

**Munster Little League**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Directors**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

The Munster Little League met in regular session on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 via Zoom Meeting. The meeting opened at 7:02 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business.

**Attendees:** J. Castellano, K. Jurcik, R. O'Connell, M. McGee, A. Rubio, K. Adley K. Dempsey, G. Gouveia, S. Spencer, D. Pannagio; R. Rommelfanger

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President J. Castellano at 7:02 pm. A quorum was present.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** – J. Castellano presented the meeting agenda. A. Keefner motions to approve. G. Gouveia 2<sup>nd</sup>s. Motion approved.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – J. Castellano presented the January minutes. K. Dempsey motions to approve. G. Gouveia 2<sup>nd</sup>s. Motion approved.
- IV. **Reports –**

**President Report – J. Castellano** – Registration is almost complete; Tball and Prep are still open as of now- will probably keep them open until they draft teams.

**Treasurer Report - S. Spencer** – Financials were sent to the board prior to the meeting

- **\$102K cash;** Summer fees at \$78K, budgeted around \$82K- off to a strong start!
- **Dan P.** should start to be more involved with the Treasurer responsibilities going forward so he is good to go when next season starts.

**V. Challenger League Update- Beth Matthews**

- Took over the league about 3-4 years ago; the last leader was there for about 20 years
- Challenger league kids do not age out the league- they come back year after year
- Registration through special education classrooms? Does not get much of a response through there- more from hearing about the league from other parents.
- For the past many years, the Challengers league has been run independently of LL; for the past few years, they have been doing fundraisers to get their own money
- The Challenger League kids need to have proper waivers- if they live out of town
- Fees- check or money orders made out to MLL
- Registrations should officially go into our LL database
- Have Challenger league and LL finances been kept separate? Will they be combined or separate going forward? Moving forward, it will go through our website and just be a another division like all the others
- The Challenger league is completely financed independently from LL- they do not ask for any money from us to pay any bills; Fees are kept low and general overhead is not that high overall!
- The LL kids would benefit from some engagement with the Challenger League players- would be great to collaborate; Buddies? Have a Challengers Night for LL players to come out and fill the stands to cheer on the teams?
- Beth will be liaison for the Challenger League on the Board this year; will have the option to join the Board for 2024- if she would like
- Need to build the Challenger League registration platform on our website; Beth will send a Word doc with the questions they ask for registration

**VI. Registration Discussion – J. Castellano**

- Majors- 77 (6 teams); need to send 5 kids down to get to 6 teams of 12
- Minors- 106 (9 teams)
- C-League 79 (7teams)
- Prep League- 82 (9 teams)
- Tee Ball- 55 (8 teams)?? \*If registrations improve\*

**VII. District Report – A. Rubio**

District Tourney dates are still not determined yet;  
Munster is hosting 10s District and 12s District round robin and Championship tournaments  
Need to have all School Enrollment Forms and waivers complete  
Merrillville facility is being sold- can possibly expect some money to come back to the league from the sale

### VIII. Uniforms Update – R. Rommelfanger

- Hats and teams were picked for every division- and ordered
- Every division has own specific look and colors are coordinated between teams- no overlap; Sublimated jerseys again this year
- Volunteer coaches should get their shirts at the same time the players get their jerseys
- Spirit Wear should be able to get going right after evals; will be online and stuff should be in by mid-April

### IX. Player Evaluations/Drafts

#### EVALS

- Secured Elliot for 3 days- 2/21, 2/22 and 2/23 from 5-9p
- Will send out Sign Up Genius sheets in the next couple of days
- Will need 3 volunteers per night helping out- checking kids in; running kids back to the managers; 2 HS kids to help as well (pitching, fielding, etc)
- Russ has filled out the spreadsheet with older kids to help each night- we should be all set

#### DRAFT

\*To attend all in person drafts @ 313: Managers, Gordy, Commissioners, Adam, Katie

Majors Draft- Monday, 2/27 @ 7p- @ 313 (upstairs)

Minors Draft- Tuesday, 2/28 @ 6p- @ 313 (upstairs)

C League Draft- Tuesday, 2/28 @ 8p 313 (upstairs)

Prep- Thursday, 3/2 @ 6p via Zoom

TBall- Thursday, 3/2 @ 7p via Zoom

K. Dempsey: Manager's kids draft positions- can we get rid of it? Has been seen as penalizing managers, but just makes it fair among all coaches to determine what round they agree the kid will get drafted?

Need to do a random hat draw on order after the allocation of the manager's kid draft position is determined

No manager's kid has to be slotted in

### X. FUNDRAISING – K. Jurcik

- 2022 thank you gifts are being handed out; most are renewing their sponsorships for next season
- Please continue to reach out to businesses to gauge interest

### X. Capital Improvements- J. Castellano

- Have been in touch with Mark Heintz; they had a company come out and they have agreed to renovate our fields based on need and the field conditions; mounds and plates will be redone; new dirt- objective is to be done by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Turf might not be completely out of the question down the line- for less maintenance
- Need to reach out to scoreboard company again (Tecchtronics)- so we can be set up to run the scoreboards from the dugouts or stands
- Scott will look into pricing for new L screens for batting cages

### XI. Manager Selection

**TBall-** \*will revisit once we have registrations done

**Prep** - \* will revisit once registrations are done

**C League-** 7 manager candidates brought to the board for approval:

- Bryan Brownnewell
- Christopher Mendoza
- Eric Talbot
- Kyle Villalpando
- Gary Roberts
- Zach Holobowski
- Mario Flores

**G. Gouveia motions to approve; R. Rommelfanger 2nds; passes unanimously**

**Minors:** 9 manager candidates brought to the board for approval (minus R. Rommelfanger):

- Dave Wendlinger
- Brian Stanley
- John Rybicki
- Jon Kaufman
- Chuck Mamich
- Josh Perkins
- Vince Pistilli
- Russ Rommelfanger
- Ryan Wade

**K. Dempsey motions to approve S. Spencer 2nds; J. Castellano registers nay vote; all others yea**

**Majors:** 6 managers candidates brought to the board for approval (minus J. Castellano, S. Spencer):

- Sri Kankarla
- John Castellano
- Rob Kinsella
- Casey Bouton
- Brian Stanley
- Scott Spencer

**G. Gouveia motions to approve; K . Adley 2nds; passes unanimously**

**XII. March Manager Meeting–**

**March 21<sup>st</sup> from 5-9p @ Social Center**

Reached out to a company called PCA- give a good breakdown on how to coach, interact with the players and coaches; you can choose how to gear the training (\$1500)

- Have the training
- Break for dinner
- Go over our rule, etc for each division
- Break out with each commissioner to go over specific rules or questions they have for each division

J. Castellano makes a motion to sign a contract for \$1500 for PCA Training; G. Gouveia approves; K. Dempsey 2nds; motion approved unanimously

**XIII. MLL Photo Day-** set on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 8a-12p in the WWMS Cafeteria; **Legends set to come out**

**XIV. Scheduling- A. Rubio**

-Now that we have the set number of teams, we can start to set up the season; can set up a mock season and send to the board to look over

**XV. Umpires – J. Castellano**

Rick has asked for more money; he really is very helpful- trying to hold him off until Fall Ball for the raise. Would like us to pay for an umpire class- for him and any other umpires that want to attend. About \$50 per person.

**XVI. Grounds Update – J. Castellano**

- Need a new grounds crew member to help Michelle finish the season; maybe hire a Grounds Crew manager

**XVII. Local Rules – J. Castellano**

- Local rules committee will be ready to present the local rules by March 8th and have it ready for the March manager's meeting.

**XVIII. Special Events – A. Rubio –**

Railcats game is set for a Friday in June. Tickets will be \$10 each, with a portion being donated back to the league. Little League Home Run Derby registration is open, looking into doing a minor level derby this year too. We will set up a date for the end-of-year event over the next month.

**XIX. New Business – none**

**XX. Adjournment –** G. Gouveia motions to adjourn at 10:24 pm; R. Rommelfanger 2<sup>nd</sup>s. Motion approved.

**Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023.**

**MLL Meetings are open to the membership and held on the second Wednesday of every month.  
MLL financials are available upon written request to the Treasurer.**