

Minutes of the VB and Membership meeting of 5-24-05
Meeting began 7:03 with a short prayer.

Discussion of volunteers for PPL board. Mark Seibenaller from St. Matthias expressed interest in joining. Strong credentials for grade school sports. Was traveling for work and could not make the meeting tonight.

Introduction of members

Financial report. Bottom line net loss of \$2,540. We have been running a small deficit for past several years. Depleted some cash on hand. VB alone lost approx \$1,700. VB ref fees need to be raised to stay even with other major leagues. Currently at \$16 (non-certified) or \$18 (certified), and we need to go to \$18 and \$20 to remain even. This will necessitate an increase in league fees for VB from \$180 to \$215 per team. Half of this increase will go to refs, and the rest to make the sport close to break even.

Too early to tell what will happen with BB fees. We need to see what other leagues are doing on ref fees. Bob felt that there was likely going to be an increase, but did not know how much.

Forfeit fees going up to \$50 for the first game, \$100 for second, \$150 for third game and every game thereafter. This is for each team, not an entire school. And, it would be per day for volleyball, not per match. Forfeit of a double header counts as one.

Roger went over the important volleyball dates, which were contained in the handouts, a copy of which is available on the website.

Discussion of new divisions, for 5th and 6th grade only: West, South, and Central. Assignment based on geography, rather than school size Should be just as competitive, and will cut down on travel time. Exact division assignments need to be made after the number of teams from all schools is known. Size needs to be somewhere between 8 and 12 teams per division. Based on a roll call vote, all but one school is in favor of trying this for VB next year, 5th and 6th grade only.

Discussion of team splits. Need to take into account coach tendencies, in making assignments. Discussion on what happened on teams that did not split appropriately. There was candid discussion of players and coaches at these meetings with school AD's or BB coordinators and coaches, and there were two schools brought in for discussion: St Gregs and St. Mary's Hales Corners. It should be noted on the St. Greg's, the school recognized a potential problem after three weeks, called the board and relayed that they had no workable solution. A board member did observe both teams on that upcoming weekend, discussed some options, which ultimately proved unworkable.

For each team, the board had individual player and team stats for both teams, every game. The following letters went out to each school.

St. Greg
Dear Bill,

Following your visit of 3/28/05, the PPL board discussed the discrepancy, considering your letter, the followup questions regarding splits, and review of player and team stats. We decided that the only action taken will relate to monitoring next season, and requiring player swaps, if warranted. We will be looking closely at the early scores and results for the 5th and 6th grade teams, and will expect the program to make appropriate adjustments to make all teams evenly divided. In the past, when we encountered similar situations, I believe this was referred to as a “no excuses” sanction. We expect evenly split teams no matter what it takes to achieve them. You indicated that the program would address the coaching lineup for these particular teams, to ensure that the strongest players are not on the same team. You should also consider the differing coaching styles in making the divisions, with a goal toward making the year end records equal.

Please call if you need some further clarification.

St. Mary’s Hales Corners
Dear Barry,

Following coach Megna’s visit of 3/28/05, the PPL board discussed the discrepancy, considering your letter, the followup questions to coach Megna regarding splits, and review of player and team stats. We decided that the only action taken will relate to monitoring next season, and requiring player swaps, if warranted. We will be looking closely at the early scores and results for the 5th and 6th grade teams, and will expect the program to make appropriate adjustments to make all teams evenly divided. In the past, when we encountered similar situations, I believe this was referred to as a “no excuses” sanction. We expect evenly split teams no matter what it takes to achieve them. You should also consider the differing coaching styles in making the divisions, with a goal toward making the year end records equal.

Please call if you need some further clarification.

It should also be noted that OLQP was suspended from the league for next year, forfeit fees of \$775 were imposed. The suspension resulted from them withdrawing teams after schedules were prepared, for the second year in a row.

Forfeit fees were also charged to Thomas Aquinas (6), Divine Mercy (2), St. Charles (2)

