

## Minutes From the Fall DYB Board Meeting in Harriman, TN September 29-30

Attending were State Director Alan Reed; Assistant State Director Aaron Prince; National Directors Tony Brown, Don Rudolph, and James Tidwell; District Directors Philip Dorris and Assistant Ricky, Mike Neisler, Denise Lineberry, Rory Osborne, Marilyn Tidwell, David Conrad, and Robert Puckett; Secretary/Media Morgan Yates

Alan Reed opened the meeting with a follow-up to the Director Training class just completed. James Tidwell led the opening prayer. Aaron Prince put a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as distributed. James Tidwell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alan mentioned that DYB will now be known as Diamond Youth Baseball. Dixie Youth can still be used if the league desires since it will be an affiliate of DYB.

Don Rudolph gave the treasury report. We have \$18,500 in the bank before meeting expenses. Don put a motion on the floor to increase the host fees for District and State tournaments from \$50 to \$75 per team participating to help with the cost of rooms and mileage for the tournaments. Tony Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. Our other receipts are the \$55 state fees that we receive back from DYB National.

Discussion was made about the entry fee for tournaments. Some of the hosts had trouble keeping \$1 bills to make change. Rory Osborne put the motion on the floor to raise the entry fee to \$10 for adults and \$5 for the children 5-12 to help the hosts recoup some of the money spent on the hosting fees. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. This motion passed 9-2. The scholarship fee will continue to come from this fee.

Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to raise the tournament director fee during state tournaments from \$75 to \$100 per day. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tony Brown gave the scholarship report. He suggested that we send money to the scholarship fund in memory of the late Herman Nicholson, who was our state director for several years, before the world series so they can send the family an acknowledgement. Alan Reed put the motion on the floor to donate \$250 to the scholarship fund in memory of Herman Nicholson. James Tidwell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tony said that DYB will be giving 100 two-thousand-dollar scholarships next year.

Don Rudolph reported on new leagues coming into DYB. Marshall County came in 2023. Oliver Springs came in 2023. We have been meeting with Chapel Hill, Eagleville, and Unionville. Other possibilities are Lenoir City and Oak Ridge. We would like to get some of the West Tennessee leagues back. We can not dual franchise DYB and Dizzie Dean.

### State Tournament Reports:

Tony Brown reported on the Class A state tournament in Chester County. The fields were great, and the tournament went well. It was highly competitive.

Don Rudolph reported on the AA state tournament at Decatur County. Despite having 8 inches of rain, they were able to work the fields. The tournament went well with a slight delay for rain.

David Conrad reported on the AAA state tournament at Loudon. The tournament went well despite rain.

Aaron Prince reported on the Ozone state tournament in Springfield. It was a good tournament although we had a shortage of scorekeepers and announcers at times.

#### Appointments:

Alan Reed said Robert Puckett had been filling in as District 8 Director. Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor to appoint Robert Puckett to the position of District 8 Director. David Conrad seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alan Reed said he wanted to retire Marilyn Tidwell from secretary and appoint Morgan Yates as Secretary and Media Specialist. David Conrad put the motion on the floor to appoint Morgan Yates as Secretary and Media Specialist. Robert Puckett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to pay Morgan for her computer, paper, and mileage expenses. Phillip Dorris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### World Series:

Phillip Dorris reported on the AA World Series at Hattiesburg. It was very hot there, but the tournament went well.

Tony Brown reported on the D2 World Series. Tennessee was well represented. Sweetwater won the AAA and Ozone World Series. It was 109 degrees in Louisiana. The tournament went well.

Don Rudolph reported on the D1 World Series in Ruston, Louisiana. He was over the Majors field. There were only 4 states represented. Next year we will be able to take our runner up Ozone team to play in the Majors tournament if the board votes for it. It was very hot, and we had some umpires to go down from heat on the turf.

Regional World Series for Class A was held at Rockwood. This tournament went very well. We will be having it again. It is not yet decided who will host but Tennessee will accept if no one else wants to host. Tri-County won the sportsmanship award.

We purchased the awards this year and all recipients received the same award at every tournament.

Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to take the Division 1 Ozone Runner Up and the Division 2 Ozone Runner Up from the State tournament to play in the Majors World Series. Aaron Prince seconded the motion. Discussion: It will cost extra money for two more sets of shirts, pins, flags, and extra costs on hosts. This passed.

#### Class A Rule Revision:

Don Rudolph put the motion on the floor to add an arc at 10 feet that the ball must pass. This will be in District and State tournament play. Aaron Prince seconded. Motion carried 10-1. **We will add to the playing rules for Class A 1.07 An arc will be placed 10 feet in front of the home plate. The batted ball must cross this line. (Local League Option – Will be used in Tournament play)**

Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor to change the pitching distance in tournament play to 36 feet and thrown overhand. The pitcher must be in contact with the rubber. Denise Lineberry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**We will add to the playing rules for Class A 8.09 The pitcher will throw the ball overhanded from a rubber at 36 feet from home plate while in contact with the rubber. (Local League Option—Will be used in Tournament play)**

Aaron Prince put the motion on the floor for the Class A catcher to wear a protective cup and must be in a squatting position directly behind home plate. Marilyn Tidwell seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

2024 Tournament Format:

Discussion was made about the district tournament play for D1 and D2 and any problems that arose.

Tony Brown put a motion on the floor to separate all district tournaments and play D1 and D2 at the same location. Don Rudolph seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

State Level will have twelve teams in D2 and eight teams in D1. Credentials should be completed by June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Class A will have 16 teams since they are not divided. The district tournament should start by June 13. The state tournament should start June 27<sup>th</sup>. And the World Series starts on July 18.

AA will have 12 D2 and 8 D1 teams. The district tournament should start by June 13. The state tournament starts June 27<sup>th</sup>. The World Series will start July 26<sup>th</sup>.

AAA and Ozone will have 12 D2 and 8 D1 teams. The district tournament starts by June 20<sup>th</sup>. The State AAA tournament starts July 5<sup>th</sup>. The Ozone state tournament starts July 5<sup>th</sup>. The D2 World Series will start July 25. The D1 World Series will start August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

DYB Softball:

Discussion was made regarding the DYB operating a softball program.

Rory Osborne put the motion on the floor to try a softball program in Tennessee. Tony Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-5.

It was decided to find someone to be over softball and use the same age groups as proposed in the rules received from William. Tournament bids will be taken in the spring meeting. Suggested tournaments:

6U and 12 U West region; 8U and 18 U Middle region; 10U and 15 U East region

We will offer a scholarship fund in 2025 with separate funds and the number based on the amounts collected.

BIDS:

Crossville, Harriman, and Loudon presented bids for Class A and AA tournaments on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Harriman won the bid for Class A. 7-5

Crossville won the bid for the AA State tournament. 8-4

Greenbrier was the only one bidding on AAA and was awarded the tournament starting on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne County was the only one bidding on the Ozone tournament and was awarded the tournament starting on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Tournament umpires must be at least 18 years old. Phillip Dorris has agreed to be the state UIC and offer training classes as needed. He will work on a certification test.

We received handouts on the Adopted 2024 DYB Rule & Policy Changes. These can be found on the main DYB website.

Meeting adjourned.