

BYA PRIDE

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Third Time's the Charm

by David Otero

The third quarter membership meeting was a success. The President started the meeting off by presenting the state of the organization to the 20 members in attendance. That is more than the previous two meetings combined. The meeting had lots of energy and was filled with many questions. One part of the meeting that had everyone's attention was the topic of the girl's programs. We have seen the numbers of registered girls in sports dwindle down drastically, especially here at the BYA. This year we had a heavy focus on rebuilding the girls programs and our efforts were successful. We had an increased number of registered girls in our softball program and a fantastic showing in our Cheerleading program. Basketball registration will start soon and we feel the trend will continue, especially with the flyers hitting the schools early in the year.

The meeting ended with a recap of this year's achievements by the Board of Directors. One of our main focuses was to establish structure within the organization, which was accomplished. We were able to operate the baseball and softball program in the black for the first time in several years. That was only possible because their adopted budgets were executed and they followed the purchasing guidelines. The football program is under the same guidelines albeit they started off in the red. With their proposed budget, fundraising plans, and with a full execution of both, they too should be able to operate in the black. The planning ahead approach they took will be the key to their success. The basketball program is starting off soon and will be going through the same steps and is expected to do just as well.

To compliment the budgeting changes, the board also created a few policies and procedure for different processes within the BYA. The overall goal here is to outline how things are accomplished within the organization. If we document what we do, and how we do it then we are that much further ahead when it comes time to improve things. This concept of self-improvement is built into each document by way of a revision located at the bottom of each one. If later on down the road we feel a change is needed, then we make the change, update the revision and re-distribute. This approach will help guide the current and future administrations in improving the BYA. These are just a few of the positive things that happened during the 2008 year. Many thanks to all that helped and let's continue to build up the BYA.

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Dream Team

by Gabriella Bermudez

The day that I went to the Ducks game, I had a lot of fun. BYA gave us the opportunity to stand on the field with the Long Island Ducks during the national anthem. After that, we met a couple of players and talked to them for a little bit. They were really cool and very nice. One of the players gave some of the girls from my team a ball and signed it for them, including me. I would say he was definitely the coolest one there.



The stadium looks so nice when you're out in the field, the dirt looks nice and perfect, and the grass was really green. Wherever you sit, whether you're sitting in the upper deck or in the front row seats, you still have a very nice view. It's definitely not like those big stadiums where you have the nose bleed seats. You can sit all the way at the top and still feel like your sitting close to the field. I'm really glad I had this opportunity. If I had a chance to do this again, I definitely would because I had a lot of fun meeting the players, but most importantly having a lot of fun with my teammates. I really appreciate B.Y.A letting us have this opportunity to see the Ducks play and spend time with our friends and have lots and lots of fun.



New BYA Board of Directors Elected

by Muhammad Small

The month of October brought about changes within the BYA. On Friday the 24th, general elections were held for all BYA Board of Directors positions.

Several positions were uncontested as there was only one candidate running for them, others had several nominees and a few positions had no accepted nominations. As shown below, these latter positions remain open. Please contact any of the new board members if you are interested in the positions.

We are pleased to present you newly elected BYA Board of Directors:

President: *David Otero*
Vice President: *Michael Jabkhab*
Treasurer: *Janet Cintron*
Administrative Assistants *Robert Aviles*
Chris Mooney
Eric Perdomo
Ursula Rivera
Lynette Rodriguez
Player Agent: *OPEN*
Corresponding Secretary: *OPEN*
Recording Secretary: *OPEN*

Congratulations to the new BYA Board, and thanks to outgoing Board members Inez Napier, Muhammad Small, David Cannon, Edeliz Sotomayor and Xavier Haynes.

Thanks to everyone who ran for office for showing interest in the organization and its operations. We look forward to your continued contributions to the BYA.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/28-29 *Haunted House Fundraiser*
11/1 *Coaches v. Parents Football Game, 8PM*
11/1 *Turkey Bowl, 1pm, BYA*

Fall Baseball and Softball

by John Benvia

For the autumn season of travel baseball and softball, the town of Brentwood entered four teams for competition. The schedule for fall ball begins the first week of September and ends by the last week of October.

The four teams had seasons that ranged from decent to near-perfection. The teams and their coaches were: 14U NJBL softball by Rosemary Flores assisted by Cassandra Melendez, 12U PAL baseball by Eric Perdomo assisted by Ricardo Melendez, 11U NJBL baseball by Jerry Morales assisted by Anthony Garcia, and 9U NJBL baseball by Ramon Ovalles assisted by Sergio Anderson and Rob Aviles.

The Brentwood Pirates, coached by Rosemary Flores, were a first year team, and competed hard in all their games. The girls are talented and possess a strong resolve. In another year many expect these young ladies to be in the hunt for a championship.

The Brentwood Blackbirds, coached by Eric Perdomo, were assembled to give the pre-teen boys another opportunity to play more baseball. This outlet kept the boys occupied in an organized manner and gave them the chance to learn more about the nuances of the game.

The two Brentwood Stars teams played for their respective championships. The younger team, coached by Ramon Ovalles, played well in the title game but in the end fell one-run short of hoisting the banner. They were a first year team and if they remain together for the years to come, the other towns throughout Suffolk and Nassau will have much to reckon with.

The older Star team, coached by Jerry Morales, had a great season with an undefeated record going into the trophy game. The boys not only won every game but dominated them as well. However, in the finale they met a formidable opponent who was up to the challenge. This was the second year the team was together and 2009 forecasts a promising outcome for them based on this past travel season.

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