



ROGERS AREA YOUTH BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, January 11th, 2009

Call to Order: 7:13 pm President Noel Samlaska

Treasurer Update: Mark Donley

- ~This year's balance sheet is in line with last year's, with a few variables:
- ~Kaleidoscope gym space rental fees
- ~shirts for board members
- ~fees for gym space from Community Ed are billing earlier than last year

House Update: Mike Noto

Most probably due to bad weather, only two coaches attended the girls' house coach's appreciation dinner. It is proposed that next year all girls' in house coaches be invited to the appreciation dinner held at Rockwoods in mid march, which has been traditionally just for boy's coaches.

Boys' house program has two teams which have only seven players, which is causing some issues with subbing and feasibly forfeiting. There is a possibility to invite Big Lake to join this age bracket, although the general preference is to redistribute the teams. Blending two teams with the existing teams would alleviate the problem.

There have been issues with the 6th and 7th grade league's games being called to loosely by the youth referees. Some games have become too rough, with obvious fouls not being called. It is possible to have the "Whiskey" referees at the 6th & 7th grade games, or possibly an adult referee to monitor the youth referee's performance. It is suggested that the referees call this age bracket much closer, like a high school game.

Other Boys' House Updates~

- ~There were twelve coaches at the Diggs coaches' clinic, and about half of them sign up for additional help from Coach Diggs.

~Skills scores being posted on the scoreboard is working well, and creating more excitement from the players for the process. The players are now checking their progress as the skills contest ensues.

~Third grade will now tip off every quarter, with 4th and 5th grade tipping off at the commencement of the game and at half time only.

~The Boys' 1st and 2nd grade league will be extended one week due to gym availability.

Pictures Update:

~Boys' individual and team photos will be taken this Tuesday and Thursday at Hassan Elementary, with time slots for teams occurring every five minutes from 6:30 until 9:15 p.m.

Travel Update: Tammy Miller & Curt Sagehorn

There are some issues regarding the dynamics and moral on the girls' 7A travel team. One option discussed is that the team be played in the "B" level for the remaining tournaments, but in a different bracket than the girls' 7B team. It is suggested that coach Diggs may be a great mentor for both the coach and the girls. Tammy Miller will contact the coach to discuss dynamics and methodology. Additionally, she will contact the parents of the girl who quit the 7A team, and hopefully bring resolve to the issues at hand.

The boys' travel program is going well across the board. The teams at all levels are placing at tournaments.

The "Hot Shots" program is going well for girls, with the boys' program not yet in progress. There should be an age limit set for players who accompany the team into the locker room, as the mood and language can be "intense". It is suggested that the parents of the players give consent before the players are able to gain access to the locker room.

Youth Night:

Boys' youth night will take place this Friday, January 16th at Rogers High School. There are 59 boy's house teams, along with the travel teams. Because of the sheer volume of players, it is decided to announce up through 5th grade only, and have the teams line up and walk across the court.

Girls' Youth Night will be held on Tuesday, Jan 27th at Rogers High School. Same grades 1-5 will be spotlighted at half time.

Facilities Update: Joel Tjeerdsma

Travel teams were able to get additional practices over the holidays.

Rogers Lions donated \$1000 and the Rogers Tip Off Club gave \$2500 towards the purchase of the Rogers Elementary backboards. The total cost of the backboards plus installation is roughly \$7500, with the balance of \$4000 coming from RAYBA's account. Rogers Lions may also donate, or provide at a reduced rate, the labor to install the backboards, as they have some bonded members.

Because of RAYBA's generous donation to the facility at Rogers Elementary, we should explore the possibility with ISD 728 Community Education for a lower rate on gym space.

Spring Tournament:

~ The requested dates for the spring tournament have been approved. The requested age preferences are 4th through 8th grade boys.

A committee for the tournament will be formed consisting of the following volunteers: Stephanie Anderson, Lori Weinmann, Brian Holmes, Curt Sagehorn, Margaret Wieker, Mark Donley, Theresa Sjerven, and Mike Noto.

Pricing and options for T-shirts for the spring tournament shall be researched and discussed at a future date.

Other Updates/Upcoming Events:

RAYBA sponsored the 4th annual Timberwolves Clinic on Dec 30th. We had nearly 60 kids grades 1-5 attend the 3 hour clinic at RMS over the holiday break working on fundamentals and having fun playing basketball. All of them received a ticket to the Timberwolves vs. Chicago Bulls game on Jan 25th. It was great to see so many of our youth take advantage of this offer. We hope to be able to offer this clinic again next year!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Attendees: Joel Tjeerdsma, Theresa Sjerven, Tammy Miller, Curt Sagehorn, Dave Kampsen, Lori Weinmann, Brian Holmes, Stephanie Anderson, Mike Mittelstaedt, John Trochil, Jill Paige, Noel Samlaska, Margaret Wieker, Mike Noto, Jamey Puttin & Chris Darr.