

DCEYB Board Meeting: May 17, 2020

Roll Call Executive

- President-Roman Maguire
- Vice President-Tim May
- Treasurer - Matt Priebe
- Secretary –Michael Wodalski

Directors

- Babe Ruth Commissioner-Samantha Hanson
- Majors Commissioner- Jamie Reimer
- AAA Commissioner-Jim Olafson
- AA/A Commissioner-Simon Stetzer
- T-Ball Commissioner- Jason Wressel
- Travel Commissioner – By committee

Appointees

- Marketing Director – Emily Chariton
- Concessions Manager/Volunteer Coordinator – Lucas Chariton
- Equipment Manager – Justin Bangston
- Registration Director – Jamie Reimer
- League Advisor – Unassigned
- Advertising Coordinator – Kevin Quevilion
- Website Coordinator – Elmer Allen

Treasurers Report

See attached: There is currently \$77,600 in the bank account. We're set to order jersey's as needed. Overall everything is looking fine.

One remaining question is what we do about the spring clinic and trying to get a second day in. Do we look at issuing a refund to those participants? It was \$30 to register, but we didn't have to buy shirts this year which usually run around \$10 a shirt. If we don't have a second day, we will end up refunding about \$1,500 to the participants.

Registration Report

There are 473 registered players as compared to the 467 we were at a month ago. That is with several people unregistering over the past few weeks. It's somewhat unknown what will happen yet as people may be hesitant to register and/or possibly want to withdraw based on the health situation.

We are currently short of the 8 teams in majors if we try to make teams have a minimum of 12 players. If we go down to 11 kids a team, we could get 8 teams. For the Babe Ruth Leagues, we have 3 teams for 13U at 11 kids per team, the 14U would be at 2.5 teams at 11 kids a team. Wausau is still onboard with wanting to play with us this year. Merrill is more unknown. A big question mark is availability of fields as the Merrill fields are school owned so they may not be able to do anything until after July 1.

Advertising coordinator report.

The banners were put up on the fields this past weekend. May was going to check on Sam's Pizza to see if they were still sponsoring a banner this year. Also, Goal Line was contacted about sponsoring

again this year.

We'll reach back out to TDS as well and BMO as they both have verbally committed but haven't paid.

Discussion and Motion

1. Governors order extension and State of emergency in WI:

There are current concerns with having field access. Marathon County is continuing to keep their fields locked and they are encouraging the local municipalities to do the same thing. Maguire talked with Weston Parks Director Osterbrink who is still unsure on the long-term status of fields being available for baseball this spring. As of this past Friday, Weston was still limiting park access. Also, bathrooms seem to be unlikely to be open anytime soon. So even if fields are open, there may not be restroom facilities. It was discussed that not all the fields currently have restrooms so that may not be a limiting factor.

There was discussion that we need to check with Rothschild and Schofield regarding field availability. Priebe was going to follow up with those communities to see what the status is on using their fields.

It was noted that girls softball was postponed to an August-September season.

With the registration numbers we strive for 12 kids, but the more kids we have on a team, social distancing 11 kids is slightly easier than distancing 12 kids. We might have to loosen the attendance requirements too if teams have less kids and teams will need to be more willing to share players to get a game in. Overall, people should be fairly flexible and agreeable to modified teams, hopefully they'll be happy with the fact they're just playing a game.

We'll need to make sure everyone has their own equipment and we're not sharing items between kids.

There are concerns with how concessions will be able to operate this summer, if at all. It will likely be difficult to serve anything other than pre-packaged foods. At this point we have not reached out the Marathon County Health Department, but is something we should do before deciding to open. There was confirmation that Lucas Chariton should go ahead with the sink order for the concession stand so we can get that in place.

2. Facilities update:

Batting Cages: will work on getting the slab areas excavated this coming week. We are coordinating this with the Village of Weston.

Banners are up.

New shed: the new shed is at Kenned Park. We'll need to get that leveled. That will require a few cinder blocks and also we should look at getting a solid door so people can't look in. Stetzer stated he would get the cinder blocks.

We also need to get some flex tape for the pitchign mound cover that has a hole in it.

3. Further Discussion Items:

Donation to Everest HS Baseball: Dave L. Asked that we purchase Fence cap for simon field instead of cut us a check for the spring clinic. Which is about \$450 plus shipping.

Motion by Priebe, Second by Emily Chariton to donate up to \$1,500 to the high school program for a fence topper. Motion passed unanimously.

We will need to discuss then what we do with the balance between the \$1,500 and the cost of the fence topper, if any once final costs are known.

15U Team: Discussion on possibility of having 15U players play on the 14U due to there not being a freshmen baseball season. We could look at having a mixed league with 14 and 15Us.

Season Start Dates:

We are still operating under the assumption that on May 26th we could still start having practices. This may have to be just playing catch in open fields though if fields are still off limits. We would need to limit group gatherings to 10 or less though so some teams may need to have split practices. There isn't a guideline as far as how much space is required in the 10-person limit.

Registration closes on Tuesday the 19th so we could put the teams together this coming week. We can use historical evaluations to balance them the best as possible. We would like to get the teams communicated so coaches can be assigned and teams can then communicate with each other. There is thought that once teams are made we will at least get a commitment from players and definitively know who is in and who is out.

Hanson will take care of Babe Ruth, Stetzer will do A and AA, Wressell will work on T-ball and Reimer will do AA and Majors. Before we make teams for Babe Ruth, we need to make sure we figure out if we are putting together a league with Wausau and then if we are having 15U playing.

Commissioners will need to reach out to parents to get coaches if there are not enough coaches for each team. We will need to communicate this out to the league.

There was a question on T-ball and how with the young age group coaching is more hands on and having the kids keep proper social distance will prove to be very difficult. Looking at the phased approach, T-ball would be tough to really follow proper guidelines until the phase 2 portion of the guidelines.

We also will need to communicate out the guidelines for phasing. Will we have all of the proper PPE available (hand sanitizer, gloves, etc.)? Discussion ensued on if we wanted to order masks (fishing buffs) possibly with a logo on them to sell to players. Are we able to even mandate what players and/or coaches wear? We should wait to see what the CDC or Marathon County Health recommend we do.

It was mentioned that Antigo has already cancelled their spring season at this point.

It was mentioned that locally each community is going to be having to make their own decisions on what to do with their park facilities. Most communities seem to be following the lead of Wausau/Marathon County Parks. We are stuck until we know what we can or can't do with the various facilities. Quevilon mentioned that we need to make sure we're following proper protocols for outdoor sports and we need to be referencing other official guidelines.

We should check with our insurance company to see what guidance they may have for us.

An email was received from Babe Ruth stating the State Babe Ruth Commissioners would give each league guidance. However, the correspondence we received from state Babe Ruth was not very informative. It essentially just said we want to help you, but do not know how to do that at this time. Should we have a waiver created for families related to the coronavirus?

Before we get the season started we need to know what our numbers are and then get hats/shirts ordered. Travel jersey's definitely need to be ordered. If there isn't a season financially it will be tight if we order jersey's and hats for all leagues. We could look at utilizing what we have in stock, but there aren't necessarily full teams of jersey's. A hat costs about \$10 and a shirt is about \$6 so financially it makes more sense to provide a shirt and not a hat this year.

We will need to have team specific colors and should look at ordering shirts this year and letting people use any hat they have. The shirts will take a minimum of 3 weeks to get made. We'll need

to know how many teams we're ordering for and get that information to Justin as soon as possible. We'll need to make sure we get the right sizes ordered. All of the sizes are listed in the registration spreadsheet so that will need to be double checked before the order is placed.

For Babe Ruth, there may be leftover hats from last year to use this year. Worst case scenario we could have a mixed bag of Everest hats used.

For travel, the 13U B team has had all of their tournaments cancelled. Is there a chance the B team just doesn't play this year? The 12U B team is down to 1 tournament outside of our own tournament. Most of the B tournaments were early in the year.

We should encourage coaches that if they see a tournament later in the summer they should try to register for those.

Discussion on if we should look at expanding our home tournament. There is not a drop dead date for the end of June tournament. However, 2-3 weeks before the tournament though we should be able to say if it's a go or no-go. We were looking at using the High School field, so that will not be possible for the first tournament. We may have to look at possibly starting the tournament on Thursday to get games in for local teams.

Are we at a point yet to communicate what our thoughts are on what a game would look like with the appropriate safety measures? Space wise we'll need to know what 6ft stalls will look like, or how we separate kids for T-ball. Potentially do we look at cancelling or pushing T-ball back due to space? Practicing may not be practical unless you have multiple coaches on a team. The T-ball season may be dependent on phase 2 whereas the rest of the leagues can start under phase 1 guidelines. The other option would be to postpone T-ball to fall ball and schedule it after the traditional soccer season as that is the main conflict for T-ball parents. Due to the proximity of the coaches and the kids on the field together, it probably makes sense to delay this. The parents and 5-6 year old kids should be understanding. There was consensus that it makes sense to postpone T-ball until July or later when phase 2 of the guidelines can be done.

We need to communicate there will be new rules for this year such as, no high fives, only immediate family, bring your own chairs, each team has their own game balls, umpires behind pitcher/back of fence, etc. If we can't outline everything right now we should still send something out that says we are working on creating guidelines, especially for T-ball and Coach Pitch and once we have those guidelines set we can send those out. We want to make sure we're doing everything possible to make baseball as safe as possible this year for all players.

We should move forward with purchasing T-ball shirts and if they end up not being used this year, we can always use them next year as the sizes don't really vary in that age group.

Maguire will send out a Facebook post and message to the league following this meeting.

As a league we also need to communicate that we are not going to be providing helmets this year.

In the guidelines we mention we'll provide hand sanitizer, is it possible for us to fulfill that promise? Maguire will follow up with distributors to see what we could make available. From an organizational standpoint we should provide it, but we need to make sure we can get it first. As a league we have to make sure we're doing everything possible to follow proper safety precautions as we move forward.

4. Announcements:

Next Meeting: June 21, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:40

Minutes: 100 Minutes

Attendance Board Meeting: 14

Those in attendance: Roman Maguire, Tim May, Matt Priebe, Michael Wodalski, Sam Hanson, Jamie Reimer, Simon Stetzer, Jim Olafson, Jason Wressel, Justin Bangston, Emily Chariton, Lucas Chariton, Elmer Allen, Kevin Quivillion