

Southington Northern Baseball, Inc.

Southington Northern Little League Southington Northern Babe Ruth

P.O. Box 125

Southington, CT 06489



Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Mulberry Gardens

Attendees (Board)

Bob Borkowski
Mary Etter
Carlos Gil (Absent)
Kon John
Marc Prive
Bill Queen
Brian Ranagan
John Rogalski
Al Tomasco
Steve Viviano

Guests

George Casner
Dan Chambrello
Butch Gray
Dave Lacasse
Chris Topper

Opening Remarks (Steve Viviano)

- Steve Viviano welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Babe Ruth (Bill Queen)

- Bill Queen reported that the first base line on the Babe Ruth field needs some fill prior to the season.
- Bill Queen is looking at the first Saturday in April for tryouts for Babe Ruth. Bill anticipates that opening day will be the third Saturday in April.
- Bill Queen is still looking for one more coach for Babe Ruth for the 2010 season.
- Bill Queen communicated that John Cole and Mike Spooner will be looking at field maintenance supplies for the 2010 season and will report back to the Board with their recommendation.
- Bill Queen mentioned that there is interest among many SNB Babe Ruth players in participating in the Koufax league this year. The Koufax season overlaps with Babe Ruth toward the end of the Babe Ruth season. Bill believes that Koufax would provide our players with more playing opportunity than the Babe Ruth All-Star season.

Majors (Carlos Gil)

- Carlos Gil brought back a coaches guide from the Ripken clinic and copies will be provided to those coaches in the league that would like one.

Minors (Bob Borkowski)

- Bob Borkowski has prepared a tentative schedule for the 2010 season. The schedule was a bit challenging because there are 9 Minors teams this season. Bob worked the Minors Mid-Season All-Star game into the schedule. We will tentative target May 22nd for this event.
- Bob Borkowski recommended that we alter the format of selection for the Minors Mid-Season All-Star game. Bob recommended that each coach be given two selections instead of three and that the balance of the roster be made up of the 11-year olds in the league.
- Bob Borkowski again recommended that we hold tryouts for the post-season all-star teams this year.
- Bob Borkowski has received 3-4 calls from parents who do not want their children to try out for the Majors. As in the past, 10-year olds will be required to try out but parental wishes will be communicated to all Majors Managers at the time of the tryout.
- Butch Gray brought forth an idea to have Majors teams practice with their Minors affiliate a few times during the year to help build some bridges between the different levels in our league and to help develop Minors players to move to the Majors.

T-Ball & Farm (Brian Ranagan)

- Brian Ranagan reported that we still have 2 manager openings in Farm and 5 in T-Ball.
- Brian Ranagan reported that 8 coaches attended the John Susi clinic on February 28th. Many of the attendees were new coaches in the league.
- Brian Ranagan reported that there is a chunk of gutter missing from the Majors concession stand. This will need to be repaired before the season begins.

Safety Officer (Kon John)

- Kon John reported that the league Safety Plan is due by April 1st. Key deliverables for this exercise include background checks and first aid training.
- Kon John is looking at the week of March 15th to hold safety training with the managers from the Majors and Minors. We will look to hold the same event with T-Ball and Farm managers the week of April 5th.
- Kon John will work through the details of preparing first aid kits for all of the teams within our league at all levels.
- Safety training will be mandatory for all managers and coaches in our league this season.
- Kon John reported that the Ripken clinic was very good.

Booster Club (Mary Etter)

- Mary Etter communicated that the final league registration date has been publicized in the Citizen, the Observer, and other media outlets.

- Mary Etter reiterated the importance of having the Majors managers submit timely game summaries throughout the season. Mary will ask Carlos Gil to stress this to all Majors managers prior to the start of the season.
- Mary Etter stressed the importance of identifying Majors team Mom liaisons ASAP to help ensure that the season runs smoothly. Mary is working to identify a Booster Club lead for Babe Ruth.
- Mary Etter communicated that Mary Baker has begun working on SNB's sign program renewals.

Finance Report (Al Tomasco)

- Al Tomasco provided the financial report for the month. Key items of note included:
 - Our fundraising efforts have brought in \$15,240 through the buyout, \$550 from mug sales, and \$285 from blanket sales.
 - SNB will break even on the Winter Clinic.
 - There was a \$1,000 expense for the month for the 2nd Bator Scholarship from 2009.
- Al Tomasco reported that Mary Baker has completed the equipment order. Equipment for the season should be arriving shortly.
- Al Tomasco will be out of town from the 12th through the 19th and will leave the checkbook with Mary Etter in the event that there is a need to cut a check in his absence.

Player Agent (Marc Prive)

- Marc Prive reported that we have 321 players registered in total for the 2010 season across all levels.
- To date, there are only 32 sign-ups for Babe Ruth (13 returning and 19 new players). Marc will provide Bill Queen with a list of the Babe Ruth players who have signed up to date so that Bill can have his Managers reach out to those returners who have not yet registered.
- Marc Prive provided each VP with a count of the number of players by age group registered to date. VPs can use this information to begin planning out the demographic make-up of rosters.
- The last SNB registration event will be held the evening of March 11th. Marc will provide the Majors managers with a list of their returning players who have registered so that managers can reach out to those players who have not yet registered.

Secretary (John Rogalski)

- John Rogalski reported that the Bator Scholarship checks have been delivered to the two winners from 2009.
- John Rogalski has contacted Maryellen Holden from District 5 to secure approval from Little League to hold the Pitch, Hit, and Run contest on Opening Day. Approval from Little League will ensure that our Little League insurance policy will cover this event.
- John Rogalski reminded the Board that we must provide Southington High School with a list of this year's Bator Scholarship winners by April 16th. Winners will be selected at the end of the April meeting.

New Business

- George Casner has called last year's Challengers players and 13 families have indicated that they plan to return this year.
- George Casner thanked last year's Majors managers for participating in the Challengers program last year and has indicated that he would welcome the Majors players involvement in the program again this year. George anticipates that there will be 6-7 home games in the 2010 season.
- George Casner mentioned that some of his players have outgrown their shirts. George will provide the Board with the number and sizes of the shirts that he needs for this season.
- The Capital Improvements Committee will be meeting during the next couple of weeks to prepare a proposal for the Board.
- Steve Viviano resurfaced the issue of drafting 9-year olds into the Majors. Steve recommended that we revise last month's decision requiring that a 9-year old be unanimously selected by all Majors managers (at tryouts) to be eligible to be drafted into the Majors. The Board voted to change this requirement. A 9-year old will now only need to be on 6 out of 8 Majors manager lists to be eligible to be drafted.