**Vision:** Most admired girls fastpitch club in the upper Midwest.

**Mission:** We provide an uncompromising commitment to developing players on and off the field and knowing that the quality of our coaches and the satisfaction of our teams and families is paramount.

**MINUTES**

**August 7, 2022**

1. **Call to Order**

Amy Kimbler called to order the August meeting of the Minnesota Vortex/A’s Board at 8:31 p.m. on Sunday, August 7. This meeting was held virtually.

1. **Roll Call**

Board members present: Dan Maus, Rich Gross, Steve Bartz, Amy Kimbler, Becky Smith, Mike Carter, Jen Arends

Guest present: Morgan Garbrecht

1. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**
* Dan Maus made the motion to approve the July meeting minutes.
* Mike seconded.
* All board members in attendance approved the July minutes.
* Amy will post the minutes to the new website.
1. **Financial Update**

The committee reviewed the budget report as presented by Rich Gross.

* The summer-only players this summer resulted in a 12K loss in revenue.
* Travel costs for coaches doubled this year in comparison to last year, from 24K to almost 50K. Rich suggested each team knows they have a designated amount for travel and let them know their team will need to fundraise if their travel will exceed that amount. Consider having each team do two out of town tournaments during the season.
* Tryouts – final estimate still to be determined after field rental and receipts for food are submitted.
* Coaches and evaluators were paid for tryouts this year. Some coaches and evaluators accepted the money and others donated it back.
* Rich will work with CPA to prepare the state and federal financials.
* Dan made the motion to approve the finances as provided and discussed at the meeting.
* Steve seconded.
* All board members in attendance approved.
* Motion passed.
1. **Old Business**

**Loretto Fields and Equipment** - Mike and Becky will be meeting soon to start planning for fall improvements. We will be receiving a $75K grant to do dugout improvements. Some work may begin this fall.

**Uniforms and Apparel** (information updated after board meeting) - On Wednesday, August 10, Jen Arends spoke with Joal (McAllister Marketing). The MN Vortex/A’s will purchase the player jerseys and Lexi tournament volunteer shirts through McAllister Marketing and will purchase the coach and fan apparel through 10K.

**Player/Parent Surveys** - Received 53 responses (127 registered at start of season; 42% response rate). Becky will send the results to the board for review.

1. **New Business**

**Scholarships** – From the net profits of the Lexi tournament (about $25K), Dan proposed the organization move 20% of those profits into the scholarship fund.

* Jen made the motion to moving $5K from the Lexi tournament profits to the scholarship fund.
* Dan seconded the motion.
* All board members in attendance approved.
* Motion passed.

**Financial Aid** – Mike has heard from one player looking for financial assistance. There is one returning player that may also have need. In 2021, the board approved 6K that was spread out and not completely used in full. $4,600 was used in financial aid. Mike is looking for the board’s recommendation.

* Dan made the motion to approve $6K to be set aside for financial aid assistance for Mike to use as appropriate for need-based scholarships.
* Jen seconded.
* All board members in attendance approved.
* Motion passed.

**New Website** - Becky reported the new website is up and functioning. Great work to Becky and the League Apps team to get the site up and running. It looks fantastic!

**Kick Off Meeting** – **Monday, August 15 from 6-8 PM at the Loretto fields**. Plan to start the meeting at 6:30 PM. Becky will edit the slide deck. Mike, Dan, Rich, and Becky are the presenters. Nicole Clapp will also present on the uniforms and apparel. Jen will purchase food for the evening. Mike and Becky will talk with the coaches before the kick off meeting. Will plan to hold a virtual call a few days before.

**Schedule Lexi Tournament Wrap-up Meeting** -Amy will schedule with the Lexi planning group

**Tryouts** - Pre-planning went very well. Will schedule a debrief meeting later in August or September.

1. **Open Discussion Items**

Mike: Will need to move fast working with coaches to schedule practices and tournaments for the fall. The Jack Thibault tournament – September 17. Fall State dates are September 30, October 1 and 2.

1. **Next Meeting** - Thursday, September 22 in person (location TBD)
2. **Closing**
* Mike made the motion to conclude the meeting.
* Jen seconded.
* All board members in attendance approved.
* Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 PM.