

Memo

To: AAA Board Members
From: Greg Bykowski
Date: January 8, 2024
Re: Monthly Board Meeting Notes – January

The Avonworth Athletic Association Board met on February 8, 2024 at the Cabin at Acord Park at 8:00 PM

FEBRUARY 2024 MONTHLY MEETING

Attendance:

All members were in attendance except the following: Jamison, Acierno, Picard, & Gilbert.

Meeting Called to Order: 8:16 PM

- November's meeting minutes approved [Waters / Cole]
- January's meeting minutes approved [Ludwig / Waters]

President's Report: Shipley

- No president's report this month

Financial Report: Wilmus

- January Financial Report
 - **\$60,781** in operating fund as of 1/31/24
 - Previous month (12/31): **\$36,060** [Net change: **\$24.7k**]
 - Deposits: \$41.5k
 - Withdrawals: \$16.8k
 - **\$31,836** in capital fund as of 1/31/24
 - Previous month: **\$21,835** [Net change: **\$10k**]
 - Deposits: \$10k
 - Withdrawals: \$0k
 - **\$92,617** is the total ending balance on 1/31/24.

- Mr. John will continue to be our portable toilet vendor.
- A \$10k surplus exists in the Venmo account (@AvonworthAA). Gallucci & Wilmus working to transfer the money into the organization's account. Shipley & Wilmus tried again, recently.
- One sponsor payment has not been received (Willow-\$1200). Linhart received in January.
- Tax-exemption renewal form might be coming through the mail soon.
- Additional information can be found in the Monthly Financial Report
 - Approved by: [Capo / Geiger]

VP On-Field: Gallucci

- Spring registration
 - Approximately 100 people behind last year at the time of the meeting
 - IL numbers are high
 - Numbers listed below are from 3/7/24
 - T-Ball 4/5: 70 (Need to start recruiting coaches)
 - T-Ball 6: 41
 - IL: 84 (3 head coaches)
 - ML: 69 (3-4 head coaches?)
 - LL: 53 (3-4 head coaches?)
 - PONY: 15
 - Potential cuts from Middle School
 - PONY & Colt will not close until later
 - Scheduling meeting is March 15th or 18th
 - Colt: 4
 - Google Meeting will be required for Coach's Selection Meeting
- Skills Day is 3/2
 - Start setting up at gym at 8:00 AM
 - Start players at 9:00 AM
 - Cole will assemble the equipment
 - Sign-up Genius will be posted soon
- Sunday League
 - 8U coaches were unanimously approved
 - 4 players did not make the team
 - Reck for 8U Red [Ludwig / Acierno]
 - Mangene for 8U White [Gilbert / Acierno]
 - Team registration for the league will be communicated
- Coaches meeting might get trimmed down
- Meeting will happen on 3/7 at 6:00 PM.
 - Team selection to happen immediately after the meeting.
- Opening Day might be 4/13
 - Week before might be for more practices
- By-Laws Committee
 - Bykowski - Chair
 - Acierno

- Garver
- Others?

VP Off-Field: Graff

- Sponsorship
 - \$5200 behind fundraising from last year's final total. Three weeks left.
 - Might have two \$450 donations on the books
 - Two fields are still available
- Pictures
 - Dates for Pictures: 4/8 to 4/10. Will effect LL practices.
- Shields Embroidery is looking to expand his business. Adding a new location behind Goodfellas.
 - Might be adding more around Memorial Day.
 - Might try to do some stuff around Skills Day.
 - More to come.
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- \$2000 gift cards were collected from Dick's
- March 8th to 10th is the official Dick's Day at Cranberry & McCandless
- Kim Gallucci & Susan Basista will be Memorial Day Coordinators with Jim.
 - GPSA has a storefront that might have different ideas for merchandise.
 - Memorial Day Committee Meeting
 - Monthly meetings will be sent out.
 - **List of Committee members needs to be developed**

Concessions: Gallucci

- Gallucci would like to purchase a grill to replace the existing
- Motion to purchase a grill up to \$800 was unanimously approved [Waters / Barnyak].

Registration: Acierno

- Registration reminder emails will be sent out in the next few days.

Equipment: Cole

- Tarps for the LL Field have been received.
- (100) dozen 100 LL logo balls have been received by A.D. Starr. The balls will be stored at their facility until the spring. The Dick's gift cards (\$2,000 worth) will be applied to the invoice. Wilmus will issue payment for the balance of the invoice.
- Equipment needs to be replaced
 - ML Catchers Gear and PONY Gear will need to be purchased next season
 - Waters suggests having a set of community gear for IL.
- Better control of baseballs
 - Provide two dozen balls to the coaches and make sure that they return them?

- Commissioners: Reiterate that slightly used game balls should be reused in the next game.
- IL Field: Mini-metal drag needs to be purchased. Possibly replace with a rubber drag

Uniforms: Milsom

- Basic Sunday League uniform. Nothing fancy. Not being used for Summer
- A higher quality jersey will be used for Summer
- There is a 4-6 week lead time for jerseys
 - Therefore, might have to move up selection process
- Travel uniforms
 - The previous travel team uniform vendor might provide a discount to resolve issues from Spring 2023
 - Manufacturer wants to correct the issue, not Milsom's contact.

Field Maintenance: Geiger (Shipley updated)

- Spring Clean-Up Days should be 3/9 & possibly 3/16
- \$2,209 for IL backstop repairs. Just replacing posts off the side of home plate. Chain link and remaining posts will not be replaced.
 - Motion unanimously approved to repair the posts at the IL Field [Gallucci / Bykowski]
- Water buffalos to be filled in May by Fire Department (Mike Metz is the contact).
- Tarps were purchased for LL in January, but not ML.
- Supplies will need to be purchased in 2024
- Committee:
 - Shipley would love to have a group of 20 people
 - Commissioners should send a message out to the coaches to ask for volunteers
- Old business:
 - Laser grading program
 - IL during the following session (April 2024??? Not during Easter Weekend). Last done in 2019
 - LL was the most recent laser grading (in April 2023)
 - ML was in 2022

Web Site/Surveys/Player Evals: Garver

- Adding posts to social media
- Will add post about registration

Umpires: Jamison

- Prices are going up.
 - Jamison will send pricing for 2022 & 2023
- Contract with PUA needs to be signed
- NOTE: PUA requires that all umpires have clearances to work for PUA.

Travel Coordinator: Jamison

- Open training session (\$10 per session)
 - Sessions have been well-attended.
- Sunday League future?
 - Shipley will send Ludwig contact information
 - Would like to get this finalized by February meeting
 - Tournament should be planned. Hopefully, Avonworth can host a few.
 - Ludwig working on the Facebook blast from last year
 - Looking for the email addresses from last year
 - Need to compile from the previous head coaches
 - Look for \$150 per team

Clearances: Brown

- 33 coaches are registered for Sunday & Spring Leagues / 5 need to be updated or registered.
- Needs to make sure that unregistered coaches are included.
- Commissioners need to help with compliance
- The Board is aware of the issues with some expired clearances. The board is working to correct the problems.

League Reports:

- T-Ball – Picard
 - No update
- IL – Waters
 - No update
- ML – Shipley / Gallucci
 - No update
- LL – Bykowski
 - North Hills and Quaker Valley are interested in participating
 - Group has no issues with including both organizations in Route 65 League
- PONY – Fasy Greevy
 - League schedule meeting scheduled for March 18th. Fasy is working on this.
 - Trying to coordinate this registration with MS Team Tryouts
 - 16 teams in spring for Moon League?
- Colt
 - No fall baseball

Other News / New Business:

- New topics:
 - Solution to Travel Teams (presented by T.O. Alberts)
 - Offer an option for higher intensity
 - Traditional vs. Advanced

- To be determined after Summer Season
 - Full year selection process.
 - To be selected ahead of Pay-to-Play teams are selected.
 - Two ML & two LL teams
 - Not sure if IL is ready for this
 - 10 training sessions (possibly in the winter)
 - AAA coaches will supervise practices, but Diesel Sports Complex would run the training
 - Coaches will still coach the games
 - Still planning on playing in community-based tournaments
 - \$700 per player (estimated by T.O.)
 - T.O. to provide detail of what is included in this cost.
 - Saturdays have light attendance
 - Might merge teams for a scrimmage
 - Treat it as an “all-star game” feel.
 - Host a community / traditional team tournament
 - Players who don’t make the team, we could provide an “alternate” option
 - Check the notes for the annual meeting
 - Include T.O. Alberts
 - This discussion needs to be ongoing throughout the year up to the registration discussion.
 - Schedule might be Spring / Summer
 - Will there be any language in the agreement about Steel City taking AAA players?
 - Has the potential to bring people back
 - Possibly host a travel tournament
 - Committee needs to be put together by February
 - Bykowski
 - Wilmus
 - Alberts
 - Brown
 - Ludwig
 - Waters
 - Provide an update during January’s meeting
 - Schedule recurring meetings
 - Still need to determine what to do with Saturday games during this Spring Season
- Fundraising:
 - Ludwig generated \$3,850 of fundraising for his volunteering opportunities through his BNY Mellon employment. Check has not been received.
- Old topics:
 - Sunday League Status???

- Provides extra opportunities for competitive
- “Pay to Play” teams may affect participation in the spring
- Decisions need to be made soon
 - The decision on the Winter Trainings needs to happen as soon as possible. This provides 6-9 additional practices
 - All community organizations are having this issue
 - Determine what percentage of players in each division / age group will be involved
 - The solution for the 11U & 12U might not be the same as the solution 7U & 8U teams
- Travel Ball decisions
 - Better instruction by “professionals”
 - Number of reps / number of games / number of opportunities
 - Play all year long. Therefore, possibly consider full-year commitment to families
- Travel Ball solutions / options
 - Solutions need to be determined on an “age division” basis
 - Participation in “pay to play” varies by age group. The solution for the 8U group might not be the solution for the 11U group.
 - Option 1: Provide games on M-H
 - Missing Saturday revenue
 - Does it affect Memorial Day?
 - Fennell does not schedule tournaments during Memorial Day weekend
 - Not all organizations leave Memorial Day open
 - Schedule tournaments for Avonworth travel teams
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
 - Option 2: Provide games on M-H & Saturday evening
 - Avonworth will still provide a Summer Tournament Team in this scenario
 - Option 3: Provide games Monday through Saturday morning / afternoon
 - Winter workouts could be open to ANY registrations for the 11U & 12U
 - Provide special instruction during those sessions
 - Need to make a decision on Winter Workouts soon.

- Winter workouts by high school coaches? Is this possible per PIAA rules?
- Would other options for fields be an option?

Meeting Adjourned: 9:47 PM [Jamison/Ludwig]

Monthly Meeting Attendance Record - 2023 / 2024

Members	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
Date	9/14	10/11	11/9	N/A	1/11	2/8						
Time	8:30	8:30	7:00	N/A	8:00	8:00						
Chris Shipley (President / ML Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Jim Graff (VP Off Field/ MDT Chair)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Mike Gallucci (VP On Field/ ML Commish / Concessions, MDT Committee)	Y	N	Y		Y	Y						
Todd Wilmus (Treasurer)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Greg Bykowski (Recording Secretary/LL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Brad Barnes (MDT Committee)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Brad Cole (Equipment)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Mike Jamison (Umpires / Travel Team Coordinator)	Y	Y	Y		Y	N						
Eric Garver (Website/Surveys/Player evals)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Tony Geiger (Field Maintenance Coordinator)	Y	Y	N		N	Y						
Justin Acierno (Registrations)	Y	N	N		Y	N						
Nate Milsom (Uniforms)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y						
Jon Capo ()	Y	N	N		N	Y						
Mike Ludwig ()	N	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Kyle Brown (Clearances)	N	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Bob Waters (IL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						
Brian Picard (T-Ball Commissioner)	Y	Y	N		Y	N						
Paul Gilbert ()	Y	Y	Y		Y	N						
Jeff Barnyak ()	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y						