

Rye Little League Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 13, 2007, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendance: D. Record, B. Monahan, D. Richard, G. Carr, P. Berube, P. Taylor, J. Sexton, D. Crisp, T. Durkin, M. Shepcaro, J. Carroll, T. Sanborn

Treasurers Report – Report was reviewed and accepted. Fiscal Year ends 9/30/07. Home Run USA Training Center was discussed. Four teams used the facility, discussion concerning the cost of this for the Major Teams. No vote was held for this issue at this meeting. Patty reported that she does not plan to be treasurer next year. She will finish this year through the taxes. She has a name of someone who might be interested in the position.

New Board Members – We would like to have the new board members in place for Jan. 1, 2008. Elections should be held at the December meeting. Board Members leaving their positions need to be available to train for certain positions. The early November meeting will be open to the public to select nominations for open positions.

Registration – Dianne requested that the members access the National Little League website to review the information concerning on-line registration. Dianne reported that the window of time chosen last year for allowing late registrations was too long. The number of families who registered by mail was equivalent to the number of families who registered on the designated nights. We need to change this for next year, since this caused a lot of extra work for the Secretary / Registrar and the Treasurer.

Reflection of our program – Discussion was held concerning the smaller number of players registering for Little League. T-Ball is down in numbers, American is down some, National is up. Discussion was held of how to promote the program. Suggestions were to run clinics in the schools during the winter, form a committee to look into how we can build our league, try to get families with younger kids involved, solicit comments back to us regarding the good / bad of our Little League program, develop a Code of Conduct for Rye Little League. Also to develop a proactive approach to issues as they arise vs. a reactive approach. It was also noted that everyone is involved in the way the program works and succeeds, including the players, managers, coaches, umpires, league officials, parents, and spectators.

Committee for Marketing – P. Taylor (chair), D. Richard, T. Sanborn will work on this project to prepare for 2008 and report in November.

Committee for Sportsmanship and Code of Conduct – J. Sexton (chair), B. Monahan, M. Shepcaro, and D. Crisp will work on this and report back in November. The focus is to raise the standard for our culture - zero tolerance for the entire program from the players, coaches, managers, and parents.

Portsmouth – The Portsmouth team has touched base with Peter about playing games with Rye during the regular season, in addition to our regular games with our own teams. Peter said this is allowed in Little League.

Field Status – Currently the town mows the grass and the league maintains it. Jeff reported that the irrigation system was broken. He has repaired it and will be submitting a bill. He also recommends taking control of field mowing and maintenance. There are a lot of repairs to be done, and should be completed this fall so the field will be in better shape for the spring. A motion was made and approved to spend up to \$4500.00 to repair and fix the field. Jeff will provide a quote and if the price is more than the approved amount, Peter will contact the Board. Rye LL will go to Lee at the Rye Rec Office and discuss this with her. Jeff will have a firm quote for the 2008 season. For the 2008 season, the managers and coaches should have to attend an inservice on correct field maintenance.

Equipment – Bob and John went through all the equipment. Many helmets need to be thrown out. Bob will have an estimate for the November meeting. Helmet life is only two years. The equipment needs to meet safety requirements for the insurance policy.

Improvements needed to the field – Many things are in need of improvement and repair. The list includes: paint the dugouts, replace benches, scorers shed needs paint, bleachers, score board, batting cage. Del, Dan, and John will work on this and report back in November.

June 6 Meeting Minutes – The games in conflict with school events issue was discussed further. We need to vote on whether or not we will reschedule games on an event by event basis. We can get the dates from the school to plan our schedules the best we can. A proposal made was that the managers for both teams and the umpires work out a reschedule time with two weeks notice minimum. After much discussion, it was agreed to table this issue.

The meeting was adjourned. No meeting is planned for October. A date needs to be set for the planned November meeting.