

Memo

To: AAA Board Members
From: Greg Bykowski
Date: January 7, 2024
Re: Monthly Board Meeting Notes – November

The Avonworth Athletic Association Board met on November 9, 2023 at the Cabin at Acord Park at 7:00 PM

NOVEMBER 2023 MONTHLY MEETING

Attendance:

All members were in attendance except the following: Geiger, Acierno, Capo & Picard.

Meeting Called to Order: 7:23 PM

Prior monthly meeting minutes approved by:

- Annual [Jamison / Barnes]
- Monthly [Jamison / Cole]

President's Report: Shipley

- Would like to start working on the association calendar. Probably start in January.
- Coach's survey results will be sent out after the November meeting.
 - 32% of all players parents provided a response.
 - Results were pretty good, respectively
 - Did your kids learn something? Results were a little lower.
 - MORE PRACTICES are the biggest request
 - Assistant coaches should be included in the coaches meeting. Talk about the expectation for the assistant coaches' conduct.
 - More training for coaches
 - Travel team parents would like to have more practices
 - Summer coaches meeting?

- This would help the new coaches throughout the organization
 - Some parents have talked about picking the travel teams too late.
 - Communicate to parents early on that games will typically be played during the month of July.
- Little League charter needs to be resubmitted. A new insurance provider

Financial Report: Wilmus

- October Financial Report
 - **\$37,189** in operating fund as of 10/31/23
 - Previous month (09/30): **\$42,133** [Net change: **\$4.9k**]
 - Deposits: \$4.0k
 - Withdrawals: \$8.9k
 - **\$21,835** in capital fund as of 10/31/23
 - Previous month: **\$21,835** [Net change: **\$0k**]
 - Deposits: \$0k
 - Withdrawals: \$0k
 - **\$59,024** is the total ending balance on 10/31/23.
 -
 - \$1,458 & \$149 from Brad's Venmo Account was transferred on 10/13 & 11/9, respectively.
 - Port-A-Johns to be picked up in the first full week of November.
 - A \$10k surplus exists in the Venmo account (@AvonworthAA). Gallucci & Wilmus working to transfer the money into the organization's account.
 - Two sponsor payments have not been received (Willow-\$1200 & Linhart-\$800).
 - Additional information can be found in the Monthly Financial Report

VP On-Field: Gallucci

- 8U: 28 kids registered
 - Half of the kids are 7U players by age
 - Reck / Jamison / Mangene are potential coaches
 - Need to pick teams
 - If 3 teams, have an A team and two equal B teams
- 9U: 10 kids
 - Brad Cole coach? He may have to find someone else who can throw.
- 10U: 25 kids (two teams)
 - Wilmus head coach & TBD
- 11U: 4 kids signed up
 - No head coach
- 12U: 15 kids signed up
 - Graff head coach
 - Might need to combine both age groups

- Don't want to leave players behind
 - Graff thinks that he would prefer to keep
 - Bykowski brought up keep 15, but have 12
 - Bykowski motioned to vote on options
 - All 15: 1 members
 - Best 12: 7 members
 - Best 12, 3 alternates: 7 members
 - Keep all 19: 0 members
 - Due to the tie, the VP of On-Field made the decision to choose the Best 12, with 3 alternates who will participate in Winter trainings.
 - After the board meeting vote, two more players registered before registration was closed. At the time of the selection meeting on 01/04/24, the VP of On-Field made the decision to reverse his previous decision and roster the Best 12 based on the selection committee's vote.
- 7 teams total
 - 8 time slots at Pure Athletex
 - Winter training for PONY team
- Registration
 - 5 people registered after registration closed.
- Evaluations need to be distributed. Had issues with the SportsConnect website.
- By-Laws Committee
 - Bykowski - Chair
 - Acierno
 - Garver
 - Others?

VP Off-Field: Graff

- Online store was opened
 - Not Shields
 - GPSA is supplying the product
 - Open until 11/19
- TV was stored in the shed.

Concessions: Gallucci

- See Gallucci's text (Fall)
 - Down from last year
 - Rain & High school tournament cancelled two Saturdays
 - Revenue: \$6,383
 - Expense:
 - Net income:

Registration: Acierno

- See VP-On-Field

Equipment: Cole

- Tidal tanks (suggested by Ludwig)
 - 20 pounds each
 - Would need to share between teams
- 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.
- (100) dozen 100 LL logo balls have been ordered. Should be delivered in March 2024
- 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
 - Gallucci is going to send an email to all coaches as the VP-On Field
 - Provide additional fencing to the ML & IL Fields
- IL Field: Mini-metal drag needs to be purchased. Possibly replace with a rubber drag

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.

Uniforms: Milsom

- Might want to have two jerseys for summer team
- Nate would like to start ordering the jerseys sooner
 - Might want to order the jerseys when registration is opened.
- Nate will provide jersey options during the January meeting
- Travel uniforms
 - Manufacturer wants to correct the issue, not Milsom's contact.
 - Milsom needs to request a full money refund from the vendor for the material delivered in August.
 - We can pay for the jerseys that were received on time.
 - Coaches will be surveyed to determine what jerseys were delivered late.
 - 11U-B team jerseys were received. Since there was no team, they probably need to be refunded.
 - Some jerseys are still sitting in the shed

- Group is in support of the circle logo on the chest. Might stick with it in the Spring

Field Maintenance: Geiger (Shipley updated)

- Tarps were purchased for LL, but not ML.
- Very happy with the participation during Field Cleanup.
- Waters suggested building new bullpen mounds with extra material
 - Might be an option
- Estimate for IL Backstop from Bethlehem Fence to be obtained
- Water buffalos for water treatment at LL, ML, & IL Fields
 - Might be able to use OT Parks?
 - Needs a battery powered pump
- Water will be free from the Ohio Township Fire Department. Might start in 2024.
- No significant issues at this time.
- Supplies will need to be purchased next year
- Milsom has contact information for DuraEdge (based out of Grove City)
 - 866-867-0052
 - Website: www.duraedge.com
- 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)
 - LL was the most recent laser grading (in April 2023)
 - ML was in 2022

Web Site/Surveys/Player Evals: Garver

- Sunday League & Memorial Day champion pictures were posted.
- Eric might look into switching providers for internet.

Travel Coordinator: Jamison

- January 29th to March 22nd
- Monday: 7-9
- Tuesday: 5-6 & 8-9
- Wednesday: 6-9
- Thursday: 8-9
- Friday:
- \$9,280 for the eight (8) sessions
 - \$1,160 per time slot
 - \$150 per hour
- Sunday League future?

- 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

- Might start clean
- Kyle now has access to the email and the system
- Working through the details
- 80% of the members have clearances. Does not include expired clearances.
- Needs to sort through emails.
- 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
 - No update
- PONY – Fasy Greevy
 - 12 games in fall
 - 16 teams in spring for Moon League
 - Winter session would be an option
 - Would need to have registration open up
 - Would need to be 1st 15 kids who registered
 - Would probably be \$120 per kid for 8 sessions
 - T.O. has a 12U group that are not signed up to another
- 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								
Time	8:30	8:30	7:00	N/A								
Chris Shipley (President / ML Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y									
Jim Graff (VP Off Field/ MDT Chair)	Y	Y	Y									
Mike Gallucci (VP On Field/ ML Commish / Concessions, MDT Committee)	Y	N	Y									
Todd Wilmus (Treasurer)	Y	Y	Y									
Greg Bykowski (Recording Secretary/LL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y									
Brad Barnes (MDT Committee)	Y	Y	Y									
Brad Cole (Equipment)	Y	Y	Y									
Mike Jamison (Umpires / Travel Team Coordinator)	Y	Y	Y									
Eric Garver (Website/Surveys/Player evals)	Y	Y	Y									
Tony Geiger (Field Maintenance Coordinator)	Y	Y	N									
Justin Acierno (Registrations)	Y	N	N									
Nate Milsom (Uniforms)	Y	Y	Y									
Jon Capo ()	Y	N	N									
Mike Ludwig ()	N	Y	Y									
Kyle Brown (Clearances)	N	Y	Y									
Bob Waters (IL Commissioner)	Y	Y	Y									
Brian Picard (T-Ball Commissioner)	Y	Y	N									
Paul Gilbert ()	Y	Y	Y									
Jeff Barnyak ()	Y	Y	Y									