

Palmyra Cougars Boy's Lacrosse
Booster Meeting Minutes
Tuesday - November 2, 2021

*Dr. Bernie Kepler and Mr. Brian Weidler in attendance to discuss donation to the Turf Field.

Donation to Turf Field:

- Most parents in the lacrosse program now were not part of the decision to contribute in 2017.
- Last year we found out that we cannot play on the turf field when it has snowed – no snow removal.
- The Booster Program had to build into the Booster budget the ability to rent facilities to practice in (in prior years, we have had access to a field on which to practice). Coach Haus also had let us use LVC at times. We have also traveled to Hershey to practice.
- Parents were initially led to believe teams would have access to the field at all times. However, we are only allowed onto the turf complex if a coach or person of authority is present.
- The lacrosse program is very grateful for the turf facility, but we do not have access to it the way we thought we would. (We were originally told it would be at the Middle School, which is much more open for use.)
- Budget constraints have hit – the lacrosse budget was cut, Covid canceled a season and last year we were unable to raise money through the sale of concessions.
- **Comments from Dr. Kepler:**
 - o The direction given to the public at the outset was that the burden of financing the turf field was not to be put on the backs of the taxpayers.
 - o The budget increased.
 - o A determination/agreement was made with the booster programs at the time that each booster organization would pay \$3,500. Seven booster programs were part of that original “ask”.
 - o According to Dr. Kepler, last year six of the seven teams using the turf field did donate last year, but not the full amount. Even without the full donations from everyone, the turf field did still make a profit last year.
 - o Girls’ soccer has already paid this year.
 - o Contractual agreement is that every 10 years the high use areas will be replaced.
 - o Each week the turf is brushed and repaired if there is a tear.
 - o The funding helps to replace the turf, if/when necessary.
 - o Doesn’t feel there was a lack of transparency – expected that previous booster heads would pass on information to those following them.
 - o Lacrosse is an impressive program in/for the school. Growth has been great.
 - o Doesn’t want this to be adversarial.

- Stated that what the board asked is that, during the summer, the field would be open Monday-Thursday from 8-4.
- **Mr. Weidler:** During the Fall and Winter after the soccer season has ended, the field will be open for a good hour or so after school.
- Separate letters were received this year that we owe \$3,500, and another that we owe \$3,000.
- We did not contribute to the Turf Field Fund last year - the program didn't have the funds. (Again, not all booster programs paid the full amount.)
- Baseball and lacrosse had no 2020 season and 2021 had no concession revenue because of Covid.
- Other sports also have some funding because they have Middle School programs through the school. Lacrosse does not.
- Second grade parents, if we agree to the 10-year funding, are being committed to pay \$3,000 for the years they are in the lacrosse program.
- On November 2nd, we received communication that the school is contributing \$3,250 toward team jerseys.
- We keep our program very modest.
- We will do whatever we can to help the school.
- Our lacrosse program hosted the Hogan's Lacrosse Tournament. In attendance – 1,000 people. The school paid our program \$375.00 for hosting the tournament. Only one custodian was on staff from the school – everything else was covered by parents/students.
- **Parent Input:**
 - We don't want to lose the use of the turf field. Grateful for it, however, it is being supported in other ways by parents (other than the asked funding). Family paid \$6 per person to attend a girls' soccer game, totaling \$24. The next night paid \$12 again and purchased concessions.
 - Additional transparency forthcoming each year, as an update, would have been and would be preferred.
 - Lacrosse has a higher cost burden.
 - Looking for every team to have the same access.
 - (Again, different speaker) Very thankful to have turf field, but a 10-year commitment to funding scares people.
 - Let's try to do the best we can. If we are able to make it to the playoffs, we will be able to raise additional funds.
 - Let's try to make a good faith effort.
 - We need transparency regarding the funding. It would be good if the school could reforward the information of expectations and show/be transparent about what funding comes in and goes out (how the funding is being spent).
- **Motion for Turf Field Funding:**
 - Motion proposed for the 2021/2022 school year that the Palmyra Boy's Lacrosse Team will pay \$2,500 toward the Turf Field Project.

- Motion carried by all in attendance, with one descending vote.
- Each year we will take a vote as to whether we will pay the \$3,000 being asked of the program.

December 5th Play Date/Tournament:

- Turf will be winterized.
- There will be no restrooms, no “regular” concession stand (no running water).
- We do have electricity.
- If we use the concession building, we will place a notice over the water usage areas letting people know not to try to use the water.
- We will rent Port-a-Potties – 2-3 will be needed.
- There will be 8 teams playing, including ours.
- Fourteen games total, each team playing three games.
- Games will be held on the hour, beginning at 9:00 a.m., with the championship held at 3:00 p.m. There will be four teams on each field – two groups of four.
- There will be three officials per game, including Josh Jones, who will donate his earnings for the tournament back into the program.
- We can net \$1,500 without concessions.
- There will be no Mid-Penn Teams in this tournament. We play them later in the year.
- There is a potential to grow the tournament in the future. The response was fast and outstanding.
- **Concessions for December 5th Play Date/Tournament/Other Information:**
 - We can preorder subs from R&K as a fundraiser. We net \$3-4 per sale.
 - We will offer coffee (coffee sold very well at the Hogan Tournament), hot chocolate (Cougar Hot Chocolate? Hot Chocolate with whipped cream and black/orange sprinkles on top), gatorade and water.
 - We will find out if we can use other team’s concessions equipment.
 - We will offer pretzels with cheese, hot dogs – maybe macaroni and cheese (parents would make/donate and bring theirs in to the concessions in a crock pot to be sold).
 - We will see if we can get hot dogs and hot dog buns donated (Gingrich’s will ask). If not, we could ask parents to donate.
 - The Wards will look into getting the Philly Pretzels.
 - We will order the appropriate number of subs for our team with an additional 20 subs to sell in the concession stand from R&K. Order for the team will be due on November 22nd. Boosters will pay for the subs for the team.
 - Joran will send a note to parents to make sure they have updated their shooter shirt sizes by Friday, November 5th. Order will go in on Saturday, November 6th. Orders are usually received in two weeks, but Coach Ondrusek will pass them out with equipment prior to season.
 - Coach Ondrusek will talk with the team regarding the tournament during the meeting he is having with them tomorrow, November 3rd after school.