

# TABERNACLE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Come Play with TAA!

### Meeting Minutes of August 29, 2017

Lynne Hedden called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

In attendance were: Lynne Hedden, Ron Bjorklund, Pete Damiri, Ginger Evans, Rodney Haines, Lori Graff, Brenda Bryan, Casey Bryan, Patrick Callahan, and Mark Lemire.

Unable to attend were: Dave Curtis, Mike Taylor, and Matt Robertson.

The minutes of June 27, 2017 were reviewed and accepted. A TAA meeting was not held in July 2017.

#### Program Reports:

**Soccer: Dave Curtis – Soccer Director** – Dave was unable to attend the meeting but emailed Lynne his report, as follows: All teams have been assigned. There are 24 total teams. We have 6 mini-munchkin teams, 6 munchkin. We have 3 Boys 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade teams, 2 boys 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teams and 2 boys 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams. For the girls, we had to change the age brackets. We combined 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 6<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade forming 2 divisions. This was due to a lack of players at the older levels in both Tabernacle and Medford. We have 4 girls teams in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade level and 1 teams at the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade level. Southampton has no teams and Indian Mills only has 1 for the girls 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. We will be playing with Marlton for the boys and Girls older divisions again this year.

Uniforms are ordered and a down payment has been made. Uniforms are expected to be delivered next week and will be distributed to the teams. No sponsor names will be on the uniforms. Only a few sponsors signed up and I decided not to use them. Hopefully we can be part of the overall sponsorship program next year to offset some of the costs of uniforms. I may look for a new supplier as Doug at Millennium is moving away from working with sports leagues and looking at more corporate business.

All fields have been lined and all nets have been placed. We have a total of 6 lined fields and 1 unlined practice field. We moved bleachers and placed them on the fields for spectators. I had many coaches come out and help this year, which made the process go much faster. Though many hours were still spent in preparing the fields. Fields are in pretty good shape as there has been plenty of rain, which is the opposite of last year. Goal areas still need a lot of work and will see what can be done in the off season to help repair the grass.

The mosquito issue seems to be much better now that the county has sprayed. Overall the park is looking poor, with lots of weeds and overall just seems neglected. This has been addressed with the Twp. and they have made some improvements. Games will begin September 9<sup>th</sup>. There is a 10 week season, except for mini's, which is 8 weeks. Tournaments will be played at the end of the season, the weekend before Thanksgiving. Tabernacle will look to host the boys 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade and girls 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, if possible. Marlton is volunteering to do both the boys 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade and girls 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Medford will probably host as well.

Registrations went fairly smooth. There seemed to be less late requests. IMAA and STRA have almost no recreational program remaining. I am going to ask them if they would not take registrations next year and refer recreational level players to Tabernacle. This will help with transferring players over. IMAA only had 7 girls and STRA only had 4 girls, which combined to

make 1 team. Medford Lakes is seeing reduced registration numbers as well. Many coaches have completed their background checks. TAA needs to reimburse them.

**Baseball: Rodney Haines – Baseball Director** – Nothing to report at this time.

**Softball: Lynne Hedden – Softball Director (interim)** – Lynne reported that TAA will host two college-level tournaments in October at Patty Bowker. Fall softball practices and games will be scheduled on the lighted Major's field at Patty Bowker this season. The Pirettes conducted tryouts for 10u, 12u, and 14u teams for the fall season. Fall season will consist of a 10-game season with a tournament. TAA will manage the 12u team. Coaches from the Shawnee Seneca Softball Conference will meet on 9/13/17 to discuss last season and make recommendations for next year. The July 15th SB tournament was scheduled as a one day but required two days due to inclement weather. TAA VB ran the concession stand as a 2017 fundraiser for their program.

**Volleyball: Brenda Bryan – Volleyball Director** – Brenda reported registration is moving along with 33 to date and the possible addition of a few 9th and 10th graders who were cut from the HS team. Another email was sent recently and online registration might be extended to September 14th. Brenda is looking to plan an end-of-year party on November 14th. She is working with Matt Robertson again for agility training. The woman who indicated she would take over the VB program has declined but Brenda has another interested candidate.

**Basketball: Ron Bjorklund – Basketball Director** – Registration will open October 1st and close on November 7th. Request has been submitted for gym time.

**Wrestling: Lori Graff – Wrestling Director** – Lori reported registration will open on October 1st and run to Thanksgiving. She will be meeting with Brad Bauer soon. A parent volunteer who ran the clothing and picture fundraisers has graduated from the program and Lori is seeking a replacement. The concession stand schedule is now covered.

**Track and Field: Matt Robertson – Track and Field Director** – Not in attendance but he is planning a fall clinic and to repeat last year's schedule.

**Public Relations: Pete Damiri – PR Director** – Pete presented the second round of TAA logos designs. The group liked the pine-tree look that incorporated the illustration of children. They wanted to see a lighter color for the trees. Pete will update the designer and get a new logo.

**Sponsorship: Patrick Callahan – Sponsorship Coordinator** – Patrick spoke with AtlatiCare and decided to pass on the soccer sponsorship since they only wanted to sponsor one age group. The TAA Board reviewed Patrick's sponsorship spreadsheet and made several suggestions to simplify the levels of support. It was also suggested that we review the funding levels to see how they compare with those of other local athletic programs.

**New Business: Mark** presented the Recreational Committee Annual Report which includes successes of TAA along with other township activities including the Memorial Day parade and Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. Mark updated the group on this year's Tree Lighting ceremony scheduled on Friday, December 1st and invited TAA's participation in this year's event.

The group discussed the possible use of social media to help promote TAA activities. It might be necessary to replace our current Facebook volunteer as well as add volunteers to post and monitor information on Twitter and other platforms. Further discussion is needed to determine the feasibility of recruiting volunteers skilled in these platforms and the time commitment required to post and monitor information on these channels.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.