

Munster Little League
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Directors
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

The Munster Little League met in regular session on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 via Zoom Meeting in Munster, Indiana. The meeting opened at 7:02 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business.

Attendees: J. Castellano, K. Jurcik, A. Rubio, G. Gouveia, R. Rommelfanger, A. Keefner, J. Jamicich, R. Bishop, M. Bruni, D. Panaggio, R. Petrocelli, K. Cherry, B. Bryner, J. Braatz

- 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. B. Bryner motions to approve. R. Bishop 2nds. Motion approved.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes** – J. Castellano presented the February minutes. J. Jamicich motions to approve. M. Bruni 2nds. Motion approved.
- IV. Reports –**

President Report – J. Castellano – Evaluations and drafts are done. Getting lots of info out to families- sending emails and answering Facebook posts.

Treasurer Report - D. Panaggio-

- Approved capital improvements via email. We are in a good position to do that at this time. The original cost was going to be \$10K, but now will only be \$6500.
- We were conservative with our estimates, but John won another \$5K award from US Steel! We will put it towards the capital improvements (C Field). The town will be covering the improvements to A, B and D fields.
- If we ever need to tighten the budget, there are places we can cut the fat. We are bringing in a lot of income right now. There continues to be more kids signing up. If there are big expenses still outstanding, let him know. Lansing still has not sent more than one invoice at this point.
- Went through an audit on our workers comp insurance. There is a one time \$400 cost because the 1099 to the umpires was counted as wages. Rick is now restructured as a corporation- so we will not have to 1099 him anymore.

V. Challenger League Update- B. Matthews- no update

VI. Registration Update – Division Final Numbers

Majors – 88 (8 teams of 11)
Minors – 89 (7 teams of 11; 1 team of 12)
C-League – 80 (4 teams of 11; 3 teams of 12)
Prep – 69 (3 teams of 11; 3 teams of 12)
Tee Ball – 93 (7 teams of 9; 3 teams of 10)

VII. Manager Selection (FINAL MGR LIST)

Majors :

- Chuck Mamich, Douglass Mosley, Jon Kauffman, Kyle Cherry, Rudy Ortiz, Russ Rommelfanger, Vince Pistilli, John Castellano

above managers approved by board in 2/12 meeting

As of the March board meeting: due to various circumstances, Jon Kauffman decided not to manage; Adam Keefner tapped to replace him

K. Cherry motions to approve; R. Bishop 2nds; motion passes unanimously

Minors:

- Bryan Brownnewell, Eric Talbot, Gary Roberts, Gordon Gouveia, Jeff Perrone, Mario Flores, Zach Holobowksi, Robert Bishop
- *all managers approved by board in 2/12 meeting***

C-League:

- Brett Bryner, Douglas Quasny, Jim Hollendonner, John Jamicich, Raynold Petrocelli

above managers approved by board in the 2/12 meeting

As of the March Board Meeting- 2 new managers to approve: Mark Kane and Steve Miljus

***J. Jamicich motions to approve add'l C League managers; K. Cherry 2nds; motion approved unanimously**

Prep Managers

- Adam Hall, Brendan Hufford, Daniel Gohdes, Jose Gutierrez, Michael Ramos, Timothy Kamin
- *above managers approved by board in the 2/12 meeting*
- As of March Board Meeting: Hufford is only managing TBall; looking to approve Ortega
- J. Jamicich motions to approve Prep managers; K.Cherry 2nds; motion approved unanimously**

Tee Ball

- Adam Buss, Brendan Hufford, Joshua Long, Juan Vega, Robert Noltbertowicz, Robert Sutter, Taylor Boice
- *above managers approved by board in the 2/12 meeting*
- As of March Board Meeting: Add'l managers brought for approval- Canada, Hoge, Garcia
- J. Jamicich motion to approve TBall managers; K. Cherry 2nds; motion approved unanimously**

VIII. March Manager Meeting-

- To be held 3/18 at 313 Taproom
- PCA will be coming to speak again; asked for a new moderator this year- just to switch it up and keep it fresh this year. Will try to keep them to an hour.
- Always important to remind all managers about how to act at the beginning of the season. Adam will speak for around an hour about MLL rules and regulations.
- Half hour for commissioners to speak to the managers of each division.
- Sign in for all teams; if a manager can't make it, they must send a rep in their place.

IX. Player Eval/Draft Update –

- Did an amazing job on all 3 eval days; lots of compliments from parents on how well it all ran
- One complaint- was told there were kids running through the halls and in the classrooms at Elliot
- Drafts went smoothly- always a fun night watching the managers make their picks for the season!

X. Scheduling/Uniforms/Opening Day

Scheduling- A. Rubio

- # of games: 16 Majors, 16 Minors; 14 C League; 10 for Prep and TBall.
- Will have some Fridays and Saturdays for Majors and Minors, more for C League
- Majors- Mon/Wed; all set up, needs to be audited
- Minors- Tues/Thurs- all set up, needs to be audited
- C League- Mon-Thurs, some Saturdays
- Prep/Tball- Saturdays until school lets out; then add some during the week; These 2 divisions will play on Mother's Day weekend
- Hoping to be wrapped up (regular season and tournaments) by 6/21 for Majors and Minors; Wrap up C League the week after

Uniforms: R. Rommelfanger

- All Majors, Minors and C League uniforms have been ordered- sent to vendor; hats are in (or back ordered ones will be shipped by EOW)
- Once in, we'll set a date for pickup at the press box
- LL patches have been ordered; will take to Lansing when they arrive to be added to the jerseys

Opening Day

- Soft start- week of 4/21
- League opening day is Sat, 5/3- push ceremonies back until 12:30 (instead of 12p)
- Rob Kinsella has agreed to throw out the first pitch to open the season
- Presentation of District Champion team banners; and State Champion banners
- MGS reached out to see if we would go in for half of a Rainbow Cone truck to be there on opening day; \$1500 total cost- worth the money? Could be a bad weather day and opening day is already very busy- might not be worth it.
- Will reach out Tom's Traveling Coffee Truck; Donut IV Truck to check availability and pricing

XI. District 1 Meeting

- Short meeting;
- Gave an idea of when tournaments will start- based on last year; 12s, then 10s, then 11s- staggered start; State start dates are on the Indiana State Tournament website
- Draws will be in April; will announce them June 1st
- State Park is not hosting 10s District Tournament; Hessville will host the Red Pool; he will move someone from the White pool to Hessville

XII. Spring Cleanup Day –

- April 5th, 9a-12p; grounds crew has been informed (5 current members)
- Batting cages might get set up by this weekend- depends on if the town gets to them.
- Garbage bags, clippers, zip ties, ladders- have people bring their own equipment as well to make the work easier
- Send league wide email with date of field cleanup

XIII. Equipment Update – J.Castellano –

- Both parts of our DSG have come in; \$1K is to be used back at the store for equipment.
- Will purchase what Brett shared in last month's meeting. Now that the money has come in, we can place the order

through the DSG Lockeroo

- First aid kits ordered (smaller ones for TBall and Prep); larger kits for C, Minors and Majors

- New equipment bags ordered- some smaller ones as well

- Catcher's mask guards and Tees still need to be purchased; catcher's mitts for Minors and Majors- can use the DSG money

- When do we hand out bags to managers? Anytime before April 1st is fine; or we hand out bags at spring cleanup day (April 5th)

XIV. Umpires – J. Castellano– John talked to Rick; He has been reaching out to umpires to get people locked in for this season. He knows the soft start date; knows that Majors and Minors will have 4 games Mon-Thurs.

- **No talk of raises this year**

XV. Special Events – M. Bruni

- talked about opening day events above

- Talking to Up Your Alley about a LL day there

- SB Cubs reached out- LL night 6/6; tickets are \$14 and we would get \$3 back per ticket

- Already have Railcats game set- 5/31 (Firework night)

- White Sox reached out- they put together an offer for us- May 4th game (v. Angels); set up a link to share with families- \$13 per ticket (\$4-6 surcharge from a 3rd party company). Kids can run around the bases after the game; if we get 250 people buying tickets, can get a parade on the field

XVI. Fundraising – J. Braatz–

- Doing a good job getting last years sponsors signed again and invoiced for payment

- A bunch of new sponsors as well! Have been dropping off sponsor letters at different businesses in the area; hoping to get more to sign as well!

- Possibility to open up larger signs on the side of the batting cages facing the parking lot?? A lot of interest from companies to have the 16' banners.

XVII. New Business –

- Plan to continue pizza parties for opening day banner winners

- Get a picture taken of the whole league on opening day (by a drone)- will use the pic for a plaque for 2025 Sponsor Gifts

- MHS Booster Club- Reverse Raffle on 4/25; will MLL donate a basket for a silent auction- DSG GC; A2000 Mitt? \$650 per table- can buy a table for MLL or band together with friends to get a table;

XVIII. Adjournment – K. Cherry motions to adjourn at 8:38 pm; M. Bruni 2^{nd's}. Motion approved.

Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 9, 2025- location TBD

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.