



Baseball Board Meeting  
September 19, 2016  
at 8 PM

**Meeting Called to Order at 8:07 PM**

**1. Roll call**

Present: Pat Mahr, Mike Marso, Jen Wenzel, Heidi Hansen, Chris Summerfield, Steve Klebba, Tony Dagostino, Chris Reff, Dan Whelan, Anne Thomas

Absent: Tom Sax, John Golden

Additional CLLL members present: Jason Hilger, Lance Nielson, Tim Cummings, Jeff Hachett, and Jon Lieser

**2) Summer Coach Evaluations (Anne)**

We had a low number of evaluations returned. The coach evaluations were originally sent to team parents at the beginning of the season. A second attempt was by sending them to league reps. Anne sent out coach evaluations to league reps after the office wasn't getting evaluations back. Feedback was given that the evaluation be put online next year. Several years ago a trial online evaluation was done. This received positive reviews and several responses were received. It was decided that we will use online evaluations next year. Chris Reff will put them online for 2017.

**3) Baseball Clinics:** CLLL is working with Complete Game and Matt Faulken to set up baseball clinics for the winter. Calendar dates are changing for this year. Clinics will be starting earlier. The change will eliminate several breaks due to holidays and tryouts. Since clinics will be done, winter workouts will be able to start earlier. The set-up of the clinics will also change for this year. This year baseball will be twice per week for baseball and reserve one night for just softball (female

instructor) This is a new addition. Matt is still working the details. The clinic includes hitting, fielding, and pitching.

#### **4) T-Ball: Do Away With Draft? Discuss pros/cons**

Pat outlined the history on this issue. Several years ago the league did assign teams instead of using a draft. Coaches didn't like being assigned a team. However, since the kids are so young the coaches really don't know the kids before the draft. At this age the kids are allowed to select a buddy. There was a lot of discussion with the pros and cons of this issue. No decision was made.

#### **5) Discuss Regular Season Tryout Process Changes**

(National/American/International) Is there a way to make this better?

One possible solution: All coaches (N/A/I) would be at tryout. All kids would be in the same pool. The top 48 kids would make the National league. A second option was to divide the tryouts into two evenings- national/American and International. Anne shared the tryout process for the softball organization. The softball association uses outside evaluators. The evaluators choose the top 8 and the rest of the team is filled with coach picks. However it is important to note that softball picks one primary pitcher and one primary catcher that will play each entire game. Then the next top eight players are added to the team, then there are a few coach picks.

The league wants to eliminate a player having to tryout 3 different times because the player may be eliminated from National, then American, and finally land in International. This discussion led to the possibility of having tryouts later in the spring. Then offering more workouts during the end of the winter, beginning of the spring.

It was suggested maybe we could have tryouts in the gym at the high school.

The league office is hearing complaints that teams are selected based on biased. The league will continue to discuss this issue and make a decision at a later date.

#### **6) ALL STARS: Discuss possible changes**

Some of our parents wanted to know how Shoreview teams are drafted/selected. Pat updated the members present that Shoreview drafts teams similar to the way we do it.

Several members present shared the opinion that they would like the league to stay with 1 team at 12 year olds, 1 team at 11's and 1 at 10's.

The board also explained the history of the league moving from 2 charters to 1 charter. And how the process is determined to select the number of all star teams. Pat asked each board member to state their opinion on the number of all star teams at each level (12, 11, 10/9). The numbers listed below indicate the number of teams.

Jen: 1,1,undecided

Chris: 1,1,2

Mike: 1,2,2

Pat: 1,1,2

Heidi: 1,1,2

John W.: 1,1,2

No final decision was made on the number of teams at each level. Voting board will determine the number at a later date.

## **7) New Business**

If we don't have enough coaches the draft will not take place. This was a problem at International.

Pat addressed Steve Klebba. Thank you to Steve Klebba for all of your service to CLLL. Steve has been with CLLL for the past 11 years.

Should the league disband minor league baseball? If so, the break down would be as follows:

4-5 T-Ball

6-8 Coach Pitch

9,10,11 International

Discussion and input will be gathered at the next meeting.

**Next Meeting: October 16, 2016 @ Time TBD**

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:41 PM**