

High Plains Little League Board Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by President, Scot Raffelson

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 Marissa McCulloch, Fund Raising Coordinator Jody Shaw, Parent Representative	Kent Shaw, Scheduler and Umpire Coordinator

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for November and December were recorded, and CeCe and Jody have transcribed the information. The meeting minutes from 12/14/14 were amended as requested by email by changing the heading of the document and correcting the email address for Jody. Albert moved to approve the minutes as amended, and the motion was seconded by John. The motion carried with no opposition.

The October 26, 2014 special meeting minutes were reviewed and modified from the recording of that meeting. Scot will review the new copy, and everyone will have the opportunity to make edits and comments prior to approval.

The October monthly board meeting minutes were amended to include the Fall Ball audit results with 2 players not paid that was later corrected, and 5 players that had no paperwork submitted for the fall season. Approval of the minutes with those corrections is pending.

III. Little League International Response

Mike Sedillos, District Administrator for District 5 has assured Scot that the waiver request submitted for him to be eligible to coach an All Star team would likely ~~by~~

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be approved, but recommended that no changes be made to Board positions until May. Scot will remain President of HPLL at this point trusting Mike's comment that the waiver will be approved. A new All-Star format begins this year, so we will be attempting to have teams with players of each appropriate age group.

IV. Player Agent Position

Diana was not present at the meeting, although she has indicated interest in the position. Vance and Gary will meet to schedule try-outs before the next meeting and include Diana in the process as appropriate.

V. Fund Raising / Sponsorship Update

John has asked that any board member who has contacted a business or vendor regarding sponsorship please notify him to avoid duplications. He has already started a list of businesses that he has contacted, and three of them have indicated interest. The list will be sent to each board member for updated communication. Scot has secured one sponsor and paperwork has been given to Falcon Physical Therapy. The ownership of Falcon Family Eye Care has changed, so the new administrator will need to be contacted to determine if they will continue to sponsor HPLL. A donation of \$250.00 or greater will get the sponsor's name on the banner that will be displayed at the field for games. The banners are ~\$100.00 each and 6 business names could be listed on each one. They also receive a plaque from HPLL as an official sponsor. Please note that intake is down at this point and we are behind in securing sponsors compared to last season.

Uniforms: Scot and Vance will meet to select team names for the upcoming season so that the uniforms may be ordered. It will be completed when the try-out schedule is set. We have received quotes from All American, Dicks-Dicks Sporting Goods, and L3 for the shirts and spirit wear. L3 had the lowest cost at \$10.99, and have stated that they can have the order completed with the printing in 3 weeks. This is a 40% -savings compared to last year for the same item. L3 is also a small business that has a proven track record and is willing to work with the league. The price quotes were based on baseball shirts, as the vendor used last year no longer makes softball jerseys. The price may be modified based on this fact. John made a motion to approve L3 as the vendor for the uniforms for the 2015 season. Jody seconded the motion and it passed without opposition.

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CeCe questioned if there was some way to adjust the size issues that we have had with player jerseys. There is a place on the registration form to indicate size for the player, and HPLL will make arrangements for a new jersey if a replacement is needed. L3 has stated that they can have a replacement jersey within 3 days. Scot, CeCe, and Albert will look through the sizes used last year to try and preorder uniforms. Gary will reinforce at the coaches meeting to contact HPLL board members as soon as possible if there is a problem with the size of a jersey. Parents will also be informed to bring any issues to the attention of the coach or a board member.

Discount Cards: Thanks to everyone who was a Walmart to help sell cards and promote HPLL. The league made \$740.65 from discount cards, donations, and registrations. The breakdown includes 21 cards sold for \$420.00, \$75.65 in donations, and 2 player registrations. HPLL will ask each player to sell at least one card and board members to sell 5. We must sell 250 cards to break even, and if each player sells one card will make ~\$1000.00. Jody moved to recommend that each player be responsible to sell one card, which was seconded by Albert. The motion passed.

Drawing Tickets: Prize options were discussed at the last meeting, but due to financial constraints the list must be revised. John reports that he has had difficulty getting the hunting gun for the drawing, and the cost is prohibitive. He suggested a cash prize or smaller prize, so that the league receives more revenue for the event. Marisa proposed a \$1000.00 Southwest Voucher paired with Disneyland passes, due to the success we had last year with the fund raiser. John and Marissa to discuss options for prizes and report back to the board so that a decision can be reached. The maximum amount of money to be spent for the grand prize is \$1500.00. We are still waiting to hear from some of the sponsors that may contribute more money or prizes to use for the drawing. It was suggested to have a grand prize and several smaller prizes to generate enthusiasm and interest in the drawing.

Spirit Wear: The vendor has recommended that we order hats, t-shirts, hoodies, and polo shirts. The polo shirts are \$22.00 including the embroidery. John would like to have some samples to display at the in-person registrations. Scot moved to approve \$250-\$300 to purchase display items for spirit wear. The motion was seconded by Vance and carried without opposition.

Sky Sox* Tickets: Scot is going to make a flyer to advertise the event that can be used at registration. The HPLL afternoon with the Sky Sox* is scheduled for April 26, 2015. The tickets will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for kids.

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VI. Registration

Currently 15 players have registered on-line: 2 t-ball, 3 rookies, 1 minor, 3 majors, 1 intermediate, 2 Jr., and 3 softball minors. Important dates for registration include: Jan 17th 1-5 registration at Station 3, Jan 24th 10-2 registration at Sky Sox, Feb 7th 10-5 registration at Station 3 which is the last in person sign up prior to late fees. On-line registration will close 2/18/15. Try-outs are scheduled for 2/21/15 with 2/22/15 as an alternate date if needed.

Dates to sell discount cards at Walmart: 3/21, 4/18, and 5/16 10-4. \$1320.00 will be spent to purchase 4 banners and 100 signs to advertise the league. They must be retrieved so that they can be used for multiple years.

Cece will send out the spread sheet for registration to the entire board for information purposes twice per week to help with try-out schedules and team breakdown.

VII. Falcon Regional Park

Jody and John attended the informational meeting. Three plans were presented and discussed by those present. HPLL has pledged \$50,000.00 to the project, as it will include 4 baseball fields when completed. The park is also slated to include a dog park, 4 multi-purpose fields, equestrian park, skate park, basketball court, tennis court, and soil conservation zone. Jody and John are concerned that the plans appear to have no room to expand -the baseball area and that parking is not easy access from the fields. The next meeting is scheduled for 1/28/15 for continued debate.

VIII. 2015 Calendar

Opening day is currently scheduled for 4/4/15 with the alternate date of 4/11/15. Games begin for the upper divisions on 4/4/15 and t-ball / rookies on 4/11/15. All-star divisions start practices 3/9/15 following the coaches safety briefing. Scot will make adjustments to the calendar and send out for an email vote to approve.

IX. Equipment

Inventor is scheduled for 1/25/15 at 11:00 at the storage facility. Any equipment that does not meet safety standards must be disposed of per Little League guidelines.

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X. Background Checks

Background checks will be run by Scot for all board members for 2015. All volunteers must have background checks completed before they can participate. Please bring board member shirts to Scot for printing needs.

XI. Coach and Board Member Discounts

It has been proposed that managers, coaches, and board members receive a discount on one player registration. It was approved for \$10.00 and would be paid as a reimbursement. Scot suggested that we reimburse the managers and coaches at the safety meeting. Sarah recommended that we consider giving them a \$10 gift card to Dicks Sporting Goods rather than cash to simplify the process. Scott will check on the gift cards.

XII. Misc.

Please be certain to fill out the bottom of the registration form and check verification of age and address at in-person sessions. We need to remind anyone who is eligible for All-stars ~~ath-that~~ appropriate documentation will be required. On 1/17/15, please bring any information needed for the Peyton registration to Jody so that it can be used. We will continue to hold on the decision of the Player Agent position until Diana is able to attend a meeting. If the position is not filled, then the responsibilities will be shared between Vance and Jody.

XIII. ~~Adjournment~~Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Sarah Ehn, HPLL Secretary