

# BOYS OF BASEBALL - NATIONAL TRAVEL TEAM

## 2008 Annual Board of Directors and Coaches Meetings Minutes

March 7, 2008  
Joe & Breck Wheeler Home  
Nashville, Tennessee

### Board of Directors Attendees

Steve Cosgrove  
Joe Wheeler  
Bryan Gobbell  
John Starling

### Coaches Meeting Attendees

Steve Cosgrove  
Joe & Breck Wheeler  
Bob & Elizabeth Hoover  
Bryan & Cole Gobbell  
Chris Mercado  
Albert & Nancy Woodard  
Matt & Martha Gorham  
John Penn

These were the second annual meetings conducted (since our first in 1998) at a site other than in Auburn, Alabama, homebase for BOB-NTT...again, proved that this decision was a great one for enabling local participation of our BOB-NTT constituency. We will continue to move our annual meetings around. As a matter of fact, the next several years' meetings are set with hosts already in place. **Joe and Breck Wheeler opened their home, complete with bountiful hospitality, warmth, and friendship...** splendid dinner catering provided by *The Loveless Cafe'*, as arranged through Steve's good long-time friend (and co-owner of *The Loveless Cafe'*), Thomas Morales.

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## Key Principles and Ideals of BOB-NTT:

**CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT** - continues to evolve and grow. Every participant (player, family, coach) in BOB-NTT activities is required to review, sign, fully support, and strictly adhere to this statement of principles.

### BOB-NTT Coaches' Golden Rule

DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOUR CHILD.

**Player participation-** participation in tournament opportunities requires prior and on-going attendance at BOB-NTT instructional activities (and, to participate with our Cooperstown Dreams Park teams, when at all feasible, players/families must participate with scheduled CDP tryout sessions)...this is ABSOLUTELY MANDATORY.

**Exemplary Character** - of all BOB-NTT players, coaches, families, and friends

**Help Build The Program-**

- \*Participation with the instructional activities...taking constructive action and initiative.
- \*Growth through creating relationships...but, PLEASE DO NOT DIRECT PEOPLE TO “call Steve”, rather direct them to the website to READ/REVIEW THOROUGHLY, suggest that they attend instructional activities, and, then apply accordingly.
- \*Use of the website for information. See FAQ below (extracted from website).

**Q:** What is needed and wanted from BOB-NTT players, families, and coaches?

**A:** Several things: First, a clear understanding of what the **BOYS OF BASEBALL - NATIONAL TRAVEL TEAM** stands for; full support of our [CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT](#); **ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN BOTH INSTRUCTIONAL AND TOURNAMENT ACTIVITIES... *it is not our program plan to have players, families and coaches just show up at tournament sites to play*...**it is critical that everyone associated with our overall program **HELP BUILD THE PROGRAM** (e.g., showing up and participating with our instructional activities, solicit tax-deductible contributions, identify quality players/families who can fit with our standards and directions, and support the development, enjoyment, and success of everyone associated with the BOB-NTT). And, lastly, a steadfast commitment to a first-class presence in all that we do, both on and off the baseball fields.

- \***Access-** to instructional activities and age-group tournaments regardless of family ability to pay. This is always handled in a tactful and confidential manner.
- \***Protection-** physical, emotional, spiritual protection of all at all times.
- \***Leave Every Situation And Each Person In Better Shape Than We Found Them (no exceptions).**

**One Strike Rule**

Any of the following is considered inexcusable by a player, coach, family member, or friend associated with the BOB-NTT:

- \*3D’s (Disrespect, Demeaning, or Discouraging...of anyone)
- \*Abandonment of a player/team at any time...in any manner...for any reason
- \*CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT violation
- \*Profanity or top-of-the-lungs screaming in negative fashion...”making a scene”
- \*Any other form of unacceptable behavior...zero tolerance

**Current Promotions**

2008 Planned Events

- \*14-16 age group tournaments are scheduled and shown on the website...others likely.
- \*50+ instructional activities per year...the instructional and tournament schedules virtually fill the 2008 calendar.

**Financial Review**

In Jerry Mattson's absence, Steve Cosgrove reviewed the organization's financial situation through December 2007.... Jerry Mattson is a lawyer and CPA with the respected law firm of Haygood, Cleveland, Pierce, Mattson & Thompson, LLP.

\*BOB-NTT was granted its five-year IRS continuation (through 2008) for the [501©(3)] tax exempt not-for-profit status(required paperwork for the next five years 2008-2013 is already in the works). The organization is a *legitimate tax-deductible qualified not-for-profit, charitable and educational youth development publicly-supported organization*. The first five years of such IRS designation determine if organizations qualify to continue as IRS tax-exempt. Steve and Jerry Mattson have worked diligently together to ensure that the organization's IRS status would continue, as it has.

\*BOB - NTT is an *educational, charitable publicly-supported youth development organization which allows for tax-deductible contributions*.

\***Concerted effort continues to be devoted to creating financial solvency**. All bills have been paid, and/or are being resolved in a timely and appropriate manner... no debt collectors are knocking on BOB-NTT door!

\*BOB-NTT has expanded in all organizational aspects each year.

\*Need for a viable BOB-NTT Finance Committee to help guide proactive fundraising.

### **Uniforms**

\*We will continue the policy begun in 2004 of players providing **their own white, belt-loop pants, black socks, and black belt** at all tournaments...at Cooperstown Dreams Park (solid white pants to be brought to CDP by players)...all other uniform items provided.

\*Hats, T-shirts and/or long-sleeve shirts, and three jerseys (teal, white, and black) will continue to be team-provided to players.

\*Always be fully and properly suited up before arriving at field...remain so whenever in public!

### **Cell phones, beepers, pagers, and tobacco**

Not to be carried or used by any player or coach once at the field ...only cell phone exceptions: medical doctor or police officer coaching with BOB-NTT.

### **Instructional activities and tournaments**

\*Growth of the baseball schools and CDP TRYOUTS are of critical importance.

\*Indoor backups for inclement weather are essential, as we cannot afford to have on-site cancellations.

\*Broad KEY LOCAL CONTACT activity is critical to ensure successful and well-attended instruction.

\*Efforts continue to add schools in Illinois, Texas, Alaska, New Hampshire, Minnesota, and California

### **Annual Dinner and Meeting**

\*There will be a \$35 cost for coaches attending the annual dinner and meeting. The nature of this annual event will always be to meet one another, and to show appreciation

to the coaches, families, players, and friends of the BOB-NTT...all the while discussing BOB-NTT.

\*ANNUAL COACHES & PARENTS DINNER AND MEETING...what we call it!

**Annual Awards**

- Annual Coaches Awards (BOB-NTT HS senior players...see website list)
- Outstanding Service Awards...(parents/friends...created in 2007)

**LOTS TO BE THANKFUL FOR!**

\*Reached a total of 291 age-group tournaments participated in since program inception (July 1, 1995)

\*Continued expansion and growth of instructional activities

\*Addition of many quality players, families, coaches, and friends

\*LOTS OF HIGHS IN LOTS OF WAYS (see testimonials)

**Future Annual Meetings & Dinner**

February 6, 2009

Wally & Betsy Lubanski Hosts

Collegeville, PA

March, 2010

Carlos & Susana Guzman Hosts

Miramar, FL

January, 2011

Steve & Sheree Cosgrove Hosts

Auburn, AL

**Adjournment**