

Saratoga Pony  
Board Meeting Minutes - Dec. 4, 2008

Attendees:

Russ Castronovo  
Mike Bruner  
Brian Cox  
John Tatman  
Brian Aoki  
Alan Shapiro (Los Gatos LL)  
Ray Zapata (Hornets)  
Steve Welch  
Mary Jewell  
Kevin Coyne  
Hunter Coyne  
Lee Ferguson  
Vicky Ferguson  
Bipsha Ghosh

Started the meeting with an overview of Saratoga Pony and the timing schedule of the League. Saratoga Pony will once again interlock its schedule with Los Altos Mountain View Pony.

The Saratoga Pony website is located at:  
[www.leaguelineup.com/saratogapony](http://www.leaguelineup.com/saratogapony)

Registration information can be obtained by sending a note to:  
[saratogapony-2009@yahoo.com](mailto:saratogapony-2009@yahoo.com)

On Sunday, May 3, the San Francisco Giants are naming the day "Pony Baseball Day". Teams are encouraged to attend. A note on this will be sent out after the registration is complete.

The national Pony organization has adopted an "And Under" rule that allows teams to have players one age category lower than normal for teams if approved by the local Pony team. Saratoga Pony will adopt the "And Under" ruling for Colt and Palomino teams. This year's team will follow the format of previous seasons. Tryouts over three weekends in Jan./Feb.

The next board meeting will be held the week of December 15.

Russ Castronovo was tasked with finding the URL for the eligibility age chart. It is located at:  
[www.pony.org/files/home/lak2009.pdf](http://www.pony.org/files/home/lak2009.pdf)

Russ Castronovo was tasked with providing the timing of the Pony All Star tournaments:

- Pony 13 - Region All-Star is scheduled for July 7-15 in Campbell. Zone All-Star is scheduled for July 25-29 in Fullerton.
- Pony 14/13 - Region is schedule for July 21-29 in Los Altos. Zone is scheduled for July 31 - Aug. 4 in Fullerton.
- Colt - Region is scheduled for July 23-28 in Santa Clara. Zone is scheduled for July 30 - Aug. 2. in San Jose.
- Palomino - Region is being determined. Zone playoffs are Aug 1-4 in Santa Clara.

Mike Bruner provides an over view of the league finances (approximately \$3500 in funds) and the status of the field at Congress Springs (still awaiting the contract, but we're working with the city).

Alan Shapiro of Los Gatos Pony proposed a merger with Saratoga Pony. Russ Castronovo was tasked with meeting with Alan Shapiro to develop a more concrete proposal that can be reviewed at the next board meeting.

Brian Cox reported on requests from two travel ball teams to be included intact as part of Saratoga Pony. The San Jose Titans and Hornets teams are 13-year old team that have been playing tournaments. The decision was made to invite them to participate intact.

Brian Cox reported on an inquiry from the JV baseball coach at The King's Academy in Sunnyvale to have a Colt team play as a Saratoga team. This was voted on and approved.

We agreed to consider bringing in The King's Academy Jr High team as a Pony team if they are not able to get a game schedule this Spring against other local Jr High baseball teams. We hopefully should know by the next board meeting (in two weeks?) in order to vote on this.

Elections were held for the board positions. The following positions and personnel were elected:

- President - Russ Castronovo
- VP/Secretary/Registration Coordinator - Steve Welch
- Treasurer - Mike Bruner
- Equipment/Uniform Coordinator - Kevin Coyne
- Field Commissioner - John Schmelzer
- Fundraising Coordinator - Open. This will be listed as a volunteer position.
- Pony Commissioner, Pony Umpire Liaison - Keith Barna
- Colt/Palimino Commissioner - Brian Cox
- Webmaster - Brian Aoki

Saratoga Little League has approached Saratoga Pony about merging the two programs. This has been discussed online by the members of the previous board. This item has been tabled for the 2009 season.

The next board meeting will be held on December 16 or 17. Items for the meeting will be:

- 1) A discussion of the Los Gatos Pony merger proposal
- 2) An update on the invitations for the SJ Titans and Hornets
- 3) The setting of the schedule of tryouts/draft/season start for next year.
- 4) An update on the inquiry by King Academy.
- 5) The determination of the managers for next season.