

Minutes from VGSA Annual Planning Meeting 11/7/2015

In attendance:

Scott Smith <ssvgsapres743@gmail.com>
George Countryman, cconstinc@comcast.net>
Gary Garcia - garyjgarcia@hotmail.com>
Mike Sturdevant <sturdevant50@gmail.com>
Ronda Swanson <swanson.ronda@gmail.com>
Cyndi Johnson - Cyndi.g.johnson@gmail.com
Doug Johnson - dj0081@yahoo.com
Teri Kirby <doverwe@gmail.com>

Not in Attendance

ChadTKirby <chadtkirby@yahoo.com>
Jen Har <jaharley3@gmail.com>
Dan Gruenberg <gruenberg45@gmail.com>
Sophia Morgan <sofmarti2711@gmail.com>
Danielle Griffin <daniellegriffin0229@yahoo.com>

Registration

2016 Prices:

- Tball and Training league - \$60 (lowered to get more players)
- 8U - \$100 (increased to be in-line with other organizations)
- 10U - 14U - \$125

We will start online registration December 1st. Early registration discount of 10% by January 15th; Late Registration fee of \$25 after March 15th. Opt out option of the fundraiser will be \$20.

In person registration will be

- January 23rd from 10 - 2pm
- January 27th from 6 - 8 pm

More in person registration dates to be announced in February. Registration will be promoted via school flyers, signs placed around town and through Facebook ads. Cyndi will need a budget of \$150 for Facebook ads and \$250 for printing flyers.

Action Items:

1. Scott needs to give both Cyndi & Ronda full access to Bonzi to create new registration events. Right now I think Becky is the one with this access.
2. Cyndi to create 2016 registration event and have live by Dec 1st
3. Flyers will go to Vancouver School District for pre-approval then need to go to printer. Target date for getting to school will be early December. See the revised flyer attached.
4. Scott will need to revised registration welcome letter to include information about VGSA being an all-volunteer organization and how much we will need parent support to meet our goals. Letter should include dates for the first work party and information about the Papa Murphy's fundraiser.

5. Board to take signs to local schools in December and January. Signs should be given out at the December monthly meeting.

Scholarships

\$1900 were given out in Scholarship in 2015 according to the reports in Bonzi

Scholarship applications will need to be submitted with a copy of pay stubs or verification that they qualify for free or reduced lunches. 8 hours of service will be needed for full scholarship, 4 hours for partial scholarship. A mid-season work party will be scheduled so these families can fulfill their duties. They can also sign up to work the gate or in concessions for a tournament.

Action Items:

1. George or Scott to pick a date we can list on the application now that will be used for a mid-season work party.
2. Scholarship form needs to be updated. Maura?? See attached current form.
3. Cyndi to create page on website that provide information about our "limited" scholarship opportunities and how to apply

Team Formation & Schedules

- Registration forms will ask questions about experience and preferred positions to help the League Coordinators put together more balanced teams. We will also host a free "skills clinic" at the Lumberyard in mid-February in order to gage player talent. Cyndi will confirm dates with the Lumberyard this week.
- Board agreed that playing the 12 & 14u levels together worked well last year. They also agreed that 14U age players can plan on 12U teams if no other options are available in order to not have to turn players away. This would only be available to recreational players and not for players that are rostered on another ASA team.
- Teams can be formed as soon as coaches are available and enough players register (this will help teams get started sooner and be more prepared to play against the travel teams)
- We need to pick days of the week for each age division games before our annual coaches meeting so they don't get practice days that conflict with their game schedules
- Schedules to be done by Chad Kirby this season and should be broken down into two parts so we can make adjustments to the schedule for the second half if needed to ensure the most competitive play

Action Items:

1. Source for new coaches asap. Everyone should be on the lookout and promoting these opportunities to their contacts.

Practice Fields

- The number of volunteer hours at the March work party will still be used to allocated fields. The teams with the most hours will get first priority.
- We are going to try to secure a few more fields for teams on the eastside. Heritage High School and Prairie fields were listed as good options.

Action Items:

1. Cyndi will try to reach Craig Kitchie this week to determine when the fall planning meeting will be held.
2. Gary will attend the fall meeting and take Trudy's place on the committee
3. Maura to check with Prairie fields about getting access
4. Cyndi & Jamie will need to work together to pick up the field contracts in March and get the field rental fees paid.
5. Someone will need to order porta potty's for all the school field contracts at the end of Feb. Please indicate who would be the best person for this job.

Coach Meeting

We decided to split the coaches meeting into two events this year:

- T-Ball - 8U
- 10U - 14U

Goal is to reduce the meeting time to 1 hour and make it easier for the coaches to get information related to their age division.

We are also going to see if we can use Alki or Skyview to do a larger parent orientation event. If this is possible we will add the coaches meetings to the beginning and use classrooms to split into age groups.

Action Items:

1. Scott to talk to Alki or Skyview to secure the space and date.
2. Cyndi & Maura to create a coaches packet that can be handed out at the meeting and placed on the website

Fundraising

- We voted to use the Papa Murphy's card as the mandatory fundraiser. If parents don't pay the \$20 fee to opt out then they will be responsible for selling 5 Papa Murphy cards. Cards will be submitted to the teams at the first game with monies due by May 1st. Goal of \$7,000 raised (350 players x \$20)
- Board approved James Gama to sell Sponsorships and receive a 25% commission just like teams get it if they sell a field sign.
- Hall of Fame event will be earlier in the season this year. Targeting end of April and honor John Gay and Ed Maxwell. A Committee will need to be formed to make this event happen. Goal to raise \$5K
- Seek out opportunities for "VGSA" days at local businesses. Dutch Brothers, Burgerville, Farrar's Bistro, Buffalo Wild Wings are a few examples. Goal to raise \$1K

Action Items:

1. Cyndi to talk to Papa Murphy's about the timeline to order cards.
2. Danielle to call businesses to secure VGSA days
3. Scott to ask Mindy if she will chair the 2016 Hall of Fame event
4. All board members to continually seek sponsorship opportunities. Getting a landscape sponsor should be primary focus. All sponsorship information can be found on our website at <http://www.vancouvergirlssoftball.com/sponsorprogram>.

Concession Stand

1. Concessions lost close to \$6K in 2016
2. Board agreed to have Chad Kirby provide an analysis of the concession stand to see what can be done to improve financials and customer experience
3. A follow up meeting is needed to discuss the financials and determine what areas can be cut to drive down costs

Action items:

1. George to schedule follow up meeting with Doug, Teri, Chad and Carol