

Gateway Little League
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Board Meeting Minutes



Serving the Hilltowns of
Huntington, Chester, Blandford,
Russell, Montgomery, Middlefield
and Worthington MA.

| Board Members | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| Name & Title | In Attendance | Name & Title | In Attendance |
| Paul Graham - President | X | Pete Balicki - Coach Coordinator | X |
| Jason Ellershaw - VP of Baseball | X | Chris Meyerhoff - Equipment Manager / Safety Officer | X |
| Anna Meyerhoff - VP of Softball | X | Brittney Muise - Fundraising Coordinator | X |
| Alicia Boyer - Information Officer | X | Vacant - Player Agent | |
| Lee-Anne Cronin - Treasurer | X | Vacant - Umpire-in Chief | |
| Brittany Perras - Secretary | X | Vacant - Uniform Coordinator | |

Meeting Date: September 18, 2025

Meeting called to order by Anna Meyerhoff at 6:34PM

Verbal summary from the previous meeting on August 11, 2025 submitted for approval - passed unanimously.

Annual board member nominations were made and passed unanimously for the following two year terms:

Jason Ellershaw as VP of Baseball

Anna Meyerhoff as VP of Softball

Alicia Boyer as Information Officer

Lee-Anne Cronin as Treasurer

Pete Balicki as Coach Coordinator

Chris Meyerhoff as Equipment Manager and Safety Officer

Board Meeting Minutes

| <i>Item</i> | <i>Responsible</i> | <i>Due Date</i> |
|---|--|-----------------|
| Treasury | | |
| The annual <u>Treasury Report</u> was submitted by Lee-Anne. Highlights included that there was a \$6,000 deficit in 2024. Annual revenue was \$15,000 similar to the previous year but expenses had increased by \$10,000 (\$4,000 increase in equipment, \$1,000 increase for additional porta potty, \$1,000 increase for spring clinic and banners, \$2,000 increase in uniforms). Additionally sponsorships were down \$3,000 from the previous year. It was discussed and acknowledged that additional investments were intentionally made to the program that would have a long term impact and the lack of a fundraising coordinator hurt the effort to bring in sponsors. The increased cost to uniforms was also discussed and is summarized later in this report. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| Final <u>reimbursement checks</u> for parents that coached in the spring season need to go out. Anna committed to sending information to Lee-Anne so checks could be cut. | Anna & Lee-Anne | ASAP |
| Field Updates & Maintenance | | |
| <u>Field Restoration</u> is required at Russell prior to next season, infield mix needs to be brought in. Pettis requires new base anchors at minimum. Agreed maintenance to be performed this fall at the end of October / beginning of November. Discussed leveraging local business contacts and offering sponsorships in exchange for reduced pricing / donated materials and services to help fund immediate needs as there will not be time for a grant before the spring season. Anna committed to reaching out to the Russell selectboard to notify them of the project. Jason committed to reaching out to Delta sand and gravel and Westfield state to discuss coordinating a shared order of infield mix, as well as reaching out to local business contacts for transport of the material. Jason also committed to reaching out to White Wolf septic to discuss them becoming a sponsor to decrease added expenses seen this year. Chris committed to reaching out to local contacts for equipment and transport of material. Pete notified the board that Hilltown rental let him know that they would be willing to help with equipment and trailers if needed. Lee-Anne committed to reaching out to the Pettis fund to inquire about them helping fund this project. Brittany committed to creating a google doc that can be shared and edited by the board for project management. | Anna Jason Chris Lee-Anne Brittany | 10/16/25 |
| Uniforms & Equipment | | |

Board Meeting Minutes

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| Reviewed that for <u>fall ball</u> socks and belts were not ordered for returning players and agreed that in the future all players will need new socks. Long sleeves were added this fall and all thought that was a great addition for very little cost. Acknowledged that there was an issue of sizing with shirts for softball. Also noted that in the spring both U8 baseball teams had identical jerseys and that was confusing when they played each other so recommended ordering different colors in the future. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| Addressed the <u>increased cost</u> of uniforms this year (\$2,000) and the need to possibly increase the budget to \$5,000 for the coming year. Discussed this is partially due to the high shipping cost for players that register late. Possibly order a few extra each season, or charge a fee for late registration to cover the extra shipping cost. Also discussed forming a relationship with a local print shop as a sponsor like GYAA has, or utilizing unprinted shirts for late registrations. Also explored the possibility of only having T-ball players keep their jerseys and having older players get new undershirts and utilize nicer quality vests that would be returned and reused each season. Discussed requiring 5 year sponsorships to be on uniforms, or the possibility of utilizing sponsorship patches that could be changed out annually. All agreed that this project could not be initiated until we get a uniform coordinator. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| Registration / Coaches & Teams | | |
| <u>Fall Ball</u> is going very well, all positive reports on 10/12U softball, 14/16U softball, and minors baseball. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| The possibility of <u>winter clinics</u> was briefly discussed and Jason committed to reaching out to Westfield State to inquire. | Jason | 01/01/26 |
| Fundraising | | |
| Discussed possible <u>fundraising opportunities / events</u> for the coming year. We would like to set up a venmo account, but not sure how to go about it. No one specifically committed to taking on this task so will discuss further at a later meeting. Ideas for events included hosting a trivia night, putting together a cash/prize raffle calendar, and having 50/50 raffles at home games. It was also brought up that we should attend community and school events to increase GLL's visibility and separate ourselves from GYAA. A glove drive was discussed and the possibility of having a table at the school open houses, winter craft fair, and local fall festivals. Alicia committed to reaching out to the town of Huntington regarding a glove drive and Littleville | Alicia | 10/5/25 |

Board Meeting Minutes

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| about getting a table for the winter craft fair | | |
| Umpire | | |
| The interest in setting up an <u>umpire training / mentorship</u> with Tony was brought up. We discussed how older players could develop their umpire skills and while it would increase our umpire cost per game it would be a great investment in our players and allow for both plate and field umpires during our games. No one specifically committed to any action at this time, therefore this will be brought up again closer to the spring season. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| New Business | | |
| An incident of <u>inappropriate fan behavior</u> at a recent softball game was discussed. It was confirmed that it was addressed in real time and there were no repeat issues. | No follow-up required | N/A |
| Alicia brought up that she had received a <u>recall notice</u> on some of the small toys that were given out at the end of the year celebration. It was discussed as to what the best course of action was, and Alicia committed to sending out an email to parents notifying them of the recall notice. | Alicia | 10/16/25 |
| Brittany committed to creating a <u>shared google calendar</u> to help the board plan for annual tasks and to share the google drive with Brittney to access and save fundraising information. | Brittany | 10/16/25 |

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:02PM.

*Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday **October 16, 2025 at 7:00PM** to be held online via Zoom.*