



BTBA Board: August Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2018 – 7pm
Bloomington City Hall – Hage Conference Room

Agenda Items:

- 7pm – Call to Order followed by President’s Summary – Jim Peterson
1. Approve Minutes from previous Board meeting
 2. Quick Update on Season
 3. Executive Committee Update
 4. Succession Planning
 5. Umpire Concerns. Missed games by umpire service.
 6. Survey Results
 7. Push for Response from BTBA parents and players to the Year-End Survey.
- 7:20 – Tournament Committee Update – Jodi Syrjamaki
- 7:30 – Treasurer’s Report – Robert Chamberlain
1. Tournament Coordinator(s) needed for 15AAA, 14A/15A, & 14AAA tournaments.
- 7:40 – Field Crew Report – Jim Peterson for Austin Hamilton
1. Fall Ball Plan
- 7:50 – Committee Updates
1. Player & Coach Development Update – Scott Nelson & Ryan Schilling
 2. Tryout Committee Update – Corey Vucinovich
 3. Communications Committee – Jean Gonzalez
 4. Fundraising Committee – Ryan Schilling
 5. Field (Hrbek) Improvements – Ryan Schilling & George Bender
- 8:10 – New Business
- 8:30 – Adjournment

Next Meeting: September 30, 2018 (Annual Meeting)

Attendees:

BTBA Board Members Present:

Jim Peterson – President
Scott Baker – Vice President
Robert Chamberlain – Treasurer
George Bender – Secretary
Jodi Syrjamaki – Tournament Director
Aaron Dean
Jean Gonzalez
Scott King

BTBA Board Members Absent:

**Ryan Schilling, John Coady, Corey Vucinovich, Brian Carter,
Adam Brown, Scott Nelson, Austin Hamilton**

BTBA Membership Present: None

Minutes:

The Board meeting was convened at 7:05pm by Jim Peterson.

A summary of the minutes from the April 2018 Board meeting was presented by George Bender. The minutes for the June 2018 meeting were also reviewed by Scott Baker. A motion was made by Aaron Dean and seconded by Scott King to approve the minutes from the April 8 and June 24, 2018 Board meetings. The motion passed without comment. The minutes for both meetings will be posted on the BTBA website.

A discussion was led by Jim Peterson to review the season and provide a summary of the initial returns from the 2018 Year-End Survey. 77 responses have been received to date.

The Survey will remain open for a while. The player registration fee amount was a common note brought up with the general thought that it was too high.

An update was provided with respect to the Executive Committee. There hasn't been any issues that needed to be immediately addressed since the close of the season.

Preliminary succession planning was discussed. A new Vice-President will need to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in September. It is preferred if the Vice-President serves a 3 year term with the sequence of Vice-President, President, and Past-President.

Committee membership was discussed. It was noted that Association members may serve on a committee without being a Board member.

Umpiring concerns were also discussed. The Association needs to review the performance of BT Umpires and consider if a switch would be a benefit to the Association. Their performance this season was challenging. BT Umpires had a shortage of available umpires compared to the number of games they were obligated to cover for BTBA and other Community Associations. BTBA had many scheduled games where an umpire couldn't be provided this past season. It caused many games to be umpired by some BTBA coaches or BTBA Board members with past umpiring experience. It was noted that we should strive to give the umpire association the schedule of BTBA's weekend tournaments in March 2019 so that BTBA gets umpired assigned by BT Umpires as early as possible. It will have a hard time getting umpires if we wait until April to provide this information.

The Annual Meeting is planned to be hosted in the City Council Chambers on September 30 at 7pm. Jim Peterson is planning to prepare a State of the Board presentation to summarize the 2018 season.

Field access at Hrbek and Dred Scott has been an issue recently and there is a need to obtain new locks from the City. The fields are reserved by the Association through the City and it is an exclusive arrangement. Other local teams have been utilizing both Hrbek and Dred Scott without an agreement and without any ~~shared~~ compensation with respect to the assets or the maintenance of the facility. Club and other amateur teams need to get a permit from the City in order to utilize both Hrbek and Dred Scott. The City would be cautious to approve other permit requests due to the exclusive rights within the Association's permit.

The Association has access reserved for Fall Ball again this year.

A discussion was held related to planning moving forward regarding paid coaches for the age levels. This year's paid coaches for the 2018 13AAA team did not assist any of the other teams at 13U or other teams at other levels as was originally planned. The Association would need to identify an additional funding resource in

order to provide paid coaching to additional age levels. An idea was discussed to look at a new business within the City that will have pull tabs. Potentially the Association could receive a benefit from the new station. Apparently all of the revenue from the pull tab program at Cowboy Jacks currently goes to the MBL. The Association would need a member or committee to volunteer to manage this program or a consultant hire could be researched.

The Tournament Director, Jody Syrjamaki, provided an update. It was a successful season and no complete tournaments were rained out. 7 full refunds and 6 partial refunds were requested and provided. There were some field maintenance issues reported at some of the tournaments and some bracket seeding issues. The Board needs to consider attempting to assign an Assistant Tournament Director to help when needed. Another common complaint received from teams was weather related decisions and going from pool play to bracket play. These decisions can be tough on tournament coordinators and more training would be beneficial. A better connection to the field crew was also discussed and recommended for next year. This year the Association had a lot of additional support provided by the membership to support tournaments! This was very much appreciated. Scott Baker recommended all away tournament scheduling occur between Thanksgiving and Christmas for next season if at all possible. This will allow for better access to tournaments that offer both MBL and GSTC bids.

A tryout date needs to be selected as early as possible to allow the Board to work towards providing MBL with a total number of teams the Association will need for the 2019 season and to ensure that BTBA has a suitable tryout location.

The Treasurer, Robert Chamberlain, provided an update.

- The Association hasn't received any concession deposits for July as of the meeting date. This needs to be followed up on as a priority item.
- T-shirt sales and tracking were an issue again this year during the two MBT State Tournaments hosted at Hrbek. We would prefer not to have to participate in T-shirt sales in the future. It has not been profitable and it is time consuming.
- Aaron Dean is going to help follow-up with families with remaining registration payment issues. There are three instances requiring follow-up.
- A discussion occurred related to providing scholarships for next year. There was a significant increase in scholarship applications in 2018 compared to prior years.
- Regular concession payments was also discussed and recommended for next season. Monthly deposits was recommended.

- The Association hasn't received an invoice for umpiring for July as of yet.
- Robert noted it is a concern to pay for away tournaments prior to January 1 so this may affect away tournament scheduling.
- Robert is planning to prepare a financial summary for the annual meeting. The balance sheets with the 2017 information was finalized in March will be part of the presentation. Cooperstown team financial information is needed to finalize the year end data. Total revenue and expenses are needed for the team.
- The Association's 2017 taxes have yet to be filed but an extension was granted and the Association has made the required payment.

• On August 7, 2018, BTBA was notified that our Worker's Compensation Insurance Policy had lapsed. No BTBA employee worked on or after this lapse as it occurred following the 2018 season. BTBA's insurance company, FirstComp, expected continued payments from ADP however, BTBA had already transitioned to QuickBooks in 2018 and thus did not use ADP for any payroll transactions in 2018. BTBA expected payment to be made by Quickbooks but the premiums were not paid by either entity. BTBA's Treasurer attempted to pay FirstComp directly before the policy lapsed but was informed by First Comp that they require payment receipt from a payroll processor.

BTBA is in the process of ensuring our Worker's Compensation Insurance Policy is restored by FirstComp prior to the start of Fall Ball on Sunday, September 9, 2018, as Concessions will be open and Field Crew will be working on five consecutive Sundays for Fall Ball. The open administrative tasks are:

- Terminate BTBA relationship with ADP
- Activate workers compensation premium payments through QuickBooks
- Reinstate the existing BTBA workers compensation insurance policy

A request for additional volunteering was discussed for scholarship recipients. This issue is very debatable.

Fall Ball was discussed. Games will be hosted on Fields 6, 7, & 8. Field 5 will not be utilized due to not having a request from a 13U team. The 14U team will play at Dred Scott Field 1. The 16U and 17U teams will play at Kelly Field 1.

A motion was made by Jim Peterson to move discussion related to other committee updates to the September meeting. The motion was approved.

Jim Peterson provided an updated related to the search for a head coach for the Cooperstown team for 2019. Brent Feller agreed to be the head coach.

New Business:

The 12U AAA and AA won a combined total of 9 league games this season. An exemption request was discussed. This year's 14U age group will provide an example request that will need to be prepared.

A motion was made by Robert to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Scott King at 8:27pm. The motion was approved.