

Highland Village Area Baseball and Softball Association

Board of Directors Meeting

2221 FM 407 Suite 119-334

Flower Mound, Texas 75028

EIN:75-2754912

Type of Meeting: Regular

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Doubletree Ranch Park

Meeting Facilitator: Aaron Rhodes, Executive Vice President

Secretary: Alexis Burris

Call to Order:

Executive Vice President Aaron Rhodes called the Board of Directors meeting to order on May 1, 2025, at 7:32 PM.

✓ Motion to begin meeting by Aaron Rhodes.

Seconded by Jeff Halstead.

Members Present: *(V) indicates participation by MS Teams.*

Aaron Rhodes — Executive Vice President - League Administration

(V) Steve White — Vice President - Storm Baseball

Sam Smith — Vice President - Recreational Baseball, 9U/10U Baseball Commissioner

Walt Temshiv — Vice President - Softball

(V) Cindy Wiederrich — Treasurer

Alexis Burris — Secretary

Blayde Burris — Director of Fields / Scheduler

Ayden Burris — Director of Rules & Umpires

Teresa Rhodes — Director of Media

(V) Shawn French — Director of Registration & Web Services

Jeff Halstead — Director of Interlock & Premier

Mike Gonzalez — Blastball/5U/6U Commissioner

Jon Dahlvig — 13U/14U Baseball Commissioner

Kara Boone — Softball Commissioner

Members Absent:

OPEN — President

OPEN — Director of Sponsorship/Fundraising

OPEN — HS Baseball Commissioner

Graham Koonce — 11U/12U Baseball Commissioner

Joe Lococco — 7U/8U Baseball Commissioner

Patty Bolton — Concession Stand Manager

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

✓ Motion by Aaron Rhodes to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on May 1, 2025.

Seconded by Sam Smith.

Passed unanimously.

Introduction of Guest Presenter:

Chase Hankins, Big Hank's Landscaping, LLC (current landscaper at Lantana Community Church)

AGENDA ITEMS:

1) Big Hank's Landscaping, LLC

Chase Hankins grew up playing at HVA through high school. He attended Flower Mound High School and then Texas State. Currently, Chase is a social studies teacher at Shadow Ridge Middle School. He wants to give back to the baseball community and make a better product in Bartonville/Lantana Community Church.

Issues include weeds/grass infield; inconsistent mowing schedule, drainage issues on south field; extensive water issues; suggestion for long-term expansion. Recommendations:

Tier 1 – 1x per week March-October (\$250/week)– weeding, trash, infields, etc.

- Chase recommends 2x per week (\$250/visit).

Tier 2 – “Budget friendly” – 2x per week (\$500/week); 1 or 2 times per month during off season. Spray weeks (\$300-400 in materials).

- Recommending maxim sod kicker (sod cutter) - \$400
- Recommending STHL gas-powered weed sprayer instead of hand pump - \$600

Tier 3 - 2x per week (\$500/week); 1 or 2 times per month during off (\$250/visit)

- #1 concern - French Drain needed – South Field (approx. \$8-9,000); Need quality softball/baseball dirt.
- “Dangerous” Batting Cage issues – construction (approx. \$10,000) - needs crossbeams
- North Field – 1 dugout not covered.
- South Field – No dugouts.

Open discussion:

- Blayde - Concerned about not enough access for such a large investment. We have traded the Yellow Field at Unity to use both practice fields.
 - Aaron - Are lights an option?
 - Shawn - Considering the status of the cage, infield, and other maintenance needed, he doesn't see the fields being used for anything other than practice fields. Maybe an option would be to get new nets for the batting cage.
 - Walt - Inquired whether Harvest is paying anything toward field rental/upkeep.
- The Board needs to know what the church is willing to contribute. Aaron has made contact with Reverend Cal to schedule a meeting with the Executive Board.

2) Executive Vice-President's Report:

➤ Aaron Rhodes

- Community - Met with FMYSA and Coach Sherman of MHS - Sherman is offering to support our Storm Baseball programs.
- Financial - Sam Smith added to the Chase Bank accounts. All members of the Executive Board have been added to the current accounts.
- Photo Day - Dave Stock provided feedback that information sharing was much better from both HVABSA and the City. Graham helped this process go smoothly.
- Concession Stand - Blayde, Cindy, and Aaron
 - New cooler purchased (3-door) - original was damaged/leaking. Ben E. Keith will send a brand-new replacement cooler.

3) Vice-Presidents' Reports:

➤ Softball Report, Walt Temshiv

- All-Stars upcoming
- 14/16u Storm Team
- Hosting 6U Party & Skills Competition
- One issue with a Lewisville Team (issue handled/communicated)

➤ Storm Report, Steve White

- 8U and 13U – Good weekends; info posted to website. Suggested a standard protocol to celebrate and announce teams' (players & coaches) successes?
- Communication – Requested changes to schedule requests. Would like to give coaches a better chance to get on the fields. Suggesting this be discussed further.

➤ Rec Baseball Report, Sam Smith

- No major issues
- Running out of time to reschedule.

1) Financial Update

➤ Treasurer, Cindy Wiederrich

- HVABSA does not have much income right now, so we must be cautious when making plans for additional purchases, etc.
- General Ledger - sent to Executive Board. Information is available to anyone wishing to see it.

2) Grievance Form Update - Shawn French and/or Alexis Burris

- Keller vs. Lewisville – Grievance submitted re: Lewisville Coach – inappropriate berating of players. Walt and Kara communicated with concerned parents and shared information with Lewisville's VP of Softball, Nikki, to handle the issue directly with their coach.
- Walt confirmed we have never had reports like this in the past.

3) Director Reports:

- Director of Registration/Web Master, Shawn French
 - The new system is working. Transparency has been great. The link is on the website. Any requests to add information or posts should be emailed directly to Shawn. Shawn will make sure to check in to confirm information before publishing.

- Media, Teresa Rhodes
 - HVABSA has a new Instagram account.
 - Coach Sherman complimented the new flood of social media.

- Umpires, Ayden Burris
 - No issues to report. Looking ahead to ensure enough umpires for All-Star Tournament.

- Schedules, Blayde Burris
 - Rec 5u/6u games will be rescheduled during the week.
 - Four games from last night, April 30, could be rescheduled on Sunday (TBD).
 - If the end-of-season tournament rains out, the bracket will go away, and the top two teams get awards.
 - All-Star Practice Schedule – 9/10U can share before the 17th, and after they will have their own. 14u has a slot. 12u could go on yellow at least until 17th. 6U, 2 coach pitch teams - no practices yet.

- Fields, Blayde Burris
 - Met with Phil Schmidt regarding repairs to the cages (planned within the next couple of weeks).
 - Locks – Have teams lock them on the fence and turn the dial to help avoid them being stolen/lost. Codes changed – if you need them, reach out.

- Equipment, Sam Smith
 - Preparing for the end of the season and receiving equipment back.
 - Aaron and Blayde will work to clear out and reorganize the shed.

- Interlock/Premiere, Jeff Hallsted
 - No issues. Sign-ups for all-star tourneys have started. Our teams are competing in 3-5 tourneys each.

4) Commissioner Reports:

- Softball, Kara Boone - Kara reported that All-Star tryouts were successful last weekend. Also hosting a 6U “Party” for the surrounding teams.

- 5U/6U/Blastball, Mike Gonzalez - Thank you for the help with the equipment. Made a suggestion of pennants or something at the ballfield, recognizing coaches/players/teams.
- 7U/8U, Joe Lococo (absent) - Taylor is running All-Stars this summer. Hallstead reported that 8U team was not using the mat during the first part of the season (Pitt).
- 10U, Sam Smith - Scheduling questions, but no other concerns.
- 11u/12u, Graham Koonce (absent) - Graham sent a message to share that parents are happy about field conditions and looking forward to the fall.
- 14U, Jon Dahlvig - Field conditions shout out.

5) Open Business:

- Batting cage net replacement and fencing issue - in progress.
- Middle School Matchup (June 10-11) - Communication continues to be difficult. Aaron is working on this.
- All-Stars Softball and Baseball teams -
 - Colleyville - 8U Premier paid; 7U and 8U money is due to hold spots.
- Any volunteers identified for the Director of Sponsorship/Fundraising position?
 - Steve White - One possible parent is considering the position. TBD.
- HVA All-Star Softball & Baseball Tournament Update -
 - May 8- Aaron and Blayde will meet with Corinth and TC.
 - June 7-8 - Softball All-Star Tourney hosted by HVA.
- Cooperstown “Golden Ticket” update - Steve White
 - *Historically* - 12u Storm given the opportunity for a coach/team to participate in Cooperstown.
 - *What is the value of the Golden Ticket?* 13 Tournaments at Cooperstown; Golden Ticket gives team first-choice tourney. Most of those tourneys are available to anyone.
 - *What do we want to accomplish?* Once in a lifetime opportunity, but we don’t want to burden families.
 - *Moving forward* – a team will get an option to go to Cooperstown, but it won’t be required. \$25,000 for 12 players/3 coaches; plus flights, etc.; Bring your own ump \$1,000.
 - *Next meeting* – We will discuss financial support to one or two teams, and how to move forward.
- Jeff Nelson, FMYSA, donated six (6) new sets of 6U catchers’ gear for T-Ball teams.
- Extra blastballs have been purchased, however debating return/exchange.
- Items “pushed” to the May general meeting:
 - 7U/8U follow up on preparing 6U/7U for kid pitch.
 - Walt - update on discussion with Phil Schmidt regarding softball issues.
- Storm lineup cards - The previous company is out of business. Jen Legner from D-Bat will look into options for us.

6) New Business:

Open - Director of Equipment:

- ✓ Motion by Sam Smith to nominate Jon Dahlvig as Director of Equipment.

Seconded by Aaron Rhodes.

Passed unanimously.

VFG/Players Way:

- Aaron wants to see details in black and white. We want to see exactly what we are agreeing to so we can decide if we want to engage in a relationship with them or pass.
- Consensus by the Board is to take the potential collaboration one step at a time. VFG seems to have good intentions and to be operating in good faith.
- Walt expressed concern about bringing them into the city when we are the ones communicating and have a pre-existing relationship.

- ✓ Motion by Aaron Rhodes to proceed with discussion and potential relationship with VFG/Players Way.

Seconded by Jon Dahlvig.

Passed unanimously.

Music at Unity Park:

- Discussion regarding the pros and cons of playing music at Unity Park.
- Blayde suggests we address volume. Fewer people have issues with this vs. no music.
- Halstead suggests no music. Risk of safety issues in the stands, particularly between Yellow and Green fields. Suggests plate meeting is the best place to address no music.
- Walt agrees it's ok for walk-up songs only to be discussed at plate meetings.
- Steve suggests courtesy signs. Aaron is communicating with the sign company and will have signs made (each side of the field; each dugout).
- FMYSA rule is low volume and no profanity.
- Steve stated we must be clear about the rule(s) to ensure it's not a "free for all".
- Jon recommended pushing the discussion of specifics to the May Board meeting.
- Blayde suggested using the fall season as a trial run.

- ✓ Motion by Aaron Rhodes to allow music at Unity Park..

Seconded by Walt Temshiv.

Motion carries. Four nay votes: Jeff Halstead, Blayde Burriss, Jon Dahlvig, Alexis Burriss.

2025-2026 Board of Directors Positions:

Everyone is returning to the same positions. We will need a new 10U Commissioner to replace Sam Smith.

- ✓ Motion by Aaron Rhodes to approve all Board of Directors to return for another year/term..

Seconded by Sam Smith.

Passed unanimously.

Big Hank's Landscaping, LLC (contract ending 6/30/25):

- ✓ Motion by Aaron Rhodes to approve \$500/week for the company to mow twice per week.
Seconded by Jon Dahlvig.
Passed unanimously.

7) Open floor for any new issues:

Lantana Church field agreement - \$6,000 per year to the church is due in January. The Executive Board will discuss needs moving forward. Plans to meet with Jake and Reverend Cal.

Corem Dao - No money has been received this year.

Commissioner position change - Consider combining the 14U and High School Baseball Commissioner positions.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 5, 2025, General Board of Directors Meeting at 7:30 pm in the South Room of Doubletree Park.

- ✓ Motion to adjourn by Aaron Rhodes.
Seconded by Blayde Burris.
Passed unanimously.

Adjourned 05/01/2025 at 9:15 pm