

Guilford Little League

Board Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2026

Location: Zoom

Attendees

Chris Frey, George Norden, Meg Lucas, Mike Bizzario, Tom Scharf, Kate Scharf, Bill Bodin, Adam Bernard, Stephanie Quarato, Nick Balsamo

1. Registration & Retention

Registration Trends

- Baseball registrations are down year over year
- Softball registrations are also down year over year
- Overall registration is down approximately 20%
- Board discussed potential contributing factors, including weather

Retention & Outreach Ideas

- Reach out to returning families directly
- Look to obtain a list of PTO presidents for outreach and coordination
- Board members to assist once PTO contacts are identified
- Discuss coordination with lacrosse to reduce the perception of an “either/or” choice for families
- Majors division identified as having the largest registration shortfall
- Continued impact noted from Guilford travel baseball disbanding in prior years
- Idea raised to run a “Spring Training” style camp during winter months to generate excitement and visibility for baseball and help drive future registrations
- Stephanie Q. to connect with Kate S. to help facilitate a softball registration

2. Finance & Administration

- During chartering, Chris F. was able to obtain:
 - Packs of cards
 - Gatorade bottlesThese will be disseminated to players

Fundraiser

- Must be coordinated through GPD
- Nick B. to spearhead the effort
- Meg L. and George N. offered to assist using established channels

Sponsors

- Sponsor donations continue to come in
- George N. to disseminate an updated sponsor chart
- Kate S. noted plaques for sponsors are ready and will be delivered soon

Spirit Store

- Spirit Store will be run again this year in a similar fashion to last season

3. Fields & Facilities

- Adam B. reported no current field issues
- Lakes infield dirt:
 - Board discussed reaching out to the Town for additional dirt
 - Chris F. to contact the Town

4. Communications & Recognition

Softball Recognition

- Softball signage initiative to honor last year's softball All-Star team and recognize their success
 - Led by Mike B.
 - 4'x6' signs planned for Adams, Bittner, and Lakes
 - Estimated cost: ~\$1,700 (less than prior engraving costs)
 - Anonymous donor to cover Lakes signage
 - Board vote held: George N., Mike B., Kate S., and Meg L. voted yes
 - Mike B. approved to proceed
- Chris F. and Bill B. to begin planning additional softball recognition gifts
 - To be presented at a future Adams game

5. Scheduling & Programs

Evaluations

- Baseball and softball evaluations proceeding as normal
- For softball, evaluations may not be required at all levels
- Stephanie Q. to send evaluation date communication to softball families
- Chris F. considering advance notice communication to registered families
- Anticipated communication regarding team redrafting
- Discussion on using coaches from lower divisions for evaluation insight, likely by consulting prior-year coaches
- Changing team names by division discussed and appears to be the likely direction

Opening Day

- Opening weekend games discussed
 - Rain cancellations in prior years noted
- Stephanie Q. expressed support for having at least one softball game on Opening Day
- Baseball would also like to play on Opening Day, weather permitting

6. Districts / All-Stars Site Host

- District reached out about hosting again
 - Interest exists if volunteers can be secured
 - No desire from softball to host
 - Plan is to express interest but withdraw if staffing is insufficient

7. Equipment

- Tom S. to conduct equipment inventory soon
- George N. received a \$750 donation earmarked for equipment

8. Concessions

- Meg L. raised the question of normalizing concessions for the regular season
- Discussion included potential use of high school students for community service hours

9. Next Meeting

- **Anticipated:** March 2, 2026
- **Location:** Zoom
- **Note:** Subject to change

Action Items Summary

Action Item

Owner

Coordinate outreach	Board Members
Proceed with softball recognition signage	Mike B.
Plan softball recognition gifts	Chris F. / Bill B.
Facilitate softball registration outreach	Stephanie Q. / Kate S.
Send evaluation communications	Stephanie Q. / Chris F.
Spearhead fundraiser coordination	Nick B. (Meg L. / George N. assisting)
Disseminate updated sponsor chart	George N.
Conduct equipment inventory	Tom S.
Contact Town re: Lakes infield dirt	Chris F.

Minutes prepared by Nick Balsamo, Secretary