

February, 11 2009

Crushers board meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

New business:

1. Finance, Jodi-
 - All teams are currently in the black.
 - Most commitment fees have been paid.
 - A new policy on excess fundraising was discussed. The current policy does not allow players to retain any fundraising fees beyond the player commitment amount set by each coach's budget. Any funds over this amount revert to the team. It was decided to alter this policy as a way to help families pay for travel expenses for the most distant/expensive tournaments. The impact on individual teams was discussed, but it seems likely that the new policy will also increase funds for the teams, since there is more incentive for players to continue fundraising after their commitment is met. The new policy will be implemented immediately after final approval of the draft. Important points will include:
 - Any excess funds earned will be divided among the organization (5%), team (10%), and player (85%).
 - Excess funds that may be retained by an individual player will be capped at \$1500.
 - Each team will choose a maximum of two tournaments for which excess funds may be used. These tournaments must be a minimum of 60 miles away. Each player may then choose which of these tournaments to use her excess funds for. (There will only be ONE disbursement per player, as it becomes too labor intensive for the treasurer.)
 - 1-2 weeks prior to the chosen tournament the treasure will purchase VISA debit cards from our bank. The card fees will be deducted from the amount disbursed to the player (approximately \$3.50/card). Families may then use the cards to pay for hotel fees, food, pins and travel expenses.
 - Unused excess funds will be carried over to the next year in the TEAM account. They will not stay in a player account. They will also not follow a player or coach to a new team if the player is moving up.
2. Fundraising –
 - An effort should be made to include people outside the Crusher families. At many events it seems we are only raising money from each other. Think of friends and family in the area who might be interested in these events.
 - Ideas?
 - A spring yard sale was discussed. Crushers could use a large parking lot and sell tables for \$10 as well as individual families hosting a table to earn more. Possible location, corner of Hedges run and Old Bridge, Cathi will have more info next month.
 - Selling ads on our website – possibly having a featured business of the week. More as the website is updated.
 - Spaghetti dinner
3. Player fee dates –

- The dates are not always working for coaches, who need money in their accounts early to pay for tournaments. New dates were proposed after discussing how to make the dates workable for families while still making the funds available to coaches when they are needed. What would also be fair to players who only play in the fall, or only in the spring?
 - Paula made a motion to use the following schedule –
 - September 1st – 1st half of player commitment fee
 - October 15th – 1st half of player fundraising fee
 - January 15th – 2nd half of player commitment fee
 - March 15th – 2nd half of player fundraising fee
 - It was seconded by Jodi and the vote was unanimous in favor of this new schedule.
4. Uniforms, Cathi – uniform orders went well, with a total of \$5000 in orders being distributed. A new ink was used to prevent the problems with fading. For next time –
- 1 parent/team will need to help sort the orders before they are distributed.
 - Spirit wear will be on sale until March 7th.
5. Website –Chris Gontarz came to discuss updates for the website.
- We need to update the registration of our website to include the new corporation name, rather than an individual's name.
 - A unanimous vote in favor of registering the domain name VACrushers.org as the current name links back to the previous site, pwsoftball.com, which may be confusing.
 - Christine will research the cost of various upgrades to our website as well as what software and hardware are needed now, and might be needed in the future. She will also research the cost of server space.
 - Any info to be added to the website should be submitted by Monday and will be uploaded by Wednesday of each week.
 - Should each team have a website separate from the organization? After looking at the websites of other travel teams we decided it looks more professional if all of the team pages are hosted in our website. Each coach would still have access to his team page.
6. Community events, Karen-
- St. Patrick's' Day parade - \$100 was approved to purchase items needed to complete the float as well as something to hand out.
 - The frame for the float was completed and paid for last year. Jodi is storing it and will have it ready for the parade.
 - Tim will get a donation of individually wrapped cookies (500?)to hand out along the route. Should we put labels with the Crusher name on them? More discussion next month.
7. Try-outs, Paula-
- Paula will attend the next coaches committee meeting to get input from them on dates, etc.
 - Packets will be made up and handed out at tryouts. They will be specific to each team and will include forms such as medical release forms, budget/fundraising fee info, contact info, organization bio, and team info. This will make it easier for prospective players to make decisions and be prepared for the financial aspect of travel ball.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00

Next meeting March, 11, 2009.