage emptied, and facility is vacuumed on a regular basis.

Academy will enhance communication with families by providing bi-weekly updates to players. President, Darron Cox will look at software available to record the kids during their hitting instruction to share with parents via a link or email.

The Board discussed the need for Academy team coaches to be determined by April/May timeframe to be ready for tryouts in August.

Executive Directors report:

RMJBL will pick up baseballs at the February meeting.

Discussion started by Shawn Williamson

Move to approve picture vendor for 2019 – Imagetek Photography Inc.

- Seconded and carried without dissent.

Discussion started by Shawn Williamson

Provide a refund to a Thunder Baseball family after baseball cutoff date to receive refund.

- Motion was not seconded. Board unanimously agrees that no refund will be given.

Opening Day Event – Coordinator needed

Shawn Hermosillo will work with machine pitch coaches and 8/9's to get parent volunteers for opening day events on Saturday, April 6, 2019. Broomfield Mayor, Randy Ahrens will attend opening day for a speech. Ella Smith will sing the National Anthem.

Information Manager/ PR Report – Lisa Dittberner

Survey results will be posted on the Thunder Baseball website. A recap is noted below. The board discussed common themes and will work to improve player and coach development in the 2019 season.

Thunder families feel very strongly that **player and character growth** are important.

- Pair younger teams/players with older teams/players for clinics.
- Have reduced priced clinics for players to increase exposure.
- Mental game preparation for all ages.
- Dugout expectation communications for all teams.
- Offer more training to coaches to help develop players.

Thunder families feel very strongly that **coach development** is important.

- Communicate to the parents how coaches are vetted (or have posted on website).
- Monthly coach's meetings
 - o Expectations
 - o Suggestions for a successful season
- Coaches focus on all players, not just their own.
- Coaches are clear about what type of team they will have (tournament vs. league play, etc.).

Thunder families feel **parent engagement** is important.

- Team Manager communication
 - o Fundraising
- League communication
 - o More timely

Thunder families felt **community engagement** is important.

- Baseball scholarships important.
- More donations of players time vs. money, to organizations.
- Volunteer days for the players to learn about giving back to their community.

Other general feedback from survey

- Facility too crowded, needs to be upgraded and kept clean.
- Thunder Academy
 - o Better communication – more frequent and proactive.
 - o Increase awareness of Academy teams.
 - o Active participation from Academy leaders in the workshops/drills.

Machine Pitch Director – Shawn Hermosillo

Machine Pitch flyers will be distributed in Broomfield elementary schools to promote the program. Thunder is hoping for between 5-6 MP Teams. There is a MP Coach meeting in February for an overview of equipment usage. Machine pitch would like to participate in Bats for a cure Tournament.

Minutes taken by: Lisa Dittberner, BOD Secretary

Date of Board Approval: _____