



## **Elk Grove Park District Athletics Committee Meeting Minutes**

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August 4, 2025

7:00 p.m.

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Commissioner Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

In attendance: Commissioner Carlson  
Commissioner Biedke

Staff: Tiffany Greene  
Doug Sieder  
Drew Fisher

Advisory Board Members: Kelly Demma, Cheer  
Nick Moser, Travel Baseball  
Alex Huggett, Soccer  
Mallory Uhlig, Football

Guests: Tim Burns

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Burns stated that since 2019 when there were associations and there were issues with PDRMA and insurance there were three different ideas of how to run programs. There are many more youth organizations and there is more competition. All have found a way to do privatized insurance. Volunteers don't understand how liable they are as a part of the government. They don't realize that they are public officials. Meetings are public and posted. Mr. Burns doesn't believe the volunteers know what they signed up for. What will Girls Softball do when a boy wants to play softball and doesn't want to wear a shirt that says girl? He used Elk Grove Jr Grens Wrestling as the example on who to model after. He said they can be more competitive, and don't have to fight internal organizations.

### **PRESIDENT UPDATES**

Cheer - Demma stated that the season has started with six squads, two sideline and four competitive. Choreo was added for the first time for comp teams. There are 93 total cheerleaders. Numbers are up from years past. The rookie squad has 30 compared to 15 last year. They got new uniforms this year. The split from football has been seamless so far. Cheer and football will still work together and present as one unit to families.

Football - Uhlig said that Tackle is at 112 currently with six teams this year, one at each level. The size of the teams is a better size. Should be better for playoffs. Numbers are slightly down but expect numbers to go back up next year. There are 28 flag players currently and the goal is 32. Will be playing flag all in-house. Conditioning practices ended 8/1 with 8/4 being the first full practice. Flag starts 8/18 with two practices per week and games on Thursdays. Great feedback on Vice helmets with enough helmets to fit five of the six levels. Commissioner Carlson asked about football's thoughts on girls flag? Uhlig responded that TCYFL does offer it

and would coordinate it, but they would need a board member to head up the girls flag. They do have some girls that are playing in flag right now.

Soccer - Huggett said there are about 450 kids in the program, split between rec and travel. Rec is still open for registration. Soccer switched from European Sports to Soccer.com. Quality and timing of delivery is better for the same pricing. There was a lot of board turnover but everyone is working well together, and program numbers are continuing to grow.

Travel Baseball - Moser stated they had a very successful season. GCBL ran leagues at levels 8u-13u. They modified playoffs with is being more spaced out, offering higher seed hosted home games, and Elk Grove hosted Championships. They hosted a Travelers Classic tournament for ages 9u-13u (no 12u). Great feedback all around for both GCBL and Travelers Classic tournament. 12u went to Cooperstown the week after 4th of July with a lot of fundraising to get there. Tryouts were completed mid-July. Will have teams at 9u-14u for the 2026 season. The GCBL kickoff meeting will be sometime in October. Teams start winter training in December/January. Cooperation with the Park District is amazing. Thrilled with fields and staff that prepare fields. Director Greene asked if there was any interest at the 8u level. Moser replied that 5 kids tried out, and the door is not completely closed. They would need 11-12 players to form a team, and they can start them as late as January.

### **FEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Travel Soccer - \$1,650 - It has increased the last few years, due to costs going up everywhere, but no more than 5% year over year. They will try to keep costs flat for 2026 but that will depend on budgeting costs.

Rec Soccer - \$350 - Fall/Spring together.

Soccer did offer Early Bird pricing as well.

Cheer - Talking about raising the fee by a small amount each year. 2025 - Sideline: \$150, Older Comp Squads (with choreo): \$450, Younger Comp Squads: \$425. This cheer program is less expensive than all other area programs.

Football - \$410 for Tackle and \$100 for Flag.

Travel Baseball - \$800, Sponsorships allowed to cover \$400 of the costs or parents can pay. Sponsors get a plaque. GCBL fees were \$425/\$475, may raise to \$450/500.

Commissioner Biedke asked if anyone asked about the difference between cheer and football fees. Uhlig said no but people want payment plans re-looked at. Commissioner Carlson reminded everyone about the Park Foundation scholarship program.

### **2026 BUDGETS**

Superintendent Sieder reminded all boards that budgets are due September 2nd (first draft), and he also mentioned that staff are available to meet 1 on 1 to assist with athletic budgets.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Travel Baseball - Moser requested temporary fences at Windemere similar to what was done at Mead. He also stated that it's difficult to have a drop off in fields going from Audubon to Lions. Lions netting between fields 2 and 3, a lot of baseballs get lost in the creek year after year.

Football - Uhlig requested a storage shed on Lower CAF near Speedway. Commissioner Carlson said that the issue with that area is its a floodplain. Uhlig said that the speaker system has issues every year and they need something powerful enough to withstand the volume. Need louder speakers (west tower). Football is looking into purchasing stand alone speakers.

Cheer - Demma said cheer had no requests.

Soccer - Huggett said short term nothing. Long term, he requested turf fields as all high school sports are played on turf now and not all fields stay up to the quality of good grass fields. Commissioner Carlson talked about the cost of turf fields and how they have to be redone every 8-10 years. He said Soccer should look into using the high school field on Sundays like Football does. Huggett said that the District needs to look at the field condition at Sanders, Link, Udall, Hansen, and Huntington Chase. Superintendent Sieder stated that Parks is looking into more fields that aren't typically used for future use.

Commissioner Biedke said that the Board has been approving 50% of the project amount with the athletics groups contributing the other portion. He can't promise that it will continue but to think about it when budgeting.

## **ASSISTANCE FROM STAFF**

Travel Baseball - Moser stated that he understands the Park District is a business and needs to generate revenue but renting to competing organizations does not sit well with the Travelers Board. Commissioner Carlson said how do we tell them no and just let the fields sit empty. Mr. Burns said that they are Elk Grove citizens and should have the right to use the fields. Moser also commented how top notch the Parks staff, Drew, and Marketing have been with helping get GCBL up and running.

Football - Uhlig commented on the CAF parking lot and having issues with cars going against the flow of traffic. She recommended adding arrows on the ground, Superintendent Sieder then mentioned the potential of angling the parking spots to deter people from going in the wrong direction. Director Greene advised this would not be wise if it were to decrease the number of spots as parking is already limited. Uhlig requested access to lights to be able to turn them on earlier if need be. Commissioner Biedke stated that we need a backup plan for lights and we will have an internal discussion.

Soccer - Huggett stated that help from the Park District has been great and they have leaned heavily on the District this past year.

## **FUNDRAISING**

Travel Baseball - Moser stated that teams will fundraise independently including mums, Lou's coupons, Krisy Kreme, and dine and shares. He said the Golf Outing in 2025 was very successful.

Football - Uhlig stated that their attempt at a Golf Outing failed. She said concessions has been the biggest fundraiser for them this year. They are considering a raffle, Parent Night and a Family Fun event. They also have joining dines and shares with Cheer.

Cheer - Demma said there are 5-6 joint dine and shares set up. They are planning for mums, Little Caesars meal deal cards, Biggest Fan shirts, Dave and Buster gift cards, and online spiritwear sales.

Commissioner Biedke added that we have a JumboTron that can be used for movies.

Superintendent Sieder said that he could provide the boards with the website that we use to lease the rights to show the movies. Commissioner Biedke also recommended pop corn sales through Doublegood.

Soccer - Huggett stated they will do dine and shares and they have a Golf Outing planned for the end of September.

Superintendent Sieder reminded boards that if they are doing a Raffle he needs to apply for a Raffle License through the Village.

Director Greene stated that we will no longer allow for BINGO fundraisers.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Carlson adjourned the Athletics Committee Meeting at 8:26p.m.