

High Plains Little League Board Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by President, Scot Raffelson. Kent and Jody were present at the meeting at 2:06 pm.

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Scot Raffelson, President Vance Brown, Vice President of Baseball John Busby, Vice President of Softball / Treasurer Sarah Ehn, Secretary / Safety Officer Gary Bowling, Coaching Coordinator CeCe Castro, Registrar Albert Castro, Equipment Manager Jody Shaw, Parent Representative Kent Shaw, Scheduler / Umpire Coordinator Diana Strobel, Player Agent	Marissa McCulloch, Fund Raising Coordinator

II. Approval of the Minutes

CeCe moved to approve the January meeting minutes and was seconded by Albert. The motion carried without opposition and no corrections were requested.

III. Champs Photography Presentation

Ron Folks from Champs Photography was present to discuss options for team and individual player pictures. He provided examples of several products along with a price list. They will go to at least one game to take action shots of the team, once there is a commitment to use their company. 10% is given back to the league for any of the packages are sold. They also take family portraits and incentives to assist with fund raising efforts. Team banners are also available for \$100-\$150 that are 4x8 and would include the company logo. Champs is a locally run, small business that is interested in working with HPLL.

Team pictures would be scheduled first, and parents would be asked if they would like to purchase an action shot. They are certain to take shots of those players and then will take pictures of the game in general for anyone else who would like to purchase a picture. They are able to print pictures at the tournaments and the turn around

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time is quick for items that are ordered. All action shots can be viewed and ordered online. The coach or team mom will be notified when the pictures are posted. Everything can be password protected at the discretion of the league. They also provide a free picture of the child if his/her parent is a coach or manager and are willing to take pictures of siblings together if desired. The board will consider the options and vote to make a decision for a vendor.

IV. District 5 Meeting

The meeting was held January 25, 2015 and was attended by Scot and Albert. Some of the leagues are having difficulty getting their maps to show up online and will be checking into changing their online system. We must focus on waivers and be sure that all requirements are met. We are expecting a few waivers including school waivers that will need to be approved and submitted. Tournament schedules were discussed and a calendar was approved. The dates are as follows:

Tournament team selection were debated, and Colorado Springs stated that they would not be participating in the All-Star tournament. Many of the teams that advance to Regionals are travel teams that have played together for the entire season plus one extra player. The Little League road show is March 7th from 9-5, and anyone who attends will have the opportunity to ask questions. Scot has started to prepare a list of questions and any board member is welcome to attend. HPLL will cover the cost of event for the board members. The HPLL membership will also be invited to attend at their own expense. Sarah moved to approve HPLL paying for board members to attend the Little League International Road show at \$20 per person. It was seconded by Kent and passed without opposition.

V. Player Agent Update

Diana Strobel attended the meeting and has volunteered to serve as the Player Agent for HPLL. She was informed of the duties of the responsibility and will be working in coordination with the Coaching Coordinator and the Parent Advocate to address any issues. The try-out schedule has been initiated, and Diana will need to supervise the event. It was suggested to observe throwing, catching, hitting, and running. Kent moved to accept Diana as player agent on the HPLL board. It was seconded by Jody, and the motion carried unanimously.

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VI. Uniforms

The teams and colors have been selected, and the information has been sent to Dick's Sporting Goods to help with inventory. Scot will also send the information to L3 on Monday.

Discussion completed regarding waiving the late fee for registration for the 2015 season. CeCe moved to waive the late fee for the 2015 season. It was seconded by Gary and passed without opposition. The cut-off date for the older divisions is 2/18 with exceptions on a case by case basis. The t-ball and rookie division cut off will be 2/27 with exceptions on a case by case basis. The suggestion was made by Vance and was approved by the board.

VII. Financials

John reported \$13409.43 is the balance of the checking account with the CD at \$63507.62. We received ~\$3000 yesterday for the in-person registration.

Drawing: Marissa has forwarded a list to Scot about gifts and donations received for the drawing.

Spirit Wear: John reported that there has been minimal interest in the spirit wear at this point. We will be able to sell the items at the concession stand and opening day this year.

Discount Cards: We must pay \$5000 to pay for the cards by March 3rd. Currently, we have yet to sell enough of the cards to make that payment. The cards have to be registered to receive the restaurant.com gift certificate. We need to make an extra effort to sell the cards, as 250 cards must be sold to meet our financial obligation. Please talk to John if you need additional cards to sell. We will keep track of the players that have sold the discount cards. It was suggested that we provide prizes for the top seller of the discount cards to be awarded at the closing ceremony. The number of discount cards sold per player or team would need to be tracked in order to find the top seller. John and Marissa will work on a method to track the cards sold. This issue will be tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.

Drawing Tickets: It was suggested that anyone who buys Sky Sox tickets would also receive a drawing ticket. Tucano's restaurant has donated two gift certificates for catering for 15, 2 dinners for two people, and food donation for opening day and closing ceremony. There was discussion to have the drawing but not as a fund raiser and focus on the discount cards and Sky Sox as a money maker. If all the discount cards

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are sold, the profit would be \$500.00. Previous profit from the drawing tickets was ~\$1600.00. John moved to use the Sky Sox and discount cards as the fund raisers for 2015; work on getting prizes for a drawing to be awarded at the Sky Sox or closing ceremony. A drawing ticket would be given for each baseball ticket purchased. It was seconded by Scot. The motion carried with no opposition.

VIII. Registration

Currently we have 241 players registered. There have been 44 memberships paid. The player breakdown includes:

T-ball	38	Softball Juniors	8
Rookies	49	Softball Majors	10
Minors	47	Softball Minors	16
Majors	37		

Coaching Discounts: Dick's Sporting Goods did send us gift cards to give to the managers. There are 20 cards total. Jody moved that we give the gift cards to the managers and any additional cards will be used as prizes for the drawing. The motion was seconded by Diana and carried without opposition.

IX. Falcon Regional Park

The final plan was established on 01/28/15. The plans are now posted on-line for public review. They include 2 fields to be built in the first phase which will have grass instead of turf. It is now a 6 field complex with two fields to be built in each phase. The lighting is not included until the second phase. The first two fields are not large enough to have the Junior division or 50/70 division to use. The phases will be completed as the revenue is available. HPLL will provide a letter of support for the project and has pledged \$60,000. The park committee will meet to approve the plan on 2/10/15 and then will go to the county for approval. The Go-Co Grant will be submitted in March. The plan does include restrooms, concession stands, and equipment storage to be added in phase 2. Meridian Ranch is required to provide water and sewer services for the park.

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X. 2015 Calendar

Scot sent a draft to the board for information. He will continue to update the calendar as appropriate.

XI. Equipment Inventory

Albert provided an equipment inventory and some new items will be needed. New tees are needed and first aid kits and ice packs must be ordered in time for the coaches clinic. We received a \$1500.00 check from Dick's Sporting Goods to support HPLL. Input was given to Albert to help prioritize equipment needs. Softball patches need to be purchased as soon as possible. There are also supplies for the concession stands and the car washes that were held previously.

XII. Misc.

Kent asked if we could ask D49 to add dirt to the field to repair the infields and use a method to label the base pins before the additional dirt is added. HPLL is not allowed to make any improvements to the fields, and it must be done by D49.

Scheduling: Kent has contacted Academy, Colorado Springs, Sandlot, and Tri-Lakes to work on scheduling games. He will still contact other leagues as possible.

Photography Proposal: Scot moved to accept the proposal from Champs Photography to take pictures for HPLL for 2015. It was seconded by John and approved by the board. Scot will discuss scheduling options with Ron Folks for opening day on April 4th for upper divisions and a later date for rookies and t-ball.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 pm.

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Respectfully Submitted

Sarah Ehn, HPLL Secretary