

Jordan Girls Fastpitch Association

January 19th, 2025

Present: Alan Strand, Matt Debeltz, Karen Friary, Emily Dietering, Mike Whisney, Eric Newman, Drew Sinke, Brandon Forar, Katelyn Moriarity, Connie Maresch, Ann Pioske, Lindsey Johnson, Erin Spokas, Kelsey Munson, Joel Munson, Erin Hjelmeland, Stetson Nold

Welcome

Meeting was called to order at 6:03pm

The group reviewed the mission of JGFA as well as the roles of the board members and board leadership.

2024 Season Recap

3-8u teams, 2-10u Teams and 2-12u Teams This past year.

All qualified for state tournaments this year! Outstanding accomplishment this year. We had two state champs. One of the 10u teams and one of the 12u teams.

4 teams participated in National Tournament.

There were 4 teams that participated in the Fall Ball season. They were 2-8u, 1-10u, 1-12u

Fundraising – Tournament and decals.

Decal came out as a soft launch late in 2024. Mike Whisney spoke on this. A decal was created and will be sold in our community. This will help fund the lights for Holzer field. JGFA, the City and JAYBA all partnered together to help finance this. There are two designs, they are \$15 each. Proceeds go directly towards funding the lights.

The Association absorbed the Rockers “Club” team this year. 2 teams total. 1-14u and 1-HS team. Players are mostly local (Jordan, Belle Plaine, TCU, New Prague).

Last year’s Jordan tournament was a success! 44 teams in the tournament. Raised \$13,903.76, increase by about 4k from the previous year. The tournament pays for our expenses and helps offsets costs for National tournaments for teams.

So far have raised \$171 towards the lights, this will continue into 2025.

2024 Financial Recap

\$24,690 balance at the beginning of the year

\$62,295.33 cash in

\$74,526.25 cash out.

Spent more than we brought in. This lowered our balance. Our current balance ye is \$12,459.13

Some items that attributed to this additional loss:

Additional, late gym and field fees from previous years (field and gym rentals came in late). Big investment in equipment and field maintenance (paired with the city). These were items that we hadn’t planned for previously.

Bylaw review

One change in the bylaws was to update the term limits/term lengths. In the past the group removed the term limits as a response to feedback from members. This was short-sighted and we

decided to add term limits back in. It's a 2-year minimum for term limits and up to three years. Can renew after term ends (no term limits)

We also discussed increasing the board membership. Taking on the MN Rockers, it would be a good opportunity to take on more members. Move from 9 members to 13. We are looking to change the minimum to 7 members.

How to handle if a board member resigns. For resignations, upon the resignation of a board member, a new member would be voted on. If an opening becomes available, we would fill the position at that time. We are looking to update that language to say that we'd vote the interim person in at the next board meeting, then that person would fill the original person's term length. (the new person would complete the exiting person's term).

Voting for bylaws

A question was asked on who are eligible to vote at this time.

All members that live in the area and/or have a child in the program are eligible to be voting members.

The first bylaw amendment is to Add 2- and 3-year term limits for all board members. This was motioned by Mike Whisney and seconded by Karen Friary. Motion carried.

The second bylaw change is regarding board membership. The minimum board membership number is 7 members with a maximum of 13. This was motioned by Mike Whisney and seconded by Karen Friary. Motion carried.

The final bylaw amendment was suggested that if a Board member resigns before the end of their term and vacates their board seat, a replacement member will be voted on at the next meeting. That person that is approved will then fill the remaining vacancy of the exiting board member. This was motioned by Mike Whisney and seconded by Karen Friary. Motion carried.

Prospective Board Candidates

Alan Strand, Katelyn Lambrecht, Ann Pioske, Joel Munson, Brandon Forar, Drew Sinke all submitted requests to join the board and are candidates. Several of the candidates expressed why they would like to join and how they would support the mission of the Jordan Girls Fastpitch Association.

Mike Whisney motioned to approve all of the applicants as Board Members. This was seconded by Matt Debeltz. Motion carried.

The group welcomed the new Board Members!

2025 Plan Discussion

We moved from Sports Engine to Team Snap this past fall. The back end management of SE is tough, and we needed something that is more user friendly for both the user and managers.

A question was asked about how families found Team Snap this fall? Most felt it was very similar to the experience with SE. A suggestion was made to maybe provide more information on how the association uses Team Snap.

One individual says that Team Snap loads slower and SE syncs up with calendars better.

We will focus some time on this during the upcoming parent meeting on how best to use Team Snap for the upcoming year.

Field Lights/Parking Update

Holzer is getting lights added for fields 1, 2 and 3. They are also added additional parking spots (adding 48 parking spots) as well. The lights should be done by May (weather depending).

The Association provided a lot of field maintenance (at Holzer and the AC). All new home plates at the Den, field 3 and 4 at the AC. Also, 2nd and 3rd base were realigned too. New Pitching mounds were replaced at all the fields at the AC. Holzer will be tackled in the spring for the same updates.

Fundraising:

The Jordan hosted tournament is our primary fundraiser. We'd like to add a few more fundraising opportunities as well. Some ideas were discussed, including Kwik Trip cards, Gertens, or others. We have not discussed making fundraising this a requirement, as this is our first run with this. We are hoping this will help offset expenses and try fundraising to see how we can keep costs down.

Another option is to host a state qualifier or state tournament. It does take a significant amount of volunteer time when hosting these, but it's an option and provides 'home field' for our teams. Another idea is to have teams do bagging at Cub Foods, Byerly's or others. Another idea is to have teams do concessions (an example was the recent wrestling concessions we completed).

Upcoming Dates:

February 2nd, 2025 Next Meeting. Jordan Tap Room 6pm

Winter Clinics Dates: Winter Clinics begin 1/26 and run for 6 weeks (no clinics 2/9).

Winter tryouts 3/8. Using Flexx Sports. *8u will be evaluated by Board and staff.*

April 8th – Big West Coaches Meeting

Brandon Forar motioned to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mike Whisney. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:46pm