

**P.G. Pony Baseball/Softball
Minutes of Board Meeting
January 25, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m., Bernadette Villarreal presiding.

Present: Nick Hertel, Rich Russo, David Book, Marcia Cody, Bryan Simmons, Bernadette Villarreal, Pete Huller, Randy Karasek, Maria Lucido, Rob Kershner, Sam Buttrey, Jo Crisp, Karen Ceyress, Jim Lowell, Nan Johnston, Crystal Hawes, Don Mothershead, Jeff Odell.

Excused Absences: Joe Moses, Pete Huller, Sal Lucido, Angie Mathews.

Opening Business:

A motion to approve the minutes of December's minutes was made by Book, seconded Simmons, and passed by voice vote.

Nick Hertel was voted in as Pony rep by unanimous voice vote.

I. President's Report

Bernadette reported that equipment locker combinations will be changed; Bryan Simmons will e-mail the new ones to relevant board members.

Bryan will have soon have a price quote for our three Porta-potties (at Robert Down, at the JV field, and at David Ave).

The latest signup numbers are, for baseball: Shetland 53, Pinto 57, Mustang 52, Bronco 48 plus 1 on the waiting list, Pony 22; and, for softball, Pre-rookie 22, Rookie 28, Minors 31, and Majors 14. The total is 327, reflecting receipts of \$26,873 before adding the fees from some of the late signups that are included in the numbers. Waiting lists will be handled by league reps and directors.

Forms (except for a few late ones) have been distributed to the league reps. Bernadette reminded the board that children who live out of out area are eligible to play in the regular season, but not in all-stars. League reps should ensure they see birth certificates where still required; they should then communicate back to Bernadette to update the master list.

Along signup lines, Randy noted that some parents guess too low on shirt sizes. He encouraged reps to pay attention and catch any obvious misstatements.

Bernadette added that league reps need to make sure they get a coach's application and signed codes of ethics for every coach on the field, and every team needs to have both manager and at least one coach with NYSCA certification. Even non-NYSCA helpers need to have an application and code of ethics on file, to protect the league.

Bernadette attended the west regional PONY meeting January 16th at Asilomar. There were 25 items on agenda; she reported on a couple. (i) The organization was very concerned about safety, liability and risk management, and ADA exemptions. It's important that our organization be informed of any players' handicaps ahead of time; the "allergies etc." restrictions need to be available on the sign-up sheet. The PONY organization can provide sign-language interpreters or other helpers and these people can be stationed in the dugout.

(ii) Jim Edwards wants to make sure that all forms are signed, all background checks completed and all rules followed, again to protect the organization.

(iii) There are two new rules of interest. One is a new specification for catcher's helmets; we believe ours to be in compliance. Jeff will check. The second is that players can now be on a travel team and still be eligible for all-stars if the city allows it. Monterey and Carmel continue to prohibit that. We can't act this year, since signups are past, but there was general agreement that this rule will not have much effect for us.

Rich Russo added that Castroville and Watsonville are now in our PONY section. Bernadette has entered our name to host the sectional tournaments. It was noted that there were some complaints about our supplying a World Series pins rather than a patch, which is preferred. Also, in 2008 the Bronco World Series will increase to ten teams.

Randy K. reported on tryouts. These will be February 3rd (9am-2pm) for Mustang and Bronco at George Washington Park. Signups have been nicely staffed with volunteers. Minors and Rookies are scheduled for 9am-1:30pm February 10p; some scheduling difficulties remain. Sal is still rounding up volunteers for softball.

Randy will drag the field on Friday February 2nd, and take care of tables and chairs with Sal's help. Jeff has tryout jerseys ready -- they've been cleaned. He'll deliver them to Randy tomorrow. Tryout will last the usual 45 minutes or so, with each player getting about 15 fly balls, 15 ground balls, and 15 pitches. Randy has prepared a spiral-bound handout with all the players' information for each manager. There was some discussion about whether it would be possible to video the proceedings. The consensus was "no."

II. Web Master: Randy reported that the web site has been busier than usual, indicating perhaps that a certain number of forms have been printed out. The next big update will be right after the draft. Michele will need that information for sponsors; Rich will need that for shirt ordering.

He also pointed out that Field Day is February 24th.

Randy asked if anyone objected to him e-mailing a list of players and teams. Since that information is available on the web and no child's address of telephone number is to be disseminated this plan met with general approval.

III. Web Mistress: Jo Crisp has some sponsor information to pass to Michele. She has not yet updated much of the web site, but this will be done before the seasons starts.

IV. Vice-President's Report: Bryan Simmons reported that the league is signed up to march in the Good Old Days parade. He reminded the board that there will be no throwing of candy this year!

Bryan read the names of people set to manage. A motion to accept, made by Buttrey and seconded by Odell, passed unanimously.

Shetland: Sebok, Vogelpohl, Desaulles
Pinto: Balestreri, Cook, Goedeck, Thompson
Mustang: Book, Buttrey, Champion
Bronco: Huller, Karasek, Miller, Russo
Pony: Odell, Minafo
Pre-rookie: Consiglio, Morgan
Rookie: Donlon, Lowell
Minors: Lucido, Dublett
Majors: Moses

We're still short a few coaches. A few names were proposed and will be contacted.

IV. Softball Director: Maria Lucido reported for Sal, who was at the CCS meeting today. Sal will find out tonight about electricity at Forest Grove. Tryouts are set, through Randy's hard work. As noted before, the Majors, with 14 players, are full.

V. Baseball Director: Rich is going to send Ira the Umpire Guy the letter officially hiring his organization to provide umpires. Rich still has to figure out how many teams we have.

VI. Secretary: Sam received correspondence from Len Chodosh, who operates Central Coast Silkscreen. This company can supply t-shirts, official logowear, and certain pieces of equipment like baseballs. The materials were passed on to Rich as Baseball Director so that he and Jeff can acquire relevant items from the best source.

VII. Treasurer: Karen Ceyress has met with former treasurer Jerry Chyo and received backup disks for software. She will buy QuickBooks Pro for the organization, at a cost of about \$189.90. Bernadette noted that Karen's name needs to be added to the board's Certificate of Deposit.

VIII. Concessions Supplier: Randy noted that we're paying for telephones at the two concession stands. Is there a reason to keep them? Some debate ensued. There is currently no consensus on this issue. He also asked whether we can obtain new soda coolers; ours are old and inefficient. There is some hope that we get Coca-Cola to provide some. Bernadette will talk to her contact at Coca-Cola.

Randy will do no buying until the third week of February. Nothing had been planned for tryouts, but during discussion Randy said that he would make sodas, hot chocolate and

coffee will available GW for tryouts. It was agreed that we should spend no more than \$75 on food for volunteers at baseball tryouts and \$75 for softball.

IX. Concessions Coordinator: David Book reports that an interested party, one of last year's sponsors, is interested in donating a PA system for Arnett Park. David's been looking into the details. There was some question as to how to proceed; apparently the donor has been specific about this item. Marcia may have contacts with electronic/sound people. Other contacts were also mentioned. David will look after this.

Secondly, keys were a challenge last year. People wanted to help with concessions, but David couldn't give out keys. This year he'd like to have a specific list of parents approved ahead of time to whom keys can be distributed. He asked whether this met the the board's approval. Bernadette noted that as long as we have a list somewhere, we can presumably get the keys back. Bryan, as key keeper, approves.

X. Other business:

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Next Meeting: Feb. 22, 2007, 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel E. Buttrey
Secretary