

**JWS Board Meeting  
August 2, 2023  
Minutes**

**Attendance:** Suzanne Nichols, Sheri Dye, Krista Kronstein

**July Minutes** were approved by members in attendance.

**Board Members Commitment & Assignments** – those in attendance signed the BOD code of conduct for '23-'24. Limited discussion was given to the other board members and their ability &/or desire to continue. Suzanne shared that the organization can function without a VP but we do need to have a president in place. She will send out the board job descriptions for everyone's consideration. Placements should be made by October. We need to get back to working further into the future with our planning.

**Financial Update / '23 – '24 Budget Proposal** – JWS has \$14K on deposit. That is after the payment of our half of the production cost of the shed. Suzanne stated that Coach Sells (with the collaboration of Grant Schultz) had proposed that Coach Sells would pay for the shed out of her softball budget if JWS would cover the cost of concrete. Suzanne made the decision to have JWS honor their verbal commitment to the shed but emphasized that JWS isn't interested in continuing a partnership with baseball without all future plans being coordinated thru the high school softball program and being accompanied by estimates for approval before JWS is expected to contribute.

**Teams**

- 1. Coaches** – thought we had coaches secured for U10 & U8 age levels but U19 has withdrawn & taken their player to another program (they attend a Kennedy feeder school). The U8 prospect has failed to respond to correspondence since expressing an interest in coaching. No leads on prospects for U12. Nothing concrete for U14. Coaching has become our Achilles heel in recent years – no suggestions were offered as how to correct this problem.
- 2. Rosters** – working with players from spring & tryouts; if we were to field teams at the even age levels, we have 3 commitments with 4 no responses at the U10 level, 3 commitments with 2 no responses at the U12 level and 5 commitments with 1 no response & 1 maybe at the U14 level. Numbers do not get better if we move to rostering at the odd age levels (actually they get worse).
- 3. Practice schedules** – without coaches it is difficult to offer any type of practice opportunity for players in the fall. Suzanne thinks we should offer indoor practices (could begin with focusing on pitching). Sheri questioned if we could afford that. It was suggested that we pass the cost onto the players.
- 4. Fall League** – withdraw from fall league only results in a \$31 reduction in player fees. It was suggested that fees remain the same and that amount be added to tournaments.

- 5. Tournaments** – suggest that if we can get a U14 team together that they begin play in March at the available indoor tournaments in the Quad Cities.

**Indoor Workouts** – It may be too early to secure space or identify cost - Sheri will follow up with Coach Yoder in early September regarding cost and availability of frequency.

**Field Condition & Usage** – no discussion was given. Need to secure teams before we worry about fields. Will take our cues from Coach Sells on improvement needs.

**Recruitment** – at a loss as to how to proceed . . . need players at every level. Suggestions were made to target 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Need to get into the schools somehow. Question if it is possible to conduct/sponsor a softball unit in PE. May want to consider forgoing tryouts and conduct informational meetings. Krista will follow up with feeder schools about obtaining contacts to help us. Suzanne will follow up with Jackie Bergquist at Grant Wood Elem. to get advice as to how to get into the schools. Should reach out again to past parents that work within the schools for assistance. Sheri Dye is going to reach out to Jr. JayHawk program – they have experienced similar circumstances and are recovering (may share indoor space to save cost or share players to ensure full teams and players on the field). Any insight is going to be helpful.

**Social Media** – Sheri questioned who is handling the JWS social media account. It had been Oakley Etter. We need to get all the logins for the JWS social media account (without them, it could be a problem creating new accounts). Suzanne will ask Cassie Wickham to follow up with Oakley.

**Parents Meeting** – no need to schedule anything. There is nothing concrete to share. Should communicate with those that have committed to JWS in September to reassure we are working on a plan for spring.

**New Business/Miscellaneous** – there was no new business presented.

**Next Meeting** – conflicts were shared with the date of Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>. An email will be sent late in Aug to confirm a date and need for a meeting.