



April 9th 2025 Board Meeting

Attendees

Gabe Bryan, Nathalie Schairer, James Schairer, Steve Budko, Drew Pitynger, Keith Adams, Alyssa Belmonte, Marcus Wolf, Tim Welsh, Nadine Knapp, Andrew Basso, Erick VanTuyl, Mike Yip, Joey Wannat, Herm Gonzalez, Jim Whalen

Approve Treasurer's Report – Nadine Knapp, Herm Gonzalez

Approve Minutes Report – Tim Welsh, James Schairer

Discussions & Decisions

Concession stand

Failed health inspection because we didn't have a 3-compartment sink. The permanent sink is on order, however, we are using a temporary 3 sink setup as directed by the Bloomfield Health Department.

Need Concession stand help on Tuesdays and Thursdays to close the concession stand (clean equipment, mop the floor, etc.). Alyssa will make a sign up, so we know we have coverage.

Fields

Nadine has been diligently working with the DPW, and they have really stepped up and are doing a great job getting the fields ready for play every week and renovating the bathrooms. The board appreciates their hard work and attention to making sure the kids are able to play even with all the rain we have gotten lately.

The Federal government has stopped funding, so the town has no money to spend on field improvements for the foreseeable future. Mike Scurman met with finance to see if he could use his surplus, but it is not enough. The town will begin the process of applying for a Green Acres grant. Mike Scurman patched the backstop fence at Wrights. The town is paying for 2 new nets at Memorial Field and Felton Field. Your Handyman installed nets at Vassar and Wrights and did a fantastic job.

Safety

The fire department was happy with the CPR training. They are looking for more opportunities to get more involved and give back to the community.

There was a safety incident at Vassar tonight. A player in the 11/12 division missed a fly ball and got hit directly in the face. 911 was called and he was taken to the hospital. Andrew will write up an incident report.

Equipment

All uniform issues have been accounted for and are being corrected as fast as possible.

April 25th makeup photos 5-7 pm. Nathalie will create a schedule for the teams that were skipped on opening day.

8U Division

There is a team in the 8-year-old division that started with 11 players and 2 have dropped out. The solution is that at every game, they can borrow two players from the opposing team to play in the outfield while they are not at bat. The coach suggested he catch but it is a safety issue if he is not wearing equipment. Also, the kids need experience catching. Tim will provide feedback to the coach.

9/10 Division

Review of pitch count rules. Starts with the first pitch. Ends with the first pitch to the last batter. Example: pitcher is at 35 pitches before the last batter. No matter how many pitches are thrown to the last batter, only the first one counts so the pitcher is at 36.

All-Stars

Sunday May 18th will be the night when managers will submit nominations for all stars. It will be done in person this year to make sure there is visibility into the nominations and process.

Scheduling

Nathalie highlighted that when games need to be rescheduled she can update the master schedule in Game Changer but it doesn't push out to update team scheduled so coaches need to be reminded that they have to also go in and change the schedule for their team themselves.

Events

Friday May 16th 6pm, NJIT Baseball at Yogi Berra Saturday. BGR League is buying 150 tickets to sell as a fundraiser and a community building night. Will be on sale at the concession stand. Coaches should be encouraged to add as an event in game changer.

New Business

As a way to ensure the league is growing in the direction we want, Alyssa will send out a google form for parents to give feedback on player experiences and coaches. This will give parents an opportunity to give feedback and be heard.

A little league wall of fame was pitched as an idea by Joe Wannat to show players what they can aspire to if they stick with the sport and work hard. Alyssa will email Coach Poli for a list of players that played little league in town and went on to play in college at any level. The league will put together a plan to invite them to a championship game and/or the end of year picnic to be honored and give the current players a chance to talk to them.

BGR Travel Teams

Tryouts will be held on Saturday May 10th starting at 4pm. BGR Little League will help facilitate.