



BTBA Board: October Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2017 – 7pm
Bloomington City Hall
Room: Hage Conference Room

Attendees

BTBA Board Members Present:

Jim Peterson – President
Scott Baker – Vice President
Robert Chamberlain – Treasurer
George Bender – Secretary
Scott Nelson
Corey Vucinovich
Brian Carter
Adam Brown
Ryan Schilling
Jean Gonzalez
Scott King

BTBA Board Members Absent: Aaron Dean, John Coady

BTBA Membership Present: Jodi Sryjamaki, Austin Hamilton

Agenda

7pm – Call to Order – Jim Peterson
7:05 – President’s Summary – Jim Peterson
7:10 – Approve Minutes from Annual Meeting on September 10, 2017
7:15 – Legal Report – Aaron Dean (Attachment)
7:20 – Financial Summary – Robert Chamberlain
7:30 – Executive Committee for 2017-18: Discussion and Approval
7:35 – Tournament Director: Jodi Sryjamaki. Vote to add to Board.
7:40 – 2018 BTBA Tournament Schedule
7:50 – Review Parent and Player Survey Results
7:55 – Open Discussion
8:00 – Adjournment

Minutes

At 7:00pm, the monthly Board meeting was called to Order by BTBA President, Jim Peterson.

Jim welcomed everyone and requested everyone to introduce themselves as there were new people present at the meeting.

Jim Peterson reviewed highlights from Aaron Dean's 'State of the Organization' presentation from the previous meeting and requested the presentation be posted to the organization's website.

Jim Peterson reviewed the minutes from the annual meeting held on September 10, 2017. There were no additional comments or corrections noted in reference to the proposed minutes. Jim Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Scott Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed. The minutes are to be posted to the organization's website.

President's Update:

- Jim presented a summary of the results from the parent and player surveys. Approximately 60 parents and 30 players responded from the 200 families involved with the organization last season. It was noted more reminders should be sent out next year to request family participation and stress the importance of the information obtained – both good and bad.

Approximately half of the parent respondents indicated they were planning to participate again next year but the vast majority of the player respondents indicated there were planning to participate next season.

BTBA was generally viewed as a good value (average 3.2 score out of 5) by the respondents.

- It was noted that Board representatives met with last season's Head Coaches prior to this meeting to discuss their seasons as well as an overview of feedback from their survey results.

- A discussion was held regarding the number of teams formed last season in comparison to forecasted registration numbers for next season. The 14U and 15U age levels may only have enough players to field one upper team at each age level and only one 14A/15A team will be formed. The 11U level is

also forecasted to be an age group with below average numbers and it factors into the tournaments BTBA will plan to host next season.

Legal Update:

- George Bender reviewed Aaron Dean's email updates:

1. BTBA filed its registration with the Minnesota Secretary of State so that Jim Peterson receives all notices and BTBA is in good standing with the State of Minnesota. Task completed.
2. BTBA filed the form with the IRS to change the "responsible party" so that Jim Peterson is listed as President and the BTBA P.O. Box is listed as BTBA's address. BTBA's former Treasurer from about 10 years ago is no longer affiliated with BTBA's IRS tax identification number. Task completed.
3. The BTBA insurance review is underway. I have received quotes from other insurance providers, and I am working on analyzing the differences in proposed coverages. Tasked partially completed and scheduled to be completed in time for year-end 2017.
4. I have not yet drafted the minutes from the BTBA Special Meeting that occurred at the end of July 2017. I will handle this task after my trial next week.
5. We have two other risk management tasks to complete going forward:
 - a. Create a training document for field crew members for 2018 regarding no use of the ATV by anyone unless they are specially designated to do so. We promised the City of Bloomington that we would do this.
 - b. Create training content for field crew members for 2018, including safe use of an ATV, as John Coady, Todd Fortner, and I met with the City of Bloomington after the ATV accident and discussed using a training video that the City of Bloomington Fire Department uses. John Coady has details.

New Bat Requirements Update:

- It was agreed a few more update emails should go out regarding the new requirements including information related to the Nov 11 bat demo day at Starters. Robert Chamberlain provided an update to the Board regarding the MBL meeting he attended on behalf of BTBA. Bats, the age rule, and pitch counts were primary discussion topics. The age rule will stay the same as last year (for now). The possibility of updating the pitching limitations from

innings pitched to a formal pitch count was sent (back) to committee so no change has been made to date.

Field Maintenance Management for 2018 Update:

- Board representation spoke with John Kern regarding John managing the on-field maintenance next year which would require an adult supervisor to manage scheduling, training and other administrative task John would not own.
- BTBA member Austin Hamilton attended the meeting and voiced interest in overseeing a management partnership between he and John Kern. The concept would create a board position for Austin to oversee the field maintenance crew, develop training, schedule staffing, manage payroll and perform other management-level tasks while not being primarily involved with the on-site work on the fields as that would be John Kern's responsibility. Austin will return at the next board meeting so the board can make a decision.

Financial Update:

- Robert Chamberlain distributed preliminary financial documents for review. Jim Peterson motioned to post this financial data once the final Fall Ball numbers are added and the document is updated by Robert Chamberlain, Scott Nelson seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The midyear documents will be added separately to the web page once the final Fall Ball numbers are ready.
- It has been previously discussed and re-iterated at this meeting that BTBA should formally define its fiscal year, the recommendation was for the calendar year to be used for tax purposes and clarity. A motion was made by Jim Peterson to establish the organizations fiscal year to be the same as the calendar year. Scott Nelson seconded and the motion was approved.

Executive Committee Update:

- The executive committee runs the day-to-day tasks that come up on behalf of the Board. This allows for timely responses. The size of the committee is currently 4. The members are Jim Peterson (President), Scott Baker (Vice President), Robert Chamberlain (Treasurer), and Aaron Dean (President Emeritus/Legal Counsel).
- Jim Peterson recommended the size of this committee be kept small to allow for faster responses – especially when matters arise when time is of the essence. It has previously been established that an even number is

recommended as the tie breaking process requires full board review and approval. Discussion was had and a call for volunteers or recommendations was made with none noted. Jim motioned to keep the executive committee size at 4 members and the same members currently on the committee should continue to serve on it moving forward. Scott Baker seconded. The motion was approved.

Tournament Director Update:

- Jim Peterson introduced Jodi Sryjamaki to the Board. Jim Peterson motioned to appoint Jodi Sryjamaki to the BTBA Board in the role of Tournament Director. Scott Baker seconded. The motion was approved. The website will be updated with Jodi's contact information.

2018 Tournament Scheduling Update (Hosted by BTBA):

- The list of tournaments hosted by BTBA in 2017 was reviewed. The discussion followed which included a summary of the financial benefits the tournaments had on the budget and the impact on the membership related to age levels that are not able to field teams at each level. There may need to be continuous follow-up related to finding an appropriate way to manage this concern but the Board agreed it was important to work through this challenge because of the financial impact. The volunteerism needed to support these tournaments directly affects our ability to manage the membership fees. In addition, it does not make sense to decide to eliminate hosting a tournament at a specific age level because of the affect it has on successive years. Lastly, we can only forecast the number of teams the organization will field for next season but it is subject to change. The decision to host a tournament needs to be made well before the final team distribution is determined.

- Jim Peterson made a motion to host the same quantity of tournaments in 2018 (including the two MBL state tournaments) that were hosted by the organization in 2017. Brian Carter seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- A follow-up discussion ensued relative to changing the MBL's August Classic to a BTBA run tournament rather than paying MBL to run it. Currently, the MBL supplies a tournament official that manages the tournament. It would be possible to negotiate with MBL to eliminate this position and gain financial benefit if the organization was willing to perform this role. Jim Peterson motioned to add the August Classic as a BTBA

operated tournament. Scott Baker requested the motion be tabled to committee for further review due to the impact of supporting this additional volunteer workload. The motion was tabled.

- Another follow-up discussion ensued regarding BTBA tournaments providing bids to the Gopher State Tournament of Champions (MYAS). Four age brackets did not receive these bids last year. The reason for this was unknown. Providing MBL and Gopher State bids is a key item to keeping our hosted tournaments well attended. BTBA is charged a fee to distribute these bids. The new bat rule also was part of this discussion because Gopher State (MYAS) is planning to allow the USSSA stamp next season so there was concern with attendance by MYAS teams as they may not have BBCOR bats but the board did not feel this would impact numbers.
- The number of teams and exact dates for each BTBA hosted tournament needs to be determined quickly as bid applications are due for MBL and Gopher State in November. The Tournament committee was discussed as the best means of managing these efforts. It was proposed by Scott Baker and Seconded by Scott Nelson and approved to appoint Jodi Sryjamaki as the chair of the Tournament Committee moving forward. The committee will consist of the three remaining Tournament Committee members from last year (John Coady, Scott Baker, and Scott Nelson) as well Robert Chamberlain due to the need for Treasurer involvement in tournament financial decisions. The Tournament Committee will be empowered to evaluate best dates, determine field needs and establish team quantities for each tournament and will then submit bid requests to MBL and MYAS with approval from the executive committee.

2018 Cooperstown Team Update:

- A discussion took place regarding the checking account for the Cooperstown team. This is due to BTBA being connected to the Cooperstown team from the perspective of being named on the checking account to allow use of BTBA's tax exempt status to the Cooperstown team.
- Jim Peterson motioned to add Scott King and Karissa White as signers on this checking account and to remove Tiffany Shermak (Tiffany was involved with last years Cooperstown team). Scott Nelson seconded. The motion was approved.

- Brian Carter motioned to add Robert Chamberlain (in his role of being the current BTBA treasurer) a signer on the Cooperstown team's checking account. This allows BTBA to ensure annual transfer of signor authority to the next Cooperstown team, monitor status of the account and primarily balance the organizations balance sheet. This is necessary due to the transfer allowed by the organization each year of initial funds to register the Cooperstown team for the tournament. This motion included removing Jim Peterson as a signer on this checking account. Jim was involved with last years Cooperstown team and no longer needs access. Scott King seconded. The motion passed.

- Jim Peterson motioned to adjourn the meeting due to being concluded with the agenda and open discussion. Brian Carter seconded and the motion was approved.

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.