

South Dakota High School Baseball Association
Annual Meeting
December 16, 2007
Mitchell, SD



Attendees: Brad Schramm, Lyle Smith, Luke Norden, Kent VanOverschelde, Phil Johnson, Dave Kemp, Donivan Lambley, Butch Corey, Roy King, Ted Weiland, Larry Johnson, Mike Miller, Ken Jones, Lance Garbers, Wes Parry

3:04 PM

Meeting was called to order by President Brad Schramm who extended welcomes to attendees. First order of business was a review of 2007 Association activities.

I. 2007 Association Activities

A. Coaches Clinic Report – Lyle Smith, Board Secretary

Smith reported that the 2007 Coach/Umpire Clinic held in Sioux Falls saw some 120 coaches and umpires attend. From comments from attendees, the clinic was well received. 2008 Clinic is scheduled for January 19th at the Ramkota Motel in Sioux Falls. List of clinicians include coaches from several Iowa JC's, new Dakota State Coach, as well as head coach from Winona State University. Umpire clinicians include Stan Evans from Rapid City, Randy Bertram, and Jason Selchert.

Question from group concerning whether any input from Football Coaches Clinic officials which ran on the same date was received. Smith reported that he had not received any requests from the football group. What comments he received had been from coaches and vendors who felt that having the two clinics next to each other provided coaches who coached both sports an opportunity to attend sessions in both clinics.

President Schramm added that the Board had directed \$500.00 in monetary support to the clinic to assist in offsetting travel expenses of clinicians.

B. President's Report -State Tournament /All Star Game/Umpire Evaluations

President Schramm provided a report of the State Class A and Class B Tournaments held in Aberdeen and Parkston. Both tournaments were successful. Champions of both classes he noted were hosts which suggested the benefit of hosting the State Tournament.

The 2007 All Star game President Schramm reported was unfortunately rained out. Attendance by players and coaches was good however, based on the fact that the event has now been cancelled twice due to inclement weather/poor field conditions, the Board of Directors based on the 2007 budget deficit, have decided to forgo the event in 2008. As Schramm elaborated, even though the event was well received by participating players, the cost and difficulty coordinating the event with Legion Coaches outweighed the merits of the event. Schramm deferred further discussion of the impact of the showcase on the Association budget to the Treasurer's Report.

Schramm also announced the Board's decision to initiate Umpire Evaluations for 2008. The evaluation program will allow coaches to comment on the performance of umpires after contests with the objective of screening umpires for eventual post-season tournament assignments. The Board will finalize the evaluation process in January.

C. 2008 State Tournaments

President Schramm invited Association members to submit bids for the 2008 State Tournaments. The bid process will begin January 1 with bid presentations to be made to the Board of Directors during the February board meeting to be announced.

II. Treasurer's Report

Association Treasurer Phil Johnson provided attendees a report (see attached) of the financial status of the organization. The Association generated revenue of \$10,863.05 in 2007. Membership dues remained the primary source of income. Expense wise with the cancellation of the Showcase, the Association suffered a budget deficit of \$1,871.66. Despite the 2007 deficit, the Association based on cash reserves maintains a positive balance of \$4,290.45.

To assist the Association in maintaining a positive balance in 2008, the Board of Directors will not offer a 2008 All Star Showcase. In addition, the Board also by majority vote, will eliminate the Association's financial support of the Flag Displays for the Class A and B Tournament sites. The attitude of the Board in eliminating this amenity is that this cost should be shouldered by the tournament hosts.

Motion by VanOverschelde, seconded by Lambley to approve the 2007 treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

III. 2008 Budget

President Schramm announced to the group that the 2008 budget will be discussed and approved by the Board of Directors during the January Board meeting.

IV. Election of New Board Members

President Schramm called for nominations for new Board Members to replace the positions of Matt Krogman, Ted Weiland, and Randy Sabers whose terms have expired. With no new nominations received, Schramm directed attendees to vote for three individuals out of four who had been nominated. These individuals were as follows:

Jamie Holzworth – Rapid City

Gary Kortan - Tabor

Mike Henrickson – Dell Rapids

Eric Hortness – Freeman

Motion by Smith seconded by Johnson to accept the ballot. Motion carried.

Votes cast by members attending. By vote of attending membership, Jamie Holzworth, Mike Henrickson, and Eric Hortness were selected for Board positions in 2008.

Motion by Smith seconded by VanOverschelde to accept new board members. Motion carried.

V. New Business

President Schramm entertained new business from the floor. Discussion ensued in regards to a proposal by Eric Hortness of Freeman to change the current requirement of Regional competition (see attached proposal). Schramm reviewed the proposal for membership. Discussion followed as to rationale of the Board of requiring the current Class B teams to play required Divisional opponents twice and each cross divisional teams once. The overall objective of this process is to establish a workable seeding process. Proposal tabled.

Discussion also ensued in regards to establishing a drop dead scheduling date for regular season games prior to the beginning of post-season play. Luke Norden of Mitchell proposed the establishment of the last Friday prior to the post-season as the date that the board should enact as the cessation of regular season play. Schramm indicated that this action would require Board approval.

Proposal by Rapid City to have the Board investigate methods to ensure enforcement of the academic requirements for all member teams. At present, many programs appear to have minimal documentation of the academic eligibility of their team members. Motion by Rapid City seconded by Brandon Valley to have the Board of Directors create a system to that would provide documentation of eligibility for all member teams. Motion carried.

Schramm elicited comments from membership regarding recent action of the South Dakota Activities Association to raise soccer to sanctioned sport status while retaining the current club status of baseball. Membership discussed the pros and cons of club vs. sanctioned status for SD High School Baseball. Concerns were raised as to what consequences may arise in regards to the impact of the elimination of Sunday game opportunities, the potential loss of Class B schools who rely on multi-sport (track) athletes to field teams, etc. The consensus of membership in attendance was to continue with the current structure of High School Spring Baseball and the governance of the sport by the South Dakota High School Baseball Association.

With no new business to discuss, motion by Smith seconded by Garbers to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyle Smith, Board Secretary