

Minutes to State Board Meeting February 18, 2021, at Waverly United Methodist Church

Attending the meeting: Alan Reed, State Director; Aaron Prince, Asst. State Director; Tony Brown and Don Rudolph National Directors; District 1 Director Phillip Dorris, Assistant Direct Billy Draper; District 2 Director Mike Neisler; District 3 Director Denise Lineberry, Assistant Janice Harris; District 4 Director Rory Osborne; District 5 Director James Tidwell, Assistant Director George Lankford, District 7 Director David Conrad, Secretary Marilyn Tidwell and guest David Jackson, Vice President of Dixie Youth, Brian Lee and Kelly Hollars and Charlie Jones.

Alan Reed brought the meeting to order and introduced our Vice President of Dixie Youth, David Jackson. This was followed by a prayer from James Tidwell.

David Conrad put the motion on the floor to accept the minutes. Aaron Prince seconded. Don Rudolph gave a financial report. Aaron Prince made the motion to accept the financial report. James Tidwell seconded the motion. Both motions were accepted.

Tony Brown gave the scholarship report. The deadline has been extended to March 1<sup>st</sup>. To be eligible for a scholarship, the applicant must have played one year, submit a transcript, letter from the league where they played, parent letter and applicant letter. DYB will verify that they played. We sent \$22,000 to the scholarship fund in 2021. We need people from Tennessee to apply for a scholarship. Tony mentioned that on Saturday we will present the Danny Jones award to Ray Hodges. Ray implemented the method of scholarship donations that we now use and started the church services while he was a National Director.

Janice Harris told everyone that she appreciated the donation to the scholarship fund in Taylor's name. Waynesboro is planning to dedicate a field on April 2<sup>nd</sup> if anyone would like to attend the dedication.

Don Rudolph covered the two new rules for 2022. Rule 110C is a clarification of the use of T-Ball bats. They are only allowed for use if they are stamped USA baseball and used with a low compression ball. They are not allowed for use with a regular baseball.

The second rule is an exception for Rule 6.06 in Ozone. (pg. 45 in rule book) If the batter squares to bunt he can swing without penalty only if the count is 3-2 on the batter and the bases are loaded with two outs in the inning. The rule changes should be online for anyone to view.

Alan Reed brought out that we have a new policy. We are no longer able to send our Ozone runner up to the Majors World Series. David Jackson, VP of DYB, stated that several states were sending their runner ups. There are only about four states that still play the Majors baseball. He also mentioned that the Class A may be working toward a World Series in the future.

Discussion was made that we still are searching for a National Director for the West region. Also, the District 8 Director, Megan French resigned due to her job commitments. James Tidwell

put the motion on the floor to accept the resignation of Megan French. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. The motion carried all aye. We need someone to volunteer to be the director. Tony and Alan have been covering the district tournaments. Aaron Prince put a motion on the floor to authorize Alan and Tony to appoint a new District 8 director to fill the remainder of her term. James Tidwell seconded. The motion carried, all ayes.

Discussion was made regarding the Class A Regional World Series. We previously voted not to send a team this year. They have adopted a set of rules for the tournament. They will play with six innings or 1 hour and 10 minutes time limit. They would like to have a commitment of one team from Tennessee to attend. Aaron Prince put the motion forth to send one team from Tennessee. The first-place state tournament team will be offered the chance to go. If they do not want to go, it will be offered to the second-place team. If they do not want to go, it will be offered to the third-place team. Rory Osborne seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The tournament will be held at the Sterling Complex in Louisiana this year.

Update from the Bidders:

Brian Lee gave an update for the Class A State tournament. The coach's meeting will be held at 8:00 am at the High School. There will not be organized opening ceremonies or programs. James, George, and Don will work this tournament with Alan going between tournaments.

Rory Osborne updated the AA State tournament. The coach meeting has not been set but will be posted on the website. Hotel rooms need to be booked as soon as possible. Aaron, Tony, David, Rory, and Phillip will work this tournament with Alan going between tournaments.

As a reminder, Division 1 teams will have twelve players and Division 2 teams will have eleven.

Brad Barlow was not able to attend the meeting. Mike Neisler spoke about the AAA tournament in Savannah.

Charlie Jones spoke about the Ozone tournament in Harriman. The coach's meeting will be held at the Harriman Training Center. Check the website for updated times. Brackets will be posted after the franchises are all in so that the number of teams can be determined.

New Business:

Tony Brown brought up the idea to create a TN DYB Hall of Fame to recognize leaders. We could have a committee to set up the rules, regulations, and applications for nominees. We could give a framed certificate like the one Ray Hodges received. Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to start a Tennessee Dixie Youth Baseball Hall of Fame with the state director appointing a committee of four to produce rules and regulations for nominations. James Tidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

2022 is the year that we need to collect new boundary maps. Directors should ask the leagues to submit them before tournament time. Alan will need a copy of each map.

Everyone should have received a link to complete for a background check. They are due this year. Tony reminded everyone that not only coaches, but Board members and Directors and Assistant directors should complete the concussion training and the sudden cardiac arrest training.

Player Releases are due by April 1. Districts 1 and 4 have areas that overlap. The player can choose to play where they go to school or where they live. They just cannot jump back and forth. If there are questions, the player may need to show a report card as proof of school attendance.

Another issue is with players of divorced parents who live in different areas. The child can play at the location of either parent without a player release.

Humphreys county was greatly affected by the flood in 2021. Many of the players families had to move out of the county to find living arrangements.

Tournaments will be determined by franchises. We ask the leagues to get them in by April 1<sup>st</sup> or not later than the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Alan Reed showed the new five team bracket that William Wade distributed. Don Rudolph put the motion forth to accept the new bracket. Denise Lineberry seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Phillip Dorris brought out that Ashland City would like to change districts between District 4 and 1. Aaron Prince will meet with the leagues involved and the directors to work things out.

Phillip Dorris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. James Tidwell seconded the motion.