

NYAA Monthly Meeting Minutes February 28th , 2008

The monthly meeting took place at the NYAA building at the Northwestern Recreation Fields, and was called to order at 7:35pm with Jason Rice Sr., Jenny Miller, Todd Leiser, Maggi Daly, Neil Dangelo, Stacey Schappell, Aimee White, Kelly Arner, Mary Jane Cerrone, John Yanek, Keith Nagle, Tammy Dorney, Charlie Horner, Tim Lebrecht, Frank Caruso, Paul Mazzucco and Nick Satkovich in attendance.

January Minutes – It should be clarified that all items available from Coca Cola must be purchased through them; Facilities: 'It is our intention that'; \$25 Late Fees – Vote taken and approved. A motion to approve amended minutes was made by Mary Jane and seconded by Neil.

Treasurer's report will be made available at a later date. Treasurer was out of town.

Public Comments:

Paul Mazzucco and Nick Satkovich from Cobalt were introduced. Cobalt is a local high-tech webhost which is now available for web design services. Upon approval, a more user-friendly new site (www.nyaasports.org) will be built enabling sports directors and coordinators the ability to access information and post. In addition, the site should offer point-of-sale registration, scheduling and user-friendly database for mailings and emails. Start-up to cost in the \$3-4K range with approximately \$50 monthly webhosting fees. Contract would include provisions for additional phases and enhancements; i.e. online store. A committee was suggested to coordinate with Cobalt. Also suggested was to maintain a 'gatekeeper', who would review postings prior to making them live on the site.

Tim Lebrecht spoke of discontent and confusion over the perceived jump in fees by including the mandatory fundraiser in the flat rate. It seems the families are paying more, but getting less. Neil explained the changes in the program, and the \$50 return in exchange for participating in the baseball fundraiser.

Directors Reports –

Baseball -- Things are moving along. The combine is Feb. 24th, March 2nd, and March 9th. The first weekend is at the Edge. We are hoping that we can get outside at least by the 9th of March for the 3rd day of the combine. Our draft will be during the week of March 10th and this is when we will pick our teams and coaches. Our coaches' clinic is March 29th at the Edge from 8 - 11 am. We are hoping to do an opening day for tee ball and grasshopper, just waiting approval from the rec. commission. I am in the process of ordering uniforms and equipment. I also have nine of the twelve sponsors for tee ball and grasshopper. Working with soccer on scheduling fields for practice in March and April.

Basketball -- Our season is winding down...March 1st is officially the last day of the season. 5/6 Girls Travel team finished their season 2 weeks ago; the 7-12 boys finished last weekend. We will not be forming a league of our own this coming season as we have been invited to join Jr Varsity League for our 3/4 - 5/6 grade boys and are looking into if there is a girls program.

March 2nd is the 5/6 boys tournament which is being dedicated to Mark Guensch and his passion for the sport. If anyone is interested in donating baked goods, please feel free (we are trying to be peanut butter and nut free event). Proceeds from the tournament will be deposited into the Mark Guensch NYAA Basketball Scholarship Fund which is being administered at New Tripoli Bank.

The community outpour is overwhelming in making this event a wonderful success; we have heard from many parents asking for this to be an annual event. Jeff and I would like to Thank Everyone for their time, dedication and generous donations.

Cheering Report -- In January we contacted coaches from last year and will have coaches for the Mascots and 85 lb teams. Several coaches from the older teams may be willing to help again this year but are waiting to find out more about the All-star Competition team that is being dicussed/organized. In March we will be doing inventory on the returned uniforms and other equipment.

Football -- Off season is quiet, nothing going on except for League meetings. The football program is deeply saddened by the loss of a member of the NYAA family, Mark Guensch. We applaud the efforts and encourage volunteers to help out the basketball program in the 1st Annual 5/6 grade Basketball Tournament scheduled on March 2, 2008. We hope to see the entire NYAA Board and Directors at this event in support along with the entire NYAA community.

Soccer -- There were 370 registrants for the soccer program. We have the following teams:

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|------------|-------------------------|
| Pre-K | 52 players |
| U7- | 82 players |
| U8- | 33 players |
| U9 Boys- | NV 1 team (12 players) |
| U9 Girls- | NV 1 team (13 players) |
| U9 Boys- | LV 2 teams (22 players) |
| U10 Boys- | LV 1 team (10 players) |
| U10 Boys- | NV 1 team (13 players) |
| U10 Girls- | LV 1 team (12 players) |
| U11 Girls- | LV 1 team (14 players) |
| U12 Boys- | NV-2 teams (26 players) |
| U12 Girls- | NV-1 team (11 players) |
| U13 Boys- | LV 1 team (15 players) |
| U14 Boys- | LV 1 team (13 players) |
| U17 Boys- | LV 1 team (17 players) |

We have some players without a home and had to turn away some players- especially the older groups.

Brian coordinated an E-license coaching class that began February 24th. There are 2 more sessions scheduled to complete the course. He had 22 participants sign up.

We are finalizing the teams and starting to schedule the teams. We have Ebenezer, Rec. fields and LCCC to work with. We are working with baseball and softball to avoid conflicts.

Northern Valley Teams have to be registered by March 6th. League meetings begin in March- Dan Terrell is coordinating who attends these meetings. Games begin April 12th. Lehigh Valley League teams have been registered. Games begin April 5th.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with scheduling, a field manager and concession stand coordinator. Next Soccer Meeting is March 6th at the Rec. Fields.

Softball -- As of Feb 25th, 2008 there are roughly 135 girls signed up to play softball for the upcoming season. I am in the process of determining the number of teams we will have and which players will be on each of those teams. Hopefully all will go smoothly and by this time next month I will be relaxing on my sofa with nothing to do.

Volleyball -- Finished up the NYAA portion of our Winter Season. Overall was a good session. 74 kids playing in NYAA or AAU. Same as last winter.

Setting up Spring session. Put out a flyer to 4th graders. This is the first time we opened up this young but had enough call for it we decided to try. Running Mon, Wed and Thurs Nights - Mar through April.

Registrations to date: Baseball – 273; Soccer – 370; Softball – 137; Volleyball – 75.

Northwestern Recreation Commission – from Feb 27th meeting

Night in the Country – August 16 (rain date August 17) from 4-10pm. 30 port-a-potties on order for this year; gate and pedestrian traffic discussed; no street rods this year; seeking volunteers for all aspects before and during event, especially ticket sales, gate keepers and trash collectors. There are a few outstanding checks -- including NYAA.

Skate Park – Discussed were NRC liability issues, high price of equipment; grant submission; continuing NRC and school district support although not all of the community is behind the park.

Coke Wagon – no electric between fields 3 & 6. Preliminary thoughts about a second wagon discussed. NRC would like to see how first works out.

Clean Up Day – NRC will supply materials. Don asked Jason to call him.

Baseball Opening Day Parade – April 26th mid-morning. If April 27th is used as a rain date, it must be held after noon. NRC felt it would be great for the kids. Traffic flow and parking will need to be worked out. There will be another NRC meeting prior to parade to work out details.

Field Maintenance – Made in the Shade has presented a proposal, which will be reviewed by Forest Wessner, who also suggested soil samples be taken and evaluated.

Potato Barn – Bob Milot and Barry Manz of Heidelberg Township to speak about building requirements if zoning was changed to a training facility instead of assembly.

Other Business --

NYAA Office Building – Upon assessment, building must be leveled before other items fixed. Later in spring, a more detailed evaluation will be made and forwarded with a quote to level the building and fix necessary items.

Facility Use Requests – Use of schools and Ebenezer have been made. Jason will contact Ontelaunee for spring soccer only, which will be used for only 16 -20 games.

Clean Up Day – Rec Commission OK'd April 5th and will provide clean up supplies. Jason to call Don re items from last year.

Open House – 9am to 1pm on May 3rd at Ebenezer. All sports to participate. Forward sports information to Maggi, who will standardize and print flyers for each table. Further discussion at next meeting.

Soccer By-Laws – Jason questioned as to whether they were recent.

Field Scheduler – NYAA is still looking for someone to fill the position.

Maintenance – Jason will discuss infield mix with NRC.

Rosters & No Pay/No Play – All sports directors must submit their rosters. No child may practice or play without first paying.

Call of Nature – There will be three port-a-potties; Ebenezer, Ontelaunee and a handicapped one at the NYAA building. The others will be placed and paid for by the NRC.

Background Checks – Mandatory for every coach who will be working along with children. Directors need to be more vigilant in obtaining the checks. Completed checks and paperwork to be submitted to secretary.

Mark Guensch Memorial Basketball Tournament – Scholarship account has been set up at New Tripoli Bank. All proceeds from tournament to go into account. Many donations have been made in support of the tournament and fund. There were several questions about the administration of the fund, details of the scholarship, etc.

Volunteer List – Directors should forward their volunteer needs. NYAA will keep a running list of positions available for inquiring members.

Privacy Policy & Legal Representation – Todd has suggested a policy be put in place regarding protection of children's information and stating how personal information is used. Also suggested was for NYAA to seek a member in the legal profession who would periodically attend meetings and provide legal support on a volunteer basis.

Postcard Mailing – A card to include open house and registration date information was discussed, along with necessary closing dates for Spring 2009 sports.

At 10:20pm, a motion to adjourn was made by Keith, with a second by Todd. Next meeting will be March 27th.