

## **Board Meeting Minutes for 9/24/18**

### **Those in attendance:**

- Board Members: Tom Smith, Bruce Doig, Mike Koloski, Joe McMannus, Deb Campos
- Other Attendees: Sean Martin, Lenore Gambale, Brett Campos, Brett Dodge, Jay Salerno, Lisa LaPlante, Mike Sahovey, Mike Paddock, Sergio Reyes, Marc Spaulding, Peter Carr, Dave Porcello, Craig DeOrio, Rick Provost, Jesse Blank, Tim Dodge, Navid Mahooti, Jack Dean

### **Board Nominations Announced & Voted On**

- The 2019 BLL Board is Tom Smith, President; Bruce Doig, VP; Scott McKenzie, Secretary; Pete Avila, Treasurer; Mike Koloski; Joe McManus; Deb Campos

### **Other new roles:**

- Deb Campos, Registrar
- Todd Lambert, Sponsorships
- Lenore Gambale, Equipment Manager/Committee - Lenore has offered to help with this committee, but we need more volunteers
- Brett Campos, Safety Officer

### **Recap of 2018 Spring Season**

- We lost a lot of 12s from last year. Next year's teams will depend on the number of returning players. Will most likely be a rebuilding year for a lot of programs because of the large number of 12's that have aged out. This was in part due to the birthday changes made by little league over the past few years.

### **We had a great 2018 season, but in 2019 we will work on:**

- Keeping the team numbers even per level
- Increasing the number of games each team plays. This was directly impacted in 2018 by having 7 teams in AAA. Made scheduling difficult.

### **2018 Tournaments**

- Hosted a lot of tournaments at Harry this past summer. Other towns don't want to host them, but if it wasn't for BLL there might not have been Jimmy Fund tournaments for the 9's or 12's.
- We also hosted the Tournament of Champions, a tournament of 10 teams from across New England.
- We need more league volunteer participation to make these happen.

### **2018 Improvements:**

- New infield before season and after playoffs
- New safety netting
- Fixed the ACs at Harry - one new AC and one fixed
- Golf cart fixed to assist with tournaments
- Bought a new pitching machine that is stored with the golf cart when not in use.
- Grease fire in the refreshment stand, had to make some upgrades to the snack shack.

### **Finances**

- In good shape thanks to Hit-a-Thon, Sponsorships, and snack bar.

## **Umpires**

- We are low on numbers interested in training sessions. Bruce is looking for kids that are aged 13+, but may consider 12's.
- Class will be in March/April 2019 - info will be in the January Bev Rec brochure
- There was some discussion on adding Patch ump's for the AAA games in addition to the Majors games. The league is looking into it, but not sure if there is enough interest based on the pay rate. The league is also considering allowing the 12's to ump the lower levels so the older ump's are available for the AA and AAA games.

## **Open Discussion:**

- **Beverly Sports Complex**
  - New complex in Beverly with three batting cages and an 80x40 turf field. They are hoping to open by Oct 10/15. BLL is interested in talking with them about clinics.
- **A motion was proposed for consideration:**
  - Motion - No tuition for board members' kids.
  - Decision – The board will discuss at our next meeting.
- **Clinics:**
  - Discussion around possibly setting up clinics in Jan? Maybe use college kids or high school players to help run them? IN the past, we've used the YMCA, North Bev, and Danvers Sports Complex as locations. Maybe we could partner with Beverly Sports Complex for 2019.
  - We'll talk about forming a committee to set them up at the next meeting.
- **Volunteers:**
  - On this year's commitment forms for all stars, we asked all parents to volunteer for ONE two-hour game. Many parents didn't follow through with their commitment.
  - The Board needs to revisit the commitment letters and options because we need more volunteers in the program or there won't be All Stars in the future.
- **Equipment:**
  - Catchers helmets need to be replaced (as some are old/damaged/expired). The league agreed to work with the equipment committee to determine what was needed for next Spring.
  - Lenore Gambale offered to help with equipment.
  - Still need more volunteers.
- **Other topics that were discussed briefly and tabled for later meetings:**
  - How do we improve fall ball?
  - Should we have more/less coach pitch more in the lower levels.
  - Can we also have clinics for coaches?
  - How do we level set practices so kids are learning the basics?

## **Important Upcoming Dates:**

- October 23<sup>rd</sup> – 7pm - Open board meeting, upstairs at Harry
- October 27<sup>th</sup> – 9-11am - Closing Harry for the winter. The more hands, the faster it goes.