



Athletic Committee Meeting - MINUTES
Monday, October 18, 2021

1. Attendance:

- 1) Keith Blomberg – New Lenox Community Park District
- 2) Charles Somerville – Alsip Park District
- 3) Eric Sloyan – Palos Heights Park and Recreation Department
- 4) Tyler LeGrand – Pleasant Dale Park District
- 5) Maurice Sullivan – Frankfort Park District

2. Topics of Discussion:

1) Review of Fall programs' successes & conflicts

- i. What went well and what didn't?

A lot of agencies Fall leagues have either ended or are ending soon. A common theme everyone had conflicts with was staffing and more specifically, referees. Registration numbers were great across the board though. Palos Heights and Frankfort will be starting their indoor Soccer and Flag Football Leagues soon and Alsip has had a lot of success with their indoor volleyball and gymnastics programs.

2) Winter/Spring programs

- i. What new programs are you looking to offer this Winter/Spring?

Palos Heights will be starting a new Nerf War program. This program has been very successful at other agencies including Frankfort and Pleasant Dale. Alsip is preparing for some new programming with bowling. Some great ideas with a combined Adult/Youth League Bowl night and a Senior Morning Bowl with coffee. New Lenox is trying to run a High School Flag Football Tournament. New Lenox has had great success with the 7th & 8th grade tournament, so they have high hopes to extend it to the High School level.

3) Youth Athletic Leagues

- i. League Layout, Creating teams, Training Staff & Coaches, League Evaluations

We discussed the pros and cons for using contracted referees vs using in-house referees for youth leagues. Contracted referees take a lot of the work from you, but you do not have any control over their staffing. With in-house referees, you have control over their training and know their capabilities. We also discussed how do you evaluate youth leagues. All agencies send out an email at the end of the year with a survey. New Lenox sends out separate emails to the coaches and to the parents to get a different point of view from the league. Many agencies still use a "buddy" referral system within their league. This can create a lot of headaches when creating the teams but the parents do appreciate being able to make the accommodation.

4) SSPRPA Esports Co-op program

We discussed the format for the upcoming Co-op Esports program. A meeting will be scheduled next month to iron out the details.

3. Next Meeting: Monday, November 15, 2021 @ 11AM