



## WAUSEON RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

### Wauseon Recreation Department

765 East Linfoot Street, Wauseon, OH 43567

Wauseon Recreation Association (WRA) Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 29th, 2026

Location: Wauseon City Hall

Attendance: Present: Jason Blonstein, Dana Frost, Chris Hannon, Phil Kessler, Brock Nagel, Matt Menetti, Heather Galbraith, Hugo Barajas

#### 1. Call to Order & Minutes

- Meeting called to order.
- Motion: Approve minutes from February 2.
- Result: Motion carried, minutes approved.

---

#### 2. Financial Report

- Checking balance: \$63,001.74.
- After subtracting program obligations, effective available balance approx. \$28,380–\$28,384.
- Separate baseball account: approx. \$3,200+.
- \$6,500 in sponsorship checks currently held (not yet deposited).

#### Discussion / Decisions

- Sponsorship checks:
  - Donors are asking when checks will clear.
  - Decision: Deposit \$6,500 into the current checking account immediately.
- CD:
  - Existing CD appears to be matured and not earning interest; bank to confirm.
- Investment options:
  - High-yield savings (online)  $\approx$  4% for long-term facility funds.
  - Money market (F&M)  $\approx$  1.5% but allows checks/debit for operating needs.

#### Action Items

- Matt – Deposit \$6,500 sponsorship checks.
- Dana & Brock – After April 15, meet with bank to:
  - Confirm CD maturity and roll into better-yield product.
  - Open appropriate high-yield and/or money market account(s) for sponsorship/donation funds while leaving adequate operating cash.

---

#### 3. Program Updates

##### 3.1 Soccer

- Spring travel soccer:
  - 5 teams; April–May season (8 games).
  - Each coach sets own practice schedule; WRA does not control practice times.

##### 3.2 Baseball

- Travel:
  - All travel teams formed; pony team has already played.
  - Other travel teams currently practicing; games begin around 2nd week of May.
- Rec:
  - Registration closed.
  - Coaches' meeting Tuesday to form 1st–2nd grade rec (rookie) teams and address low numbers.
  - T-ball: 69 players, likely 8 teams.

##### 3.3 Softball

- 14U: ~19 girls, 3 coaches. Will practice and schedule scrimmages; no formal league this year.
- 8U, 10U: Evaluations complete, two balanced teams per age.
- 12U:
  - 19 girls total; league has Upper and Lower divisions.
  - Plan:
    - Upper: core group of ~8–9 advanced players.
    - Lower: remaining 10–11 players.
    - 3–4 players from Lower rotate up each Upper game to fill roster and gain experience.



## WAUSEON RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

### Wauseon Recreation Department

765 East Linfoot Street, Wauseon, OH 43567

- League allows Lower players to play up, but not Upper down.
- Goal in schedule meeting: avoid same-night games for Upper/Lower 12U.

#### Softball Leadership

- With prior softball lead resigned, Chris Hannon will act as liaison to softball (Sabrina) and help coordinate with baseball processes.

#### Action Item

- Chris – Serve as softball liaison and support the softball committee.

---

#### 4. Multi-Sport Athletes / Scheduling Conflicts

##### Issue

- Ongoing conflicts between spring soccer and baseball (and other sports like track, cross country).
- Example raised: Casey Nelson seeking guidance for athletes doing both sports.

##### Discussion (summary)

- Multi-sport participation is encouraged but requires:
  - Clear communication between parents and all coaches.
  - Understanding that missed practices can affect playing time.
- Consensus:
  - WRA should not force kids to “declare” a primary sport at this age.
  - Subcommittees (soccer, baseball, etc.) should coordinate, not work in silos.

##### Motions / Decisions

###### 1. Multi-Sport Board Policy Draft

- Motion: Assign Phil Kessler to draft a Board policy on multi-sport athletes (emphasizing communication and allowing playing-time consequences based on attendance; no sport hierarchy).
- Result: Motion carried.

###### 2. Parents’ Code of Conduct – Multi-Sport Language

- Motion: Add to RecDesk parent Code of Conduct that if a child is registered for two sports in the same season, parents must:
  - Notify both coaches.
  - Share schedules and maintain ongoing communication.
- Result: Motion carried.

##### Action Items

- Phil – Draft multi-sport policy for Board review.
- Dana – Add multi-sport language to Parents’ Code of Conduct in RecDesk.

---

#### 5. 8U Travel Baseball

##### Current Situation

- Only 8 players registered for 8U travel.
- Persistent historical difficulty fielding full 8U travel rosters and finding appropriate league play.

##### Discussion

- Concerns about:
  - Level and consistency of competition.
  - Pressure on very young players.
  - Large annual effort to recruit marginally interested players.
- General support for:
  - Using rec (rookie) as main development platform at this age.
  - Considering future travel starting at 9U or 10U in line with existing league structure.

##### Decision – This Season

- No 8U travel team this year.
- The 8 travel-registered 8U players will be absorbed into 1st–2nd grade rec (rookie) teams.
- Rookie league expected to have ~35 players (about 3 teams).
- Specific team structure to be finalized at Tuesday coaches’ meeting.

##### Action Item

- Matt – Place the 8 former 8U travel players into rookie rec teams and finalize rookie rosters at Tuesday’s meeting.

---

#### 6. Sexual Abuse & Molestation Policy



## WAUSEON RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

### Wauseon Recreation Department

765 East Linfoot Street, Wauseon, OH 43567

#### Purpose

- Required by insurance; establishes WRA's formal stance and procedures.

#### Key Elements (as adopted)

- Zero tolerance for sexual abuse/molestation; immediate removal and potential criminal action.
- Annual background checks required for:
  - All coaches and assistants.
  - Regular volunteers with direct youth contact.
  - Policy language to be clarified to include appropriate board/committee members.
- Background checks include national criminal search and National Sex Offender Registry.
- "Rule of Two": no one-on-one adult/minor interaction (other than parent/child); must be observable and interruptible.
- Clear mandatory reporting to Wauseon Police and WRA leadership; accused individuals suspended during investigation.
- Annual abuse-awareness training (SafeSport or equivalent) for coaches; parent resources provided; non-retaliation clause included.

#### Motion / Result

- Motion: Approve Sexual Abuse & Molestation Policy (with minor wording edits to clarify coverage of board/committee as needed).
- Result: Motion carried.

#### Action Items

- Brock –
  - Refine wording to clearly include appropriate board/committee roles.
  - Build tracking (spreadsheet) for background checks and prevention training completion.

---

#### 7. Concussion Policy

##### Need

- WRA lacked a unified concussion policy across sports; needed for compliance and safety.

##### Policy Summary

- All head and assistant coaches must complete state-approved concussion training (NFHS or similar) every 3 years; certificates kept on file.
- Any athlete with suspected concussion must be removed immediately; no same-day return to play.
- Parents must be notified and provided the Ohio Department of Health concussion information sheet.
- Return-to-play requires written clearance from a licensed physician or authorized healthcare provider.
- After clearance, athlete follows a stepwise progression (light exercise, non-contact, full contact) under medical direction, not solely coach discretion.

##### Motion / Result

- Motion: Approve Concussion Policy, with language clarifying that return-to-play progression follows medical guidance.
- Result: Motion carried.

---

#### 8. Insurance Overview

- Broker identified a policy that would cover all WRA-registered participants, including:
  - Wrestling (Tomahawk Club), track camp, Wahoo Swim & Dive, etc.
- Estimated cost: approx. \$11,000 per year, or about \$7.50 per participant registration (based on ~1,400 registrations, including duplicates).

---

#### 9. Compliance Tracking

##### Action Item

- Brock – Create and maintain a compliance spreadsheet for all coaches/volunteers listing:
  - Background check dates.
  - Abuse-awareness training dates.
  - Concussion training dates.
  - Track required renewal intervals and maintain certificates.

---

#### 10. Adjournment

- With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.
- Next meeting April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

---

Submitted  
Brock Nagel

by: