



Santa Monica
LITTLE LEAGUE



Board of Directors Minutes

April 4, 2016

1. Call to Order

David Harris called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Board Members in attendance: David Harris, Matt Edelman, Jasan Sherman, Andy Anagnos, Elizabeth Bailey, John Matise, David Schmillen, Michael Balsley, Ric Munoz, Todd Gelfand, Mark Kapczynski, Jim Ries

Non Board Members in attendance: David Davidson, Noah Graff, Peter McCormack, Daniel Callahan, Mitch Miller.

Linda Liberman participated in the meeting by phone starting at 8:15pm.

Elizabeth Bailey left the meeting at 8:30pm.

Michael Balsley left the meeting at 9pm.

2. Public Comment

Daniel Callahan commented on his status as Machine Pitch Commissioner as well as the situation that arose as his role as a Manager in the AA division for the A's. He thanked the board for their support in allowing him to continue in the role.

David commented that he appreciated all of Daniel's contributions to the league.

Mitch Miller raised the issue of the invoice for Spring Training. David provided Mitch with his mobile phone number and set up a time for Tuesday afternoon/evening and agreed to resolve the issue this week.

3. Board Member Reports

a. President

David asked who would be taking charge of Championship Saturday. Ric volunteered to take on the responsibility.

David suggested that All-Star selection should take place prior to Championship Weekend if we want to announce the All-Star teams on Championship Saturday.

David reiterated that we will not be hosting All-Stars or TOC.

Ric and Todd noted that they will start working together to try and fill the

following number of All-Star teams:

- Two 11/12 teams
- Two 9/10 teams
- One 10/11 team, which would require applying for and receiving a waiver to remove the requirement of having two teams.

b. Vice President

Ric noted that he is proposing a more condensed playoff schedule to ensure that teams are developing pitching for the playoffs.

c. Treasurer

John mentioned the importance of continuing to be careful in controlling expenses.

David reiterated that all financial commitments need to be approved by him, by John or through Jason for Equipment.

d. Player Agent

Todd commended the performance of the lower division Commissioners.

Todd noted that to date, 503 players have been placed on teams across all divisions.

Ric explained that he is reaching out to Mike Sigmond to manage Seniors.

e. Communications

Michael explained that there might be news about the league in the Santa Monica Mirror leading up to Championship weekend.

Michael noted that he will be working on signage for the Snack Bar with Elizabeth.

Michael noted that he will be publishing game results and standings on the website.

Michael asked for rosters to be confirmed by Commissioners and sent to him to fill out the Team Pages.

f. Concessions

Elizabeth explained that she is planning to send emails out to Commissioners to remind Managers to sign up for helping at the Concessions stand during their

assigned times.

Elizabeth also noted that she needs to confirm whether we can have children under 14 in the Snack shop as long as they are accompanied by an adult.

g. Equipment

Jasan explained that Dave Kramer needs 6-weeks prior notice to secure uniforms for All Stars so he needs to know how many teams we will have across the All-Star programs.

Jasan noted that he will provide John with a proposed quote to compare to the expense for All-Star uniforms to what is noted in the budget.

h. Fields

David Schmillen explained that he is trying to give back permitted slots for field space that we do not expect to use in order to save money.

David S. also noted that we need to submit field space requests for the Summer by 4/11. David Harris added that we need to make sure we have field space for our Extras programs. David S. will follow Peter Yu's Summer plan from last year to start.

David S. will be sending out new codes for the batting cages because unauthorized people have been seen using the cages.

David S. noted that he was asked by the city to remind Managers and Coaches not put chalk on the grass and to keep dirt off the grass.

David S. also requested that Commissioners remind Managers to keep the storage areas in better shape and lock the dugouts.

David S. explained that moving the stored pitchers mound to the field is a major undertaking at Marine Park and requires a better solution.

A discussion ensued about the mobile pitching mounds at Memorial being in bad shape, particularly the one closest to the field, which is no longer usable. David S. noted that he would review our alternatives to fix the mounds or purchase new ones.

David S. also noted that he would work with Ric and Michael to create a batting cage sign-up process. Multiple meeting attendees shared their positive experience with the system that was used last year. David S. will investigate.

i. Registrar

David H. explained that as per Linda's report, registration to date is down 35 people, although that does not include new players who recently signed up for Seniors. In conclusion, the estimate is that we will make up much of that difference through Juniors and Seniors. David commended the Board for recruiting so many players amidst the challenging times the league experienced in the Fall and Winter.

Ric noted that he will follow up with Linda regarding the submission of League Rosters to LLI.

j. Safety

Jim explained that he is working through challenges related to form submissions but is determined to increase the number of approved volunteers.

David Davidson suggested making it more clear in the league's communications that the volunteer form for registration is different from the LLI volunteer form.

David D. asked if we can have ice packs at fields other than Memorial. David S. will see what is possible.

k. Sponsorships

Mark noted that he has tracked down almost all of the raffle winners from Opening Day.

Mark highlighted that \$30K has been raised so far through sponsorships, with approximately ten teams having contributed.

Mark explained that before Spring Break, he was pursuing team sponsorships primarily through the Commissioners, but that at this point he will be going to teams directly and asking Team Parents to help as well.

Mark noted that his original goal was to set up three more events: a Movie night, Dodger Day, a League-wide dinner event. Mark will continue to investigate the feasibility of each one. A discussion ensued.

Mark also explained that he will be hanging additional banners for recent sponsors.

l. Umpires

No update outside of Andy's report.

4. Approval of Prior Minutes – 2/29/16

David H. made a motion to approve the prior minutes. John seconded. All approved. None opposed.

5. 50/70 and Juniors Playoffs

Andy explained that the Juniors are playing interleague games within District 25, but there is a question about whether Juniors will play in the D25 playoffs. He noted that D25 interleague play is inconsistent and not well organized.

As Juniors Commissioner, Todd explained that he agrees with Andy's assessment.

David H. noted that it is important to manage the expectations of the families in the division and ensure they are informed about the status of SMLL's program and the reasons for any decisions.

Andy noted that the 50/70 program will participate in the D25 playoffs.

Andy suggested that for All-Stars, a wider audience of families should be made aware of playoff opportunities in Juniors, Seniors and 50/70, which would encourage additional registration, particularly for Middle School and High School players of the right age who want to extend their season.

Ric, Andy and Michael agreed to work together to develop a plan for this offline.

6. Local Rules

To address Marty's notice of required changes, Ric proposed making a change regarding forfeits to be reviewed by the Board, the change being that teams having only 8 players will need to forfeit a game.

Ric also noted that he is going to remove the call-up rule from the Local Rules and also remove pinch running as a Local Rule, which will mean teams will follow the Green Book.

Ric noted that he will distribute the revised Local Rules once final.

7. District 25 Notice of Key Policies

The policies referenced in an email from Marty Hoy to David Harris were discussed and reviewed. It was determined that SMLL is not in violation of any of the policies.

Ric explained that he will email Commissioners reminding Managers of the policies and the requirement to comply with all rule requests.

8. Constitution and Elections Update

Matt explained that he will assemble a Nominating Committee and work with Michael to craft an eblast with transparency about the election process.

Matt noted that he will confer with Andy about the current draft of the Constitution, which was approved by LLI, and then work with Michael to send out messaging to remind Members to review the Constitution and the changes to Constitution from the LLI template.

Matt agreed that he will review with District the idea of holding elections in June and then having a transition period post-election. Todd pointed out that this really is a threshold question and suggested that if we can't elect new Board members in June who then would learn from existing Board members before taking office in Sep, we should hold elections in Sep.

A discussion ensued.

Matt explained that he will get back to the Board after conferring with District.

9. Other league business

None

10. Executive Session

David made a motion to allow the two non-board members still in attendance, David Davidson and Peter McCormack, to stay during the executive session. The motion passed.

11. Good and Welfare

None.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10pm.