

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL, DISTRICT 18

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING – May 9, 2023

ATTENDANCE: Milan Mrakich, DA, Diane Bowen, Mike Goodrich, Tom Chavez, Mike Dorado, ADAs. Ray Aragon & John Seligman, Alhambra American, Ralph Hernandez, East Alhambra, Cristina Rodriguez, South El Monte, Eric Horn, Northeast Los Angeles, Alberto Ocon, South Pasadena, Josh Kelley & Robert Robles, Temple City American, Billy Kobayashi & Rick Bowen, Temple City National, Debbie Garcia, El Monte Eastern, Miguel Ruelas & Cecy Perez, Los Angeles.

ABSENT: El Monte National.

The meeting was called to order and held at the Temple City Community Center.

INTRODUCTIONS: The roll call was taken.

REQUIRED SUBMITTALS: Milan handed out the Required Submittals list. All leagues have paid their Player Assessment fee except El Monte National. Milan reminded leagues that LL projects how many background checks based on teams chartered, and leagues should determine and confirm they have done all background checks needed.

WAIVERS & INTERLEAGUE & COMBINED PLAY FORMS: Milan once again explained the waivers and reminded leagues to complete the forms on the database. If leagues enter them late there could be complications if they cannot be processed by District and Headquarters. The same with combined and interleague play forms. It was noted the numbers on combined play forms need to relate to the teams chartered. When filling out the combined play forms each league enters how many players from their boundaries so that the number coincide. All forms have to be entered, approved by District and Headquarters by June 1st. **The database for entering these forms shuts down on May 31st and no further entries or approvals will be processed.** Milan asked presidents to make sure everything has been done, the earlier the better. Some residency waivers were submitted to Milan at the meeting, he will make his recommendation and forward to headquarters. Milan noted some private and charter schools are not appearing on the Find My League program and when that player is entered on an all-star roster it will show out of boundary. Milan asked leagues to make sure if they have any schools like that they immediately let him know so he can get them entered in the program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Milan announced because he had not received all the entries for all-star teams from the leagues the draw for seeding in the brackets will be postponed until the next meeting, May 23rd. Milan plans to publish the all-star bracket at the May 30th President's meeting. All-star certification will begin June 3-11.

JUNIOR LEAGUE BASEBALL: Mike and Diane reported the schedule will end May 11th at Almansor Park. The rest of the junior interlocking schedule will end with the May 20th games. Leagues can schedule more games if they desire. Diane noted there have been several forfeits/changes in the last few weeks, and at this point Mike will not adjust the scheduled games, the leagues can handle that individually.

SOFTBALL: Mike has heard of no issues.

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS: The TOC brackets were passed out. Teams are numbered but Milan needs the names of the teams ASAP. It is up to the league which teams are in which position, the numbers are just placeholders.

TCA will host 8-11 baseball, TCN will host 7-9 baseball, and SEM will host all the rest of the tournaments in baseball and softball. TOCs will be single elimination. Draft rules were discussed. It was decided leagues would

prefer continuous batting in all divisions with mandatory play of (6) defensive out (not required to be consecutive). The rules will be finalized.

ALL-STAR TOURNAMENTS: Milan polled the presidents for all-star team entries. He will create a schedule now that he knows how many teams will enter and seeding will be drawn at the next meeting on May 23rd. All-star teams cannot be announced until May 15th, and **cannot practice until the team is certified**. Milan will be sending out invoices for all-star entry fees for district, which funds the District games and pays for umpires, which is the biggest expense as everyone is aware, and pins, banners, awards, balls, supplies, etc. Presidents also have to pay for all-star teams in their database, LL reduced the price on minor league teams by \$50 per team. If leagues have already paid the higher fee, LL will give the league a credit.

Presidents who will be coaching or managing an all-star team need an approved waiver. Milan will send out a form to presidents to fill out and submit. It will need to be carried in the all-star book. As discussed at the prior meetings, all managers and coaches must complete the Diamond Leader Program on line at www.littleleague.org/training, and carry the certificate of completion in the all-star book.

Milan also distributed a LL publication regarding *Tournament Changes* and this was discussed with the presidents. One new rule is senior divisions do not need to qualify regular season, teams can go directly into tournaments. This opens up the division to high school teams coming in. Leagues can also put together a team made up of players from up to three leagues to enter tournaments. This was fully discussed and Milan described how the teams can be formed to send out strong teams. The same can be done in other divisions, up to three leagues can combine for tournament play, and Milan recommends some leagues with one or two teams consider this. It has to be entered into the league database and approved prior to June 1st before the database closes.

East Alhambra LL will host the 6-7-8, 9-10-11, Junior baseball games. They will also host all softball except for 6-7-8 and Senior softball which South Pasadena LL will host. Temple City American will host the 8-9-10 games. South Pasadena will host the Major and Senior baseball games.

Mike and Diane discussed certification with the presidents.

The next meeting will be May 23rd.

Written by Diane Bowen, District Secretary