

Athletic Committee Meeting  
December 13, 2011 – 1:00pm  
Homewood-Flossmoor Park District

I. In Attendance:

- a. Keith Jones – Homewood Flossmoor Park District
- b. Stephanie McDonald – Oak Forest Park District
- c. John Keenan – Frankfort Square Park District
- d. Eric Lawhead – Village of Lyons
- e. Russ Litko – Oak Lawn Park District
- f. Matt Russian – Pleasant Dale Park District
- g. Duane Smith – Mokena Park District
- h. Joe Smith – Worth Park District
- i. Scott Tierney– Frankfort Park District
- j. Jay Allen – Chicago Convention & Visitor’s Bureau
- k. Jennifer Yuska – Midlothian Park District
- l. Ryan Sparrow – Hershey Track & Field/Palos Heights Park District

II. Hershey Track & Field

Regional Director, Ryan Sparrow, spoke about the Hershey’s Track and Field Games. He stated it’s a one day event free to the public and can be as extravagant or as simple as you choose to make it. Local meets need to be held April 16 – June 10. NRPA provides an activation kit to help keep the start up cost down for new local meets. All that place 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the local level qualify for the state meet which will be held at Memorial Stadium in Joliet this year.

III. Evaluating Sports Programs

A discussion started by going around the table telling how different parks evaluate their programs. Some parks stated they hand them out on the last day of the program and have a box in their facility for returning them. Other park districts utilize survey monkey online. Homewood-Flossmoor has a committee that calls on programs four times each year. There was a mixed response from each park as to the amount of response they get.

IV. Softball Leagues

A lengthy discussion ensued upon the problems of making up rainouts. The fall leagues seemed to have particularly run into a problem with this. Frankfort has a policy that rainouts are at the discretion of the supervisor while Worth & Romeoville make their games up on Saturdays. The discussion then led to whether park districts allow teams to make partial payments. Some park districts have had teams that did not follow through with the payment. Some park districts allot for a deposit and then forfeit games if the fee is not paid by the timeline established. Others only take the full fee. Finally, the issue of teams using illegal bats arose. Midlothian said last season they had a person get injured due to this issue. The hurdle many of the park districts are coming into

is the fact that the tester is too expensive to purchase. There was discussion as to the possibility of splitting the cost.

V. Host Locations & Speakers – Future meetings  
Feb. 16 – Village of Lyons – 1pm

VI. Open Forum  
Eric Lawhead and Joe Smith met with the Cubs and White Sox on behalf of IPRA Athletic Committee for the purpose of purchasing group tickets. Tickets are available for the Cubs for the Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> game at 1:20 vs. the New York Mets. The White Sox game is on Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:05 vs. the Minnesota Twins. For more information contact Eric or Joe.

Stephanie from Oak Forest was looking into running a Girl's on the Run program and asked if anyone had worked with them or had looked into them, but no one had.

Jen from Midlothian stated that you can now sign up for Pitch, Hit and Run.

VII. Adjournment – 3:15pm