

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Hopewell Youth Baseball: March 17, 2021**  
**General Board Meeting**



--Opened the Meeting with Role Call at 8:30 PM.

\*Everyone was in attendance expect Tony Triscila

**--PRESIDENT'S REPORT FROM DAVE GILL**

\*Recapped that the Spring Registration period ran from February 1 until March 1.

Anyone that attempts to sign up

after March 1 would be assed a late fee, which was told to all league members from the start of signups.

\*Announced that player pictures are expected to be taken on April 19. Once again, this will be done by Trey Thomas.

\*Hopewell Opening Night will be on April 23. The expectation is to have 1 coaches pitch game, 1 minor league game

and two Little League games. The teams that will participate in this haven't yet been determined as the league

schedule is still being formed.

\*We will once again host a summer All-Star tournament at the complex. Age groups 7, 9 and 11 will play from July 8-11. Ages 8, 10 and 12 will play from July 22-25.

\*Dave then went over the progress the board has made on securing team sponsors as well as sponsors for banners

on the outfield fences. This effort isn't completed and members are continuing to add more businesses.

**--TREASURERS REPORT FROM CHRIS KOVELL**

\*Chris reports that the current balance is \$21,595.72 with the construction account balance being \$59,703.32

\*Board members brought up new monthly expenses which were-  
\$250 to buy a banner for the Hopewell Varsity Baseball season at a cost of \$250. This was approved.

\$1150 in order to purchase weed control for our fields. This was approved by the board.

### **--UNIFORM DIRECTOR**

\*We announced a change to uniforms for the Little League, Minor and Pony League teams. This season, we  
will be putting the players last name along with a number on their shirt. Players will be giving their coach  
number options that they'd like. We're hoping they get their first choice but the older the first choice.

\*We are expecting hats and shirts to be delivered on April 19. At that time, the coaches from each team will  
coordinate with their players a place and time for pickup.

### **--PLAYER AGENT REPORT FROM DAVE GIGLIOTTI**

\*As of March 17, the league had 232 players sign up to play baseball this spring. Here is the breakdown of the amount of teams this allowed up to field.

T-Ball: 4 teams (38 players)  
Modified: 2 teams (24 players)  
Coaches Pitch: 6 teams (65 players)  
Minor Leagues: 4 teams (42 players)  
Little League: 3 teams (29 players)  
Pony League: 2 teams (22 players)  
Colt League: TBD (11 players)

\*Dave also announced that we will be having a mandatory coaches clinic for coaches in the T-Ball and Coaches  
Pitching divisions. The purpose of this is to go over practice and coaches tips that can be used with our younger

players. Some of these coaches might be doing this for the first time and this clinic will provide valuable tips to help them work with and instruct our young players.

The date and time for this mandatory clinic hasn't yet been determined.

### **EQUIPMENT MANAGERS REPORT FROM JAMIE YURCINA**

\*The league received great news as Dick's Sporting Good provided the league \$1,500 in gift cards. This was based on the participation and money spent by the Hopewell families for last year's Hopewell Shopping Day at the Beaver Valley Mall location.

\*Jamie announced that Hopewell is going to assist a local project that is going on called the "SD Project". This is being started by an Aliquippa native that's currently a college coach out West. He's attempting to giveback to the Aliquippa Youth Baseball by encouraging local communities to provide any older or usable equipment this isn't being used and give it to Aliquippa, which is in great need. We are going to be donating to them some of our older catchers equipment.

### **FIELD DIRECTORS UPDATE FROM BRANDON DAVIS**

\*Phase III of our Lights Project will begin as field lights will be installed on the coaches pitch field. This will begin as soon as the weather allows the workers to begin on this. This will be a big accomplishment for the league because it means that the Kane Road Complex will now have lights at all the fields.

\*Brandon also announced that over the last few weeks fences have been repaired at the fields, along with safety netting.

\*The league announced that our annual Field Day will take place on March 27 beginning at 8 AM. In the event of rain, the backup date will be April 10. We are asking that any family members of players that have some time (even if an hour) to try and come to the fields to help us with this work. This is a big day because we'll be working to get all our fields ready for the start of the season.

\*Another exciting announcement that was spearheaded by Mike Smetana. We have partnered with a company called

Live Barn. This company will be installing cameras on all fields and will be live streaming all games from the Kane Road

Complex. Comcast will be installing WIFI at the fields in the near future. This is exciting for any family members that

aren't able to attend the games but would like to watch. Exact details for how to subscribe will be announced in the

near future. We are hoping to have this ready for Opening Day.

### **CONCESSION STAND REPORT**

\*The league is in need of a new freezer and fryer and will be purchasing one.

\*We also happy to announce that are regular menu will return for the 2021 season.

Because of COVID-19, we were

forced to have a limited menu last season.

\*We are also in need of volunteers for the concession stand this season. Anyone that's able to volunteer some time

during the season should contact the league or their son's coach.

### **NEW LEAGUE BUSINESS FROM PRESIDENT DAVE GILL**

\*A big announcement as the league announced a change with the age determination for kids impacting which league

they play in. Previously the date was August 31 but will now be May 1. This was done for a couple of major reasons: 1) kids were losing a season of competition. 2) This will allow our teams to be more competitive against neighboring communities that are also doing this.

\*We also are happy to announce that work is being done to try and repair our Pony League field which wasn't been

usable for many years. We plan on working with Vance's Landscaping and they'll be providing a quote for us to consider. The Hopewell School district has ordered dirt and will start on the infield. This is a something that will take

a lot of time and effort but it's exciting to possibly get that field back in playable condition so our kids are forced to

play home games at Central Valley, who we also have to play to use their fields.

\*The league was happy to receive a very generous donation from a local businessman

who has asked to remain

nameless. He has donated \$25,000 to Hopewell Youth Baseball and wants us to determine the projects for it to

be used for. This is the largest donation in the history of the league. We are obviously thrilled to have received that

news and extremely grateful. In a meeting he told us that “it’s not about me and I don’t want the recognition, I just

want to give back to me community and the kids in it.”

### **COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR THIS SEASON**

\*We announced our COVID-19 guidelines for fans and players at the Kane Road Complex this season

-Despite nationwide numbers improving, we will continue to encourage social distancing.

-Sharing of equipment will be prohibited

-No sunflower seeds will be permitted at the complex

-Spitting by players will not be permitted

-We will once again have touchless postgame handshake lines

-The league will once again have plenty of hand sanitizer throughout the complex for usage by players and fans.

-We are once again asking parents to keep your kids home if they are not feeling well.

-At this time, players will not be mandated to wear masks during games or practices.

However, if you as a parent want

your child to wear a mask, that is fine.

-People in attendance will not be asked to wear masks and we will not limit the amount of people at the field for games

like we did last season.

-We would like to point out that this is all subject to change depending on COVID-19 cases in our region.

### **QUESTIONS FOR THE PARENTS**

\*We appreciated how many people were on-line for the virtual meeting and the amount of questions that parents had for the board.