

Hart High Baseball Dugout Club Meeting Minutes

Date: December 13, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Coach's Classroom - T209

Attendees:

- Jim Ozella - Head Coach
- Steve Downs - President
- Shawn Damiani - Treasurer
- Koi Howard - Secretary
- Parents of Hart Players

I. Call to Order: Steve called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Minutes from the last meeting were approved by Jodi, with a second from Mike.

II. Committee Business:

- a. Media Guide:** Jodi reported that the Media Guide is well under way. She thanked those who have participated already. The participation level on teams are as follows: 50% for Frosh, 86% for JV and 62% for Varsity, though she is hoping for 100%. A simple \$25 personal message counts so that would be a good way for all to be included. There has been a time extension for turning in forms, ads and tributes; the due date is now December 22nd. Please be mindful of the sizes on the order form and contact her (hartbaseballmediaguide@gmail.com) with questions or to turn in final submissions. So far, \$16,250 has been raised. The cost for printing with Jodi and Steve is around \$5,000, though in the past it has cost about \$7,800 for the layout. They are glad to be able to keep the expense lower for the program. This is one of our biggest fundraisers for the year so they appreciate everyone who has participated. Thanks to Jodi and Steve for all of their time and hard work to put the guide together. Thanks too to Chris McCarty for taking over the Media Guide for next year.
- b. Fundraising:** Julie couldn't be here this evening so Jeff reported on her behalf. January includes the Meet the Coaches Night and our Yard Sign kick-off. This is a fun fundraiser and keepsake for the boys. January is also Super Bowl Square time, but is run separately through parents. Let Jeff know if you'd like to help with that. Bingo Night will be on February 4th at the Boys and Girls Club, with the Alumni Game on the 5th. We're hoping for approximately 150 people to attend; sign-ups and payment will be online for the event. Look out for an email with information and a link. A taco truck will serve dinner. We'll be holding a Silent Auction so it would be helpful for each team to come up with donations and prizes. We also need plenty of volunteers for set-up, the check-in table, dinner, drinks, break-down, etc. Volunteers will also be needed at the Alumni Game the following day. Please be ready to chip in and help where you can. There will be a Restaurant Night at Firehouse Subs in March and the Cornhole Tournament will take place in April. Thanks so much to Julie and Jeff for their efforts to organize such fun fundraising events.
- c. Apparel:** Diana has placed orders with the hope that the new apparel, bags and helmets will arrive by Christmas. She is continually checking to see if they will make it in by the holidays, but can't promise anything with this company. Steve and Diana are considering switching vendors and going with a local company next year. Thanks so much to Diana for organizing all the apparel for our teams.
- d. Canteen:** Kim is unable to be here this evening, but Steve reminded us that she needs each family to continue to donate water, sodas or gatorade. Donations can be brought to the canteen during practices or games. Please volunteer on Sign-Up Genius for a shift. Manning the canteen is fun and simple with instructions posted on the fridge to keep things easy and organized. Students can volunteer and earn service hours for their time. You can also volunteer to offer a special menu item to sell like donuts or muffins, or grill hot dogs and hamburgers with the canteen's equipment that is provided on-site. Thanks to Kim for all of her work running our canteen.
- e. Social Media:** Kerrie keeps our social media platforms updated. We are on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. Our hashtag is #harthighbaseball. Please join in and feel free to share pics and highlights from the games to post. Thanks to Kerrie for keeping us up-to-date via social media.

f. **Website:** Thanks so much to Ben for volunteering to be our Website Chair. He has updated the calendar and is adding links and addresses to the game information. He's working on transitioning our site to a Google site that is free, which will save us money. He'll also help with social media integration. Check out our link at <http://harthighbaseball.com/>.

g. **Calendar of Events:**

1. **Meet the Coaches Night** - Tuesday, January 31 (Thanks to the Privett's for hosting!)
2. **Bingo Night Fundraiser** - Saturday, February 4
3. **Alumni Game** - Sunday, February 5
4. **Dugout Club Meetings** - (Tuesdays) January 17; February 14; March 14; April 11 and May 16

III. **Treasurer's Report:** Shawn brought in a detailed report of each month's earnings and expenses from October to December. Highlights of the report included umpire fees of \$716 and a generous donation from Coach O's family of \$230 in November. \$7,600 was raised from our recent popcorn sales. Our balance as of yesterday is \$12,053. We should continue to keep in mind that our annual operating budget is approximately \$75,000 so the goal is to raise that amount or more each year through our fundraising efforts. Shawn's report is an important reminder to participate as much as possible in each fundraiser to keep the program going. Thanks to Shawn for keeping track of our finances.

IV. **Coach's Update:** Coach O said he had both good and bad news to report. The good news is that Hart alumni and MLB player Tyler Glasnow has an account with New Balance. The company just donated \$2,500 to the program and they're working on getting new shoes for the Varsity players. Tyler is a positive force and supporter of our program and we're really proud of him. The bad news is that a district policy is challenging our plans to stay overnight for the Varsity games in San Diego. Apparently, we are one player over the limit to be allowed to take the trip as planned. We may need the players to ride on a bus instead of letting parents drive them. Shawn and Steve interjected that the Dugout Club will be financially responsible for the bus expense if it comes to that. Parents asked if we can request to drive our own sons and Coach said there is a form for that allowance on the trip after the game. The issue will continue to be discussed to see if we can keep our reservations and intended plan for an overnight stay, but we may have to prepare for alterations depending on the district's decision. Information will be forthcoming on this as we get word. It's officially winter so come prepared for cold weather to watch our upcoming games. We have a Thursday Varsity game at Saugus. Each team is playing this weekend. During the holidays, the field will be open two days per week for 3-hour workouts. If it rains, the workouts can be moved inside to the weight room. The players have been dedicated to their morning workouts and they're stronger and doing better on their running as a result. Please encourage your students to make a final push to do well on finals before the break; these are transcript grades. After the break, we are set to play a challenging schedule. It's a Hart tradition to play the best teams we can play. That's why Coach wanted to do the Rancho Bernardo deal because they were state finalists last year. They beat Torrance, a favorite in winter ball, and he's known the coach for years. Saturday's teams are in the top five in our division, so they should be challenging games. Three games each for JV and Varsity are scheduled for the Martin Luther King holiday weekend. Have your sons check Google Classroom for their practice and game schedules as that is an easier way to communicate with the players. Coach thanked us for all of our support. Thanks from all of us to Coach O and his coaching staff for all they do for our boys!

V. **New Business:** There is a need for help with the year-end video. The student who helped last year is now at Cal Arts and can't attend the games to film. Jeff suggested approaching Mr. Howard, the school's video production teacher, for a possible replacement. Last year's student did offer to help edit this year's video if someone else can film. If anyone would like to volunteer for this or knows someone who could help, please contact Steve. Finally, thanks to the Team Reps who should have each parent's contact information for communication: Patti Rhodes (Frosh), Kimmie Frithsmith (JV) and Trisha Cooper (Varsity). Thanks for attending and for your continued support of Hart Baseball.

VI. **Next Meeting Date:** January 17th at 7:00 p.m.

VII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.