

**La Verne Little League
Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday January 7, 2025 @ 6:30pm

Location: La Verne Community Center

Attendees:

Anderson, Jesse	A	DeHaan, Libby	A	Mulder, Branden	A
Barre, Maddy	P	DuBois, Jessica	P	Mulder, Toni	A
Borst, Kyle	P	Enriquez, Steve	P	Ortega, James	A
Bruchet, Angela	P	Garcia, Tara	P	Ortega, Jen	A
Bruchet, Darryl	P	Gomez, Raquel	A	Parra, Jon	P
Cervantes, Chris	A	Gomez, Ryan	P	Richards, Josh	P
Charlebois, Greg	P	Harrison, Chris	A	Venegas, Ashlie	P
Cridlebaugh, Pamela	A	Karrer, Adam	P	Vukojevic, Tom	P
Cridlebaugh, Travis	P	Larson, Autumn	P	Zalemea, Gretchen	P
DeHaan, Brian	P	Martinez, Desiree	P		

P = Present, A = Absent

Start Time: 6:40pm

Adjournment: 8:44pm

Next Meeting: TBD

Approval of Previous Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2024 meeting was made by Brian DeHaan, seconded by Steve. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

- Darryl reported that the league's bank balance has increased due to incoming registration fees. However, this balance will decrease as funds are allocated for uniforms and ongoing field maintenance, and other expenses, incurred as we prepare for the Spring season.

Field Maintenance Updates

- **Batting Cage Netting:**
 - Travis provided an update on the batting cage netting project. The netting plus installation for all three cages is estimated to cost \$9,000, the majority can be covered by CapEx fund allotment. Also need to address turf for minor/rookie cage area. Plan is to get netting up and then focus on replacing turf and adding mats. Will be a cost for turf, mats are being donated.
- **Windscreen:**
 - Travis will gather additional pricing for replacing windscreens on all three outfield walls. There is also potential for reusing existing windscreens from storage but need to confirm the condition and how much linear footage. A vendor in Glendora offers custom sizing, which is more expensive but may be worthwhile.
- **Farm Field:**

- In decent condition, but some sprinkler repairs and some field adjustments are required. The home plate will be repositioned to a multi-purpose length. Need to trim and level out grass.
- **Minor League Field:**
 - Infield grass needs to be leveled and batter's box needs to be addressed. They have started spraying for weeds an additional work like aerating, seeding, and applying topsoil, expected to start week of 1/17. Bermuda is dormant right now.
- **Rookie Field:**
 - In good shape, did a lot of work last year . May need some additional edging of grass, and pads for backstop. Kyle offered to help get those put up.
- **Tee-Ball Field:**
 - The dirt is in good shape but needs some work. Quote for all of the necessary work is around \$1,700, and if we move forward with using a thatching machine process to smooth everything out, it would be \$2,900. Total of about \$5K for both. Anchors/pegs for bases will be installed. This year, more focus will be given to the tee-ball field, including replacing the grandstands. The school prefers the porta potty to be delivered as close to opening day as possible, rather than at the start of practices.
- **Major Field:**
 - Plan is to work to get it in good shape by opening day. Realize teams will also need to practice on field starting in February. The dugouts are also pending repair, with some materials to be purchased with the \$500 donation from the rotary club. The major tower window needs to be replaced. Darryl and Angela have a window contact they are going to reach out to. Adam mentioned seeing a setup at Claremont, where a buried flexi-hose is used behind the pitcher's mound. Travis will have Barrios explore similar options for our field.
- **Signage:**
 - Update signage on major tower before opening day. Can consider a lit sign, which is though to cost between \$500-\$1k. Alternative is to use a flood light.
 - Shadowbox – would like to update, possibly rotate with different material, such as LVLL logo, team standings, etc. LVLL historical winnings poster would be a good one to use. Travis to reach out to Amy from the district to obtain that information for LVLL to update poster.

Spring Registration Update

- **Juniors:** 16 players have signed up.
 - **Intermediate:** 13 players have signed up.
 - **Majors:** The Majors division will have eight teams, each with 11 players. Numbers may fluctuate slightly depending on final registration numbers.
 - **Farm:** Nine teams of 12 players are expected. About 20 9-year-olds will move to Minor based on registration headcount, and draft results. That number may fluctuate slightly depending on final registration numbers.
 - **Minor:** Eight teams of 12 players, which accounts for those that may move down from farm. In addition, there are around six players requesting to move down to rookie.
 - **T-Ball:** 54 or 55 players. Desiree is coordinating with the district for flyer distribution in local schools to help gather more participation.
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Manager Selection

- **Farm:** Final manager selection will be made by Wednesday, with a coach meeting scheduled for Friday night.
 - **Minor:** Seven coaches are signed up, and the division will have eight teams. Additional coach to be solicited via email to minor league families.
 - **Major**
 - Over 16 individuals expressed interest in managing a major team, with 8 spots available. After considering factors specific to the upcoming season, the board discussed the possibility of allowing up to three coaches per team. The board discussed the need for safeguards to ensure fairness, noting that player and family experience must also be taken into consideration during the selection process.
 - Brian DeHaan made the motion that for the Spring 2025 season, Major teams may select up to three coach picks, with a minimum of two. The coach picks would be approved by the President and Player Agent, who would also provide recommendations and make the final decision on coach assignments/picks for each team. The aim is to maintain balance within the division, and avoid any potential advantage from stacking teams. The motion was approved unanimously by the Executive Board. All in favor: Yes. Opposed: None.
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Tryouts & Draft (Major, Farm, Minor)

- **Tryouts:** scheduled for this Saturday. Board volunteers are needed for various roles, including ground balls, fly balls, batting practice, check-in, and announcing names. Maddy to send out a link for volunteers from the board to sign-up to assist.
 - **Draft:**
 - Considering holding draft either after makeup tryouts which are scheduled for the week of 1/13, or the following week of 1/20.
 - Team rosters to be distributed to managers after draft.
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Additional Items Discussed:

- **Uniforms:** Travis is working with Autumn to secure uniform pricing from multiple vendors, including BSN and Sew Happy. The goal is to place the uniform order by January 24th to ensure they are ready before opening day, but timeline is dependent on other factors, such as finalizing teams for the various divisions.
 - **Safety Officer Role:** Brittany Cervantes has resigned as safety officer. The safety officer oversees the league's safety plan, injury tracking, and safety compliance, background checks for managers and coaches, for example. Tara offered to provide guidance with obtaining the ORI number, which typically takes 6-7 weeks. In the meantime, the city's background process will be used temporarily. The position will be revisited at a future meeting for proper voting on a new safety officer. Jon Parra expressed interest.
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