Rage Meeting Minutes – June 26, 2017

Attendance: Dan Kusk, Jeff Zinken, Mark Monaghan, Larry Lowe, Deni Bostock, Jen Shig, Nicole Cowan, Charmen Boyd, Erin Hunter

1. Called to order – Dan K called to order at 8:02 pm
2. Review minutes of May 29, 2017
   1. Motion to accept minutes of May 29th, 2017 by Deni Bostock. Seconded by Erin Hunter . All in favor; motion carried.
3. Business arising old minutes
   1. Safety concern with backstop addressed by city-Larry Lowe took forward
4. Reports
   1. President – Dan Kusk
      1. GPLS- Red Deer offered to be partner for a 3 year commitment to host. Continued discussions taking place within GPLS to determine if it will move to this format
      2. Changes/recommendations for Rage Host Hotel for Red Deer tournaments including GPLS. Taking into consideration the proximity to new diamonds. Hotels have approached the association offering to be host hotels that could include other events linked to tournament such as free ball room use for coaches seminars, rain out events, banquets ect. Partnership with hotels could offer many benefits to the Association. Dan to send out email to board to get organized thoughts on key discussion points.
      3. Evaluation dates- looking into 2017 fall dates. Tabled until we have dates for ringette and volleyball.
      4. Discussion to look into how we manage competitive stream or rec stream as we move forward in numbers. There are large differences in commitment levels that families need to be aware of. Rage Fastball is a competitive program-is there a need for a rec stream?
   2. Vice President - Jeff Zinken
      1. Need to look at a classifieds or “buy & sell”-discussed how we do that. Ideas for a facebook page or through web site. Crystal looking into how other associations do this. We have had many requests for used equipment that could benefit many families especially starting out in younger age groups
      2. GPLS B- Growing at a rapid rate- feedback this year was that we need more facilitators within our Association to help with communication and getting info out to teams timely.
      3. U10/12- large age group & many people giving feedback that isn’t always balanced or constructive. We want to give merit to feedback to enhance our programs. An organized approach with a tool may be helpful for u10/12 families to determine what they feel they are missing for information or other. Also gives us access to a broader level of feedback & not just the same families. Larry to develop survey to gather data on how we can progress for new families.
   3. Treasurer Report – Mark Monaghan
      1. Jeff Zinken,VP authorized to sign cheques now on behalf of the Association
      2. Account balances- (Mark we need to add in)
      3. Discussion on possible need to increase fees-changes include the costs associated with new OP diamonds and also large additions with numbers in the association. After a thorough review it was determined that we are under charging at all age levels to carry our seasons. Mark will evaluate each age group & make recommendations in September as to fee increase
      4. Idea to develop template for opening new bank accounts for teams that are not familiar.
      5. Trying to get information on incorporation. Currently we are a registered community association (society) but not incorporated.
   4. Secretary – Erin Hunter – nothing to report
   5. Director Reports
      1. Equipment – Jason Wilkins – absent-nothing to report
      2. Fundraising – Nicole Cowan – raffle wrapped up for 2017. $27154.21 was profit. Some difficulties with teams not bringing back tickets or not understanding why they had to do it.
      3. Sponsorship – Connie Setters – absent-nothing to report
      4. Apparel – Crystal Zinken
         1. Should we replace black socks to blue next year. Demand is higher. All in favor. Carried
         2. Black polo shirts look great- too expensive to supply coaches but they will be available on the store site next year.
      5. Registrar – Denielle Bostock
         1. Need to make it mandatory to upload birth certificate with RAMP registration. Too much work for our registrar and it’s easy to do online. All in favor- carried
         2. Softball AB forms all done for every team for provincials
         3. 13 teams attending Provincials this year. One coach not certified so team shared coach to attend.
      6. Community Relations – Tara Venaas – absent-nothing to report
      7. Evaluations Jeff Kelley – absent- nothing to report
      8. Diamond Maintenance – John Muller/Wilson Setters
         1. Work needs to happen on shed with storm-facia missing
         2. Difficulties with base caps missing- idea to just use new bases for games. Have to use old bases and hammer in for practices.
      9. Casino – Jen Shigamatsu- dates are set for Nov. 13th & 14th. Jen to get info from Dan on template for running last one with volunteers
      10. Webmaster \_- Laura Oster- absent-nothing to report
      11. Tournament Coordinator – Charmen Boyd
          1. Feedback was good overall for tourney. Similar “issues” every year. Volunteer commitment was challenging. There were also complaints about caliber of teams. Some B teams (registered provincials) entered the C tourney.

GCP diamond location really good- maintenance strong.

* + - 1. U10/U12 feedback is that they are overwhelmed with their 1 home tournament- discussion to evaluate whether we should move tourney to just u14/u16. Give families time to get into association & see how it works in a competitive stream. Idea also to limit volunteer commitment. Just need diamond maintenance not toonie bat or concession. Larry to add some questions on survey regarding Rage tournament. We will make decisions from that feedback.

* + 1. Diamonds and Facilities – Larry Lowe
       1. Will look into fees for games played- discussion on whether we can get rid of our GCP use and can get away with Oriole Park use & WP.
       2. Oriole Park - Spreadsheet done on responsibilities for different builds, city vs our association. Committee already established for oriole park maintenance will review & take into consideration progression through ongoing years & priority. Committee will give feedback to board. The current expectation is that the OP fields are ready by fall so we will have it for Spring start up.
       3. Batting cage discussion- how can we utilize cage to optimize needed time for all teams. An hour/practice time is not enough to manage a team through especially at U16/18 age groups Another issue is that teams are not using cage sometimes when it is linked to their practice time. Other teams may have had ability to use it rather than sitting empty. Ideas to sort how we run the cage next year. May not be linked to a diamond but a separate booking.

1. New Business
   1. Add pub night tickets into registration fee
   2. Coach in Association- terminally ill. Can the Association do anything? Motion to donate $500.00 to the family by Charmen B. Seconded by Crystal Zinken.
   3. U18 A Program- Dan to send out email for feedback on where we want this program to go & steps we can take to retain players and improve our programs at this age level. Dan to send out email to board for thoughts.
   4. Batting Cage- discussion identified earlier in meeting- tabled
   5. Catchers Clinic -Feedback was great. Catcher instructor charged much less than expected. Large interest to increase both pitchers and catchers clinic in fall
2. Next meeting Monday September 18that 7:00 pm
3. Meeting adjourned by Dan Kusk at 10:33 pm