

# High Plains Little League Board Meeting

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### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 pm by Vice President, John Busby

Board Members Present:	Board Members Absent:
Sarah Ehn, Safety Officer Gary Bowling, Coaching Coordinator CeCe Castro, Registrar Albert Castro, Equipment Manager Diana Strobel, Player Agent John Busby, Vice President Marissa McCullouch, Fund Raising Coordinator Christy Kennedy, Parent Advocate Mike Langham, VP of Baseball	Scot Raffelson, President Jen Keller, Secretary Johnny Stevens, Director of Umpires/Scheduling

### II. Presentation by Doyle Baseball Academy

Jay Goodwin from Doyle Baseball Academy addressed the board regarding options regarding possible coaches/players training sessions for HPLL. Printed information will be forwarded to all board members for further consideration, and discussion will be held at the next meeting.

### III. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Albert to accept the minutes as submitted by the league Secretary. The motion was seconded by Diana and carried without opposition.

### IV. Safety Plan Review

Sarah presented proposed changes for the HPLL Safety Plan for 2016. The changes include: Identification badges for all on-field volunteers and board members. CPR/AED training for at least one member of each coaching staff and all board members. Modifications to the cold weather policy to suspend games or practices when the temperature is less than 40 degrees with wind chill. Safety reports or presentations

Sunday , December 13, 2015

made at each board meeting. The HPLL approved the changes to the safety plan for the upcoming season.

#### IV. Coaching coordinator

The coach training sessions are scheduled for January 2016. An email was sent out to all of the coaches from last year to check for interest for the 2016 season, and 16 responses were received. HPLL will continue to recruit coaches as possible.

#### V. El Paso County Contract

HPLL is now giving the county \$50,000 in January rather than \$60,000 as originally planned as negotiated at a recent meeting with El Paso County. The fields will not be ready by the beginning of the next season, as completion is not scheduled until June. CeCe recommended that we be sure to publicize the fact that the fields will not be ready when expected, to keep the members of HPLL informed of the changes.

#### VI. D49 contract

Scot and John met with D49 to establish a contract for the upcoming season. We will be obligated to pay \$15/hour for the 2016 season, which should be the last increase for 5 years if possible. The same rules apply as the previous year, and we must provide them with a list of improvements that are needed.

#### VII. Dick's Sporting Goods Sponsorship

Scot met with a representative from the vendor, and HPLL will sign a 3 year agreement with them for sponsorship. They will provide the same services as they have in the past, and they would also like to submit a bid on the uniforms for next year. Any vendors who are interested will need to submit a proposal and will be asked to provide \$2500 worth of goods and services to help cover the cost of all-star uniforms. There are 6 vendors who will be contacted.

#### VIII. Financials

We are closing out the CD to pay the money to D49 and El Paso County. Some of the money was also used for expenses. We currently have only 2 sponsorships, and HPLL will need to continue to work toward securing additional funds. John needs an

Sunday , December 13, 2015

updated list of who has been approached thus far so it can be sent to all of the board members to eliminate duplications when possible. John suggested that we consider another table at Walmart or other vendors to publicize the league and promote any activities or fundraisers. He will attempt to schedule an event.

Sky Sox - John met with the representative with Sky Sox to discuss options for league night. The same fees apply as last year depending on the date that we choose, with dates earlier in the season being less expensive. The proposed date is a Saturday toward the end of April. CeCe moved to accept the date, which was seconded by Diana and carried without opposition.

5K fundraiser - The cost of sponsoring a 5K event would be ~\$5000. Getting sponsorships may be difficult and we would need to make enough money to cover expense plus make money as a fund raiser. It was suggested that we postpone the 5K until over the summer when the new fields are finished and can be utilized for the event. It would also allow more time for planning and work to make the project a success. Christy moved that the 5K be suspended for the regular season and reconsidered for the fall or all-stars time frame. It was seconded by Mike and carried unanimously.

Hit-a-thon: Mike is able to set up the hit-a-thon fund raiser online so that all of the donations go through on the electronic basis with 99Pledges. The company charges 10% of the total that we make on the event. Each participant will get 10 pitches and donations are made per hit. This would be the player involved fund raiser for the season. The dates and time would be determined at a later time. Diana moved to hold the event. The motion was seconded by Gary and passed without opposition.

#### IX. Interleague play

Johnny will need to contact other leagues to set-up a schedule for interleague play. John has already contacted other leagues for a softball schedule. He will have a meeting next week with the other leagues in our district for further consideration.

#### X. Boundary Changes

Sunday , December 13, 2015

The proposal for boundary changes has been sent to District 5 administrator for consideration. Hopefully, a decision will be reached by the end of the month. The change would place district 49 within our boundaries entirely, and the administrator is in favor of the change.

#### XI. Registration

Online registration has begun and will run through the end of February. Blue Sombrero now has the new little league dates and once the date of birth has been entered the correct division will be indicated in the system. Flyers will be posted and in person registrations will be scheduled some time in January and February. Any one with extra laptops or iPads are asked to bring them to the in person registration so that everything can be entered online.

#### XII. Misc.

The board will need to decide if try-outs will be held, indoors again this year, and the cost is \$1100 for the venue. We will need to order first aid kits and update and replace safety manuals that were not returned from last year.

#### XIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Christy and seconded by Diana to adjourn the meeting at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Ehn, HPLL Safety Officer

Sunday , December 13, 2015

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