

FMYSA Open Meeting – September 25, 2017

Meeting commenced – 6:05pm

Board Members in Attendance: Jeff Nelson, Kevin Roberson, Kevin Westdyk, Amy Burwell, Tracy Black, Matt Jordan, Craig Brown, Jeff Castellanos. Not Present: Jack Fultz

Open Attendees: Tony Del Muro, Jeff Fisher, Tracy Smith, Amy L, Juan Rodriguez

Open discussion:

- a. Question regarding late timing of Premier tryouts this fall and possibly scheduling Premier tryouts immediately following current season for next season. Also, should there be tryouts each season or should Premier teams stay together for a full year?
- b. Suggestion to take down current Premier rules from FMYSA website to revise as needed.
- c. Possible new scoring system presented for Premier players to include more categories to create a wider array of scores and greater separation of players' abilities.
- d. Introduction of a new service program to FMYSA called "Love Pacs." 8U Premier team is currently involved in collection non-perishable food items to donate to kids in need. "Pacs" include 2 meals and one snack item. FMYSA to update website and have a location for a collection drop box.

Agenda discussion:

- a. Craig discussed a possible rule change involving 9U rec teams. Currently rules include "tight bases" meaning no leading, and steals only allowed after a pass ball. He would like to see bases made "loose" in the spring so that players learn to lead and steal to be ready for all-star competition in the summer (since other leagues use "loose" bases).
- b. Jeff N discussed the possible elimination of umpires for the 5U division. Do players really need to be called out on 6th pitch and should players remain on bases (to learn to run) even if they are put out? Coaches tend to dictate the game and consistently override the umpire (who rarely is involved).
- c. Amy mentioned the possibility of rec coaches ordering uniforms for their teams and FMYSA paying them back for the allotted quantities (similar to the way Premier does it). The uniforms would have actual MLB logos on the team shirts. The idea was tabled until 2019 when Under Armour takes over the contract for MLB licensing.
- d. Softball uniforms could be ordered online by the coaches and then FMYSA would pay the vendor directly for allotted quantities.
- e. Discussed the idea of parents and family ordering team shirts (similar to the players) from an FMYSA "Spirit Shop." Could be an additional revenue stream for FMYSA.

- f. Tracy mentioned that all 7U fields had pitcher's plates moved from 42' to 40' to be compliant with interlock rules.
- g. The group discussed current safety equipment for catchers and pitchers for 7U and 8U divisions. Currently other organizations use a mask for pitchers as a requirement as well as heart shields. FMYSA currently suggests but does not require these items. Discussed making this requirement a rule for next season. FMYSA to likely require it, but make coaches and players responsible for the purchase of these items to minimize liability of FMYSA for faulty equipment.

Meeting adjourned – 7:30pm