

## Board meeting 5/20/2024

In attendance: Maureen Wolfe, Brian Sanders, Angie Mumford, Abby Sallot, Ray Kraus, and Greg Evans

- Tryouts next year
  - Identify premier players right from the start, try to incorporate a potential separate tryout for them
    - Premier players will need a full understanding of what being premier is prior to acceptance of their position
    - Same goes for coaching and finding the right tournaments
      - These to be approved by the board - we may state you need to find harder tournaments
      - Board will build a list to look off of
  - Only one weekend, private tryouts scheduled prior to original tryout date
  - Coaches can have a say in their team but the board is the ultimate decision
    - I.e. "this player works really hard for me, I think they are premier", etc
  - There will not be tryouts for a team unless a coach is designated to that team PRIOR
  - Coaches will reach out to players on if they made their team
    - Email will be sent from 814 Elite as an organization if no spot on team
  - Regional teams only up to 12U - certain circumstances may change this
    - We can have general 12U regional with 11's & 12's (for all ages)
- Pitching workouts in the winter
  - Girls no showing was an issue - if a player does that 2 times next year, they will not be allowed back to workouts
  - We need to find a better app to use so parents can cancel or see what opened up
  - These workouts cannot be tailored to beginners, it is a workout and to not replace private coaches
    - 1 hr session at Gannon after their practice for this? Can we run a couple clinics with our older players working with younger girls? Let's see if we can tag on with a rec league
  - Additional position: catching coordinator/developer?
  - Specific pitching/catching balls
    - Each player could get one and be responsible for carrying it
- Spring workouts
  - Restructure what Gannon looks like 2nd semester
    - Can we make this more scrimmage based? We are spending a lot of \$ for kids to not show up
    - We need more people to be on board for practices and not specific teams, some board members got overused/run down with little help
      - Avoid people in high school / college programs
    - Create a catcher development program
      - "It's cool to be a catcher"

- New gear for each team
  - Younger teams are either pitching or catching (at least at practice)
  - Find a catcher “award” or way for kids to want to be catching
- Team picnic at beginning of season
  - QR codes link to code of conduct, information forms, uniform sizes that parents must fill out that day
    - Code of conduct to be finalized ASAP
    - Uniforms will fall on parents shoulders, sizing and spelling
  - Head Coaches’ attendance MANDATORY
  - Deposit required upon acceptance to the team
  - McKean works as a good location for this
- Buy more program equipment and store it at Gannon for the winter
- Board and reps/committees
  - Kelli will serve as a drop off for Ray for money for people throughout the day
  - We NEED a tournament committee to help Ray
    - Can committee members and leaders get a discount off their fee?
  - Sponsor committee, tournament committee, spirit wear committee, social media, fundraising, etc
  - Abby will help with social media - talk to Brian/Mo
- Coaching development
  - Lacking in this area
  - Potential 1x a month meeting with specific speakers to go over strategy
    - Find varying opinions but both work
  - We don’t want robots, teach them to react and be a softball player
  - Baserunning, bunting, cuts, coverages, etc all to be covered and given ways to choose what works for them
  - Group chat not being used enough
- Team managers
  - Handle a lot of things for the coach organizationally
  - Book tournaments, deal with hotels, paperwork, etc.
  - Maybe utilize discounting their fee
  - Collect money, communicate, insurance/etc, decals, helmets, etc.
- Fundraising
  - Golf outing needs to get moving soon
    - We need a committee
    - Hole sponsors, food donations, people to play in June
  - Squad Locker? Move on, let’s try Leader graphics
  - Bingo/Gun Raffle team or individual fundraisers?
  - Team manager to handle where the money goes and what for (team fundraisers)
- Uniforms
  - 2-3 year cycles to save some money, but we will have pants/socks/belts
- Fall ball
  - All teams must do 1 tournament and weekly practice
    - Recruiting age 2 tournaments (showcases)

- This is where we build our resume
  - Friendlies are great to do in fall
- Tournaments
  - Must be finalized by thanksgiving and approved for Premier
  - Ray will send out checks
  - A list will be generated to share out
  - Premier teams will have specific requirements
- BOLE/CLASH BY THE CREEK
  - How do we make BOLE Better?
    - More college coaches
      - Hotels paid, money of envelopes and food/tent paid
      - Post these all over the website
    - We want to build this tournament up to being huge
      - Application process
  - Clash by the creek
    - Should we make it closer to hotels? Waterford/Boro/etc or use HC on a different weekend

Board needs to meet again to finalize code of conduct and for the BOLE/Clash by the Creek