

Hardball Board Meeting  
February 28, 2024  
High Plains Community Center, Room #8

Attendees:

Joe Smeraglino	Craig Yannes	Joe Michel	Jay Jaffer
Adam Dinihanian	Erik Melingonis	Bryan Terlizzi	Krista Rogalski
Alex Biro	Ryan Mann	BJ Palumbo	Paul Ballas
Mike Marchetti	Josh Lemon	Dino Guerra	Brian Remigio
Anthony Ayala	Melvin Saunders	Jesse Plude	Brian Fournier
John Steiner			

Start of Meeting: 7:02 PM

*Meeting led by VP of Baseball, Joe Smeraglino*

Purpose of the meeting:

- Give everyone the opportunity to hear what is being planned and how anyone can help
- Create a board for the baseball side of OLL in case anything needs to be addressed or to vote for a postseason manager.
  - Executive board meetings are closed door meetings and this is more of a town hall forum
- Gives the opportunity for open discussion to address any questions or concerns for the upcoming season
- The plan for meetings, going forward is to meet a week before OLL executive board meetings so anything discussed can be brought to the attention of the executive board, if needed.
  - Meeting on a certain day of the week may not happen because of work schedule.

Final Registration Numbers

Registration closed on Sunday:

- 281 across the 5 levels
  - 56 for Majors – 6 teams
  - 57 for Easterns – 6 teams
  - 31 for Rookies – will bring some CP kids up to make 4 teams
  - 73 for Coach Pitch – final number of teams determined soon
  - 64 for T-Ball – final number of teams determined soon
- LY, we had 340
  - 59 less but 43 drop off in t-ball
  - Looking to inquire with MLT if attendance was down for this school year in order to build stronger numbers for next year

Manager/Team Forming Timeline

- Majors and Easterns had interviews because there was more interested than amount of teams
  - Managers will be approved at the 2/29 meeting to keep on track with timeline
- Everyone else that put in that they would like to manage will be contacted by coaching coordinator or player agent shortly within the next week

- Need to pull 4 more tball managers, Bryan Terlizzi will give understanding on what it takes to be a manager at this level
- We have enough interest in managers at Rookies and Coach Pitch. Need 4 more for t-ball.
- Majors & Easterns have evaluations on Friday 3/1 at The Grind
  - Easterns will be first at 6:30, 6:15 check in. Majors starts at 7:30, check in will start at 7:15
  - If your son goes first, then he will be done first. Each player will be assigned a sticker so managers know who the kids are. Once player is evaluated, he is free to leave
  - There is no make up day for evaluations. If a player can't make their division time, they can come to the later time or vice versa
  - If player can't make it all, then managers will consult with the prior coach
- Will have drafts early next week, start at the top and work our way down. Majors first then Easterns.
- Rookies will have casual draft with player agent late next week/following week
- CP and T-ball will be assigned late next week/following week
- Goal is to have all teams created and posted by 3/17 to order uniforms...equipment manager needs 4 week lead time to get uniforms in time.

#### Communication

- We will try and keep everyone informed as best as possible and send out as much communication without being overbearing
- Registration closed and working on our end on what needs to transpire over the next few weeks
- Email blasts will continue to go out for important reminders so the OLL family is in the loop on everything happening

#### OLL Clean Up Day is 3/23

- Example of tasks: putting up 4 batting cage nets, clean out dirt, leaves, rocks out of fields and dugouts, take our mound tarps and field rakes, minor fence repair with fence ties if needed
- Dino G. will send out Sign up genius form. This will have an equipment list as well so we have all the proper tools. Looking to start around 9:00AM
- Took a look at Goldberg mound, rubber is straight but dirt path is off going to home plate. Will continue to look at options
- Will check bullpen on Roach
- Roach scoreboard needs to be cleaned out and swept
- Kids are welcome, pick up trash around fields, want them to have fun and be involved!

#### Schedule

- Waiting for confirmed amount of teams and managers
- Most teams will have one game during the week and one game on Saturday
- We may be able to avoid most Fridays and utilize as make up day but we'll see how many teams are aligned
- Lower levels go on back end of schedule for rain outs. Will add 3<sup>rd</sup> game a week for upper levels if there are rain outs so we stay on track for playoff games
- Avoiding dates like Orange Olympics for 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Paugy party for Majors
- Communion scheduled for April 22, 23 and 24 at Holy Infant
- Any other important dates someone is aware of, please let us know
- Hoping to post before April 4<sup>th</sup>

Coaches Meeting is 4/4 at 7pm High Plains

- Mandatory for all managers and coaches and will provide a wide array of topics for the coaches
- Safety info included AED, CPR
- Coaches responsibility, coaching tips, snack stand, GameChanger utilization, field maintenance after the games to keep fields in good shape

Practices

- Unofficial practices before 4/1. No requirement to call Park and Rec
- Will use Chris S. judgment if Old Tavern fields can be used prior to 4/1.
- Can call and book fields starting 4/1 at MLT, HPCC, Racebrook and Peck
- Town fields, utilize them the best you can. Outfield drills or anything to keep the kids engaged and having fun
- Practice schedule will be created for Old Tavern in priority order for Majors/Easterns

End of Meeting: 7:30 PM