

A word from the President:

I want to thank those who have voiced their concerns directly to the board regarding the mandatory requirement of selling 10 boxes of cookie dough or opting out with \$140. As we mentioned in the parent meetings at the beginning of the season, communication was going to be our goal this year and that works both ways, so we appreciate your feedback.

First of all, the wording of the email perhaps should have said that we are “asking” you to sell and not “requiring” you to sell. We apologize for this.

Second, we came up with the \$140 as the average of the 2 different prices of cookie dough (some sell for \$13, some sell for \$15), multiplied by 10 boxes so that everyone would **try** to sell the minimum 10 boxes instead of opting out, because we would receive a 40% cut of the sales instead of a much smaller percentage. In addition, the cookie representative said he would buy a banner from us if we sold 1000 boxes. So if every family sold 10 boxes, we would be able to obtain an additional \$300 banner sponsorship on top of our cookie sales’ income.

The cookie dough sale is the last fundraiser we have planned for this season, other than the Cart-wheel-a-thon in April and the home meets. As our last meeting minutes stated, we have raised \$4,150 which is about 35% of our goal. We still have a long, long way to go to get to our goal of \$12,750. We are putting a lot of our “eggs” into this last fundraiser to raise the money we need to pay our expenses.

We set the fundraiser as mandatory as an attempt to get more families involved with our fundraisers and with the booster club. At our last booster club meeting, the board, level reps and only one other parent attended. During this meeting, the cookie dough discussion took place. If we had more parents at the meeting to voice their concerns, then we would have come up with another plan. Instead, people are voicing their concerns after the fact. We need and want your input at the meetings. And we need people to participate in the booster club. At our recent garage sale fundraiser, Dance Gallery made \$1700 with 30 families. We made \$700 with 90 families, because only a small amount of families participated. We have the same 10 families participating in everything, and we appreciate their help, but it’s not enough. We need more help and input from all of our families. Most of the board and level reps work our 40+ hours at a job and then spend a majority of our nights organizing booster club functions that many of you don’t see. We are doing the best we can with our limited time resource.

If you remember, our financials that we presented to you at the parent meetings at the beginning of the season, showed that we were next to broke. We have had to come up with a lot of various fundraisers before the meet season starts to fund our account and meet our common goal of sending our gymnasts to meets. That is what we are all working towards. We all have the same goal in mind and we as the board are trying to get us all there but we need everyone’s participation and help.

To clarify, our expenses not only cover coaches expenses at meets, but it also covers their required training, their USAG dues, cases of athletic tape, and many other expenses that are not level specific, so level 3's through level 10's need to share in these joint expenses.

We apologize if we have upset anyone; that was not our intention. We were simply trying to get everyone involved and to get everyone to **try** to sell a minimum of 10 boxes and set a goal of selling 30 boxes. If you do not sell the minimum amount or pay the \$140, nothing will happen other than we will likely end up paying cash out of all our pockets for coaches' and other expenses because we will not reach our fundraising goal.

We have purchased the Dillon's and HyVee cards and I will be at the gym on Saturdays at 12:30 to sell them beginning this Saturday. We will also have other level reps available during the week to sell them and will keep you posted when we work out a schedule. Please check the bulletin board and/or website for further details. Amy Bartle has put in a lot of time redesigning our lgbconline.com website. Please add this to your favorites and periodically check the website for new information.

The parent apparel has come in and I will be distributing the items this week. If anyone ordered a woman's polo and it is too large, please let me know as the distributor ordered all men's polos. But you can return them and I will get them corrected. Please give the polo to Coach Kim with your name on it and I will get it from her.

I hope there are no hard feelings and we can work together for the kids and get them to their competitions where they can thrive and be successful as I believe that is what we as parents want.

Peggy Leslie
LGBC President
10/3/07