

JWS Board Meeting
April 7, 2021
Minutes

Attendance: Denita Peterson, Suzanne Nichols, Stephanie DeWitt

March Minutes approved by default. Not enough members in attendance to object to the approval.

Committee Reports

Coaches:

- **10U- no team currently**
- **12U Quenten/Ashley** – are doing a pretty good job. In Suzanne’s opinion, they need to spend more time instructing on fundamentals and how to play each position. Want to play more tournaments than budgeted. Denita confirmed that it isn’t for the board to restrict their play – if parents want to pay more, they are welcome to do so.
- **14U Katie/Jason** – team has already had 1 tournament cancel on them. Still have 3 to play. Katie had shared with Suzanne that she is having difficulty getting parents to agree to travel more than 1 hr for games. Denita stated “the more chances parents are given to say “no”, the more they will take it”. She advises that Katie just “make a decision” and tell parents what the schedule is. Coach Sells agreed. If they are not going to take advantage of all the money available to them for tournaments, that is on them.

- **Coaches Handbook:** Coaches meeting went well. Coach Sells reported Sheri, Quenten, Katie and herself were in attendance. She went through the entire handbook, answered questions and did demonstrations. Both Katie & Quenten said they would look through it more carefully on their own time and reach out with any questions. Bre gave Quenten a handbook and practice plans to give to Ashley since she was not there. The meeting started at 2 and ended around 3:30.

- **Team Schedules:**
 - **Practices:** U14 is practicing at Noel Ridge 2x/week. Suzanne does not know their practice schedule. Bre shared that U14 practices on Mon. 4:30-6 & Wed 5-6:30. U12 is practicing at Van Vechten 2x/week – Thurs. 6 – 7:30 & Sun. 1 – 4.
 - **U12 League** play began this week. They played okay for the first game. Gabby Wickham is the primary pitcher & broke her finger during the game. Is out for 4 – 6 weeks.
 - **Tournaments:** U14 has 1 this coming weekend. Have currently scheduled a total of 3. They have some budgeted money left to spend. Most tournaments are @least \$225 and come with an additional \$100 gate fee so it’s been difficult to get tournaments scheduled with amount

budgeted. U12 has not yet scheduled any – they are experiencing similar difficulties as U14 (getting enough in for the amount of money allocated)

- **How handling 7th graders when 14U is done?:** Discussion was given to the possibility that they join the U12 team. PG has allowed this in the past as long as they aren't impact players. Suzanne expressed concerns that increasing the U12 team to 17 members is too large. Stephanie questioned if there would be a league that we could put them in (with the addition of a few from the U12 team). Suzanne shared that the PG U14 league only had 3 or 4 teams entered (they began play mid-March & are done the 1st of May); she doesn't know of any other leagues. Denita suggested that those not moving up to HS join the U12 practices and we ask Dave Osterhaus to help out.
- **Possible U13 Tournaments?:** Suzanne questioned if we could take some of the surplus in the checking account and enter the 7th graders (all 7th graders) into a couple of tournaments. This would keep players on the field, get some of those on the U12 team extra games and possibly retain players for fall. Coach Sells likes the idea – need to reach out to those effected now so they can make plans. Nothing definitively was decided – will start the conversation with / float the idea past the U12 coaches.
- **Tryouts/Recruitment Efforts**
 - **Planning for July Tryouts** Suzanne shared concern about ability to outfit players if we wait til July (takes 6-8 weeks to get game jerseys). (need an update from Sheri & Cami).
- **Budget:** We are in a good position because of strong participation in fan apparel & fundraiser. There are still some outstanding bills (no yet received) and tournament money to spend but the balance in the checking account is good and able to cover additional expenses.
 - **21-22 seasonal pricing:** not enough members in attendance to give good discussion. Tabled for next month.
- **Fundraising:** Fan apparel seemed to be well received. 108 items sold – made \$5 or \$6 per item. Still waiting on invoice for the ball caps to be able to calculate a final profit. Butterbraids also went well. Had 17 families participate – sold 370 items, generated over \$2200 profit. Did better than last year.

New Business/Miscellaneous – no new business was shared.

Wednesday, May 5th @ 5:30 appears to be a conflict per the HS softball schedule. Denita offered alternative of moving meeting one day either direction. Suzanne shared she would prefer Tuesday but suggested we confirm with Coach Sells about her preference & availability before committing. Coach Sells expressed no preference for when we hold the meeting – HS schedule not set in stone & weather will affect her availability.