

Monroe Township Baseball Association

Meeting: Monthly Membership Meeting

Date: 2/19/2019

Location: Monroe Rec Center

Time: 8:00pm

Executive Board Members Attendance

President	Mike Maiolo	Present
Exec. VP	Gregg Lockhart	Present
VP Facilities	Russ Church	Present
VP Travel	Jason Rutan	Present
AVP Travel	Martin Kappus	Present
VP Rec	Chris Garbowski	Present
AVP Rec	Jason Kovler	Present
Treasurer	Michael Zone	Present
VP Comm./ Secretary	Suzan Radwan	Present

Meeting called to order at 8:05pm

Opening - Mike Maiolo

Opened meeting by welcoming attendees

Meeting was rescheduled from last week (2/12/19) because of snow

Copy of minutes from last month's meeting are now available online through our website

Announced change in MTBA Executive Board:

- Marty Hermann stepped down last month and will be heading up the Rec Hockey Program, we thank him for his years of service to MTBA
- Introduced Michael Zone as the new treasurer for MTBA Executive Board

Treasurer's Report: Michael Zone

Account Balance - \$32, 377.00

Deposits:

- \$27, 254 Rec Registration
- \$1760 Marc Magliaro Throwing Clinic

Expenditures:

- \$1100 to Marc Magliaro (\$660 was donated back to MTBA Scholarship Fund)
- \$850 Northern NJ Babe Ruth
- 913.55 Somerset Syrup & Concession

Motion to Accept Treasurer's Report

Recreation Report: Chris Garbowski & Jason Kovler

Rec Registration

Rec Baseball Registration is in progress

T-Ball Division	52
Rookie Division	32
AAA Division	75
Minors	58
Majors	58
Pony	12
Total Registrations	287

Some Travel players still have not registered
Our enrollment continues to decline every year

Rec Drafts

Drafts will be coming up soon

We are in the process of reaching out to Division Directors and Managers

Rec Spring Season

Opening Day will be **April 6th**

There will be no Rec Games from **4/18 - 4/28**

There will be no Rec Games during **Memorial Day Weekend**

There may be an issue with **April 13th** - Rec Easter Egg Hunt & Township Soccer Tournament
and Rec Dept. may have an issue allocating resources

Tentative Draft dates - **March 1st, 2nd, 3rd**

Tentative date to place Rec Baseball uniform order - **March 4th**

Will get information out soon regarding:

- Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y Clinic
- Background Checks
- Concussion Protocol

T-Ball & Rookie Division - in desperate need of volunteers so that team sizes are not too large

Pony Division - Considering making Pony Division a traveling team to play other towns as a result of low enrollment (possible towns to play include E. Brunswick, Marlboro, Manalapan)

Motion to Accept Rec Report

Travel Baseball Report: Jason Rutan & Martin Kappus

Make A Wish Tournament

Make A Wish Flyer will be sent out on 2/20/2019

Make A Wish Tournament will take place on two weekends:

- July 14th-18th - Teams 7A, 8B, 9B, 10B, 11A, & 11B
- July 18th-21st - Teams 7B, 8A, 9A, 10A, 12A, 12B, 13, & 15

7 will be a one day tournament:

- 7A will be on 7/14/19
- 7B will be on 7/21/19

We will post flyer on our website, pro-sports and asked Managers/Coaches to send out to their contacts

Districts

Sites:

- 8U in Edison
- 9U in South Plainfield
- 10U in Edison
- 11U in East Brunswick
- 12U in Monroe
- 13U in Monroe

Still undetermined about 7U:

- For the past two years we combined with District 11 (Monmouth County)
- We offered to host 7U

Districts meeting to be held on 2/27/19 in South Plainfield:

- Possible Dates - June 13-14 (10U, 11U, & 12U - Father's Day Weekend)
- Possible Dates - June 20-21st (8U, 9U, & 13U)

District dates have moved up from previous years

States

11B States - we put our name in to host and are waiting to see how we progress

12U - It's 46/60 and they go right to the Regionals

Travel Fees

To be paid online in full by March 16th

If a travel team has not been paid in full, they will not be able to schedule fields

Cost - \$325 + \$100 Work Bond

Waiting to open up Travel payments in hopes that we will get majority of Rec Registrations in by 2/28/2019 so drafts can start March 1st

Uniforms

Jason R. will send out spreadsheet outlining exactly what each team owes

Individual parent checks can be made out to Jason or Managers can hand in one check for the team

Uniforms should be in by the 1st or 2nd week of March

Blackout Dates

Travel tournaments can be played on the 19th-28th of April

Monroe may be hosting a USABL tournament during the blackout (TBD)

9U A&B will be hosting a tournament on the weekend of the 27th & 28th at JMP

If you have any teams that may want to join the tournament, let 9U Managers know

Monroe teams play for free & MTBA will calculate costs for other teams

After MTBA costs are covered, any excess funds will be donated to the MTBA scholarship fund or Cooperstown team

USABL has asked us to host a tournament during our blackout dates, which has the potential to generate revenue that can be put back into the program.

Travel Team Tournaments

Travel teams can play tournaments:

- Any weekend in March up until April 6th
- Rec Blackout dates
- Memorial Day Weekend

Travel Registrations

Multi-family discount available to families

Discounts come off the Travel side, not the Rec side

Only discount that comes off the Rec side is 4th child (and up) is FREE

Parents should pay their Travel fees in full, email MTBA, and their discount will be refunded back to them

M. Maiolo read the names of families that get a multi-family discount

Families who have more players in Rec than in Travel should reach out to MTBA to get appropriate reimbursement

Reimbursement schedule will be furnished upon request from MTBA

If any family needs additional time to make payments, please reach out to MTBA

General Information

There is no tentative date for JMP to open for practice, this is determined by Rec Dept.

For Travel teams that are not fully rostered, have all parents register and look to Rec teams to recruit players

Managers - look at website to make sure your roster is accurate

Motion to Accept Travel Report

Buddy Ball - No Report

Facilities Report: Russ Church

JMP Clean Up Day - Scheduled for March 16th

If not March 16th, will be rescheduled for the following weekend

New Items for JMP:

- Buying new tarps for Fields 1&2
- Old tarps from Fields 1&2 will be moved to Fields 3&4
- Old tarps from Fields 3&4 may be cut up to cover mounds and home plates
- Field 4 will get a new mound and new dirt

May have high school players work at JMP during the week

Focus of upgrades this year are for Oak Tree School including batting cage, scoreboard, & electrical upgrades

Suggestions from member:

- Request for warm up mound at JMP
- Treat for ticks at JMP

On clean up day, MTBA may back up 1st base side of Field 1 to make room for more parking

Motion to Accept Facilities Report

Open Floor (Executive Board)

Reminder - there are two more Free Rec Clinics (3/5/19 & 3/9/19)

Need support from coaches to help out, have had great representation from High School players helping out at Free Rec Clinics

Reminder - Notify MTBA if you are registered for The Grind clinics and you don't intend to go so that the appropriate amount of support for the clinic can be coordinated

The Grind Clinics

- Clinics are an opportunity for both Travel & Rec coaches to attend and hear new coaches
- The training is progressive in nature and sessions build off of one another from week to week
- Good opportunity for our players going into Middle School & High School to hear from new coaches with a different outlook
- Cost - \$15 for 1.5 hours
- Feedback from member: Appreciated the Parabolics portion of the clinic

Open Floor (Membership)

Comment

Players in AAA division should be pitching from at least 40 ft. consistently, which is the edge of the rubber due to safety concerns

Response

7U should pitch from 40 ft. & 8U should pitch from the rubber
Any concerns should be brought to the MTBA Executive Board
Coaches should also pitch close to the mound to teach depth perception

Comment

If a player gets hit by another player's pitch, they should just be given a base

Response

According to the rules, if a player gets hit, the coach should come in to pitch so that players get opportunities to hit
Coaches should use their discretion. If a player is hurt and doesn't want to step back into the batter's box, then that may be a time to let him go to first. Consult with umpire as well.

Question

What other ways are you publicizing Rec Registration other than emails?

Response

MTBA is consistently looking for opportunities to get the word out
Currently MTBA disseminates information through Email blasts, MTBA website, social media accounts, collaboration with Rec Center & Monroe Public Schools
MTBA membership is also welcome to help spread the word for our program
MTBA is also contending with the reality that baseball is not as popular a sport as it once was and that it is regarded as a hard sport to play
This issue is not specific to Monroe, but other towns as well
It is important to recruit younger players, as it is a hard sport to pick up as children get older

Announcement

Fundraiser for MTBA Scholarship Fund:

- March 8th - Pallet Painting Party
- Location - Firehouse on Harrison (By Woodland School)
- Cost - \$45/per person
- All proceeds go to MTBA Scholarship Fund

Fundraiser for MTBA Scholarship Fund in Collaboration with Monroe Softball:

- May 10th - Golf Outing or Golf Outing and Dinner
- Location - Cranbury Country Club

Meeting Closed at 8:55pm