

Cape Cod Senior Softball League Board of Directors Meeting
March 12, 2024

Members Present: Jim Gunning, Bob Potter (Zoom), Rich Archambault (Zoom), Peter Cutler, Mike Barry, Jack Avery, Ben Caswell, Van Khachadoorian, Jim Gresis, Dan Keane, Mike Meroski

Guests: Dana Peterson, Ed Donahoe, Glen Beard, Mike Hanafée

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Gunning at 4:00 pm

Discussion of definition of Quorum in Bylaw documents, Jim to recommend changing wording to “simple majority”

Treasurer’s Report: (Meroski)

- 1099s and tax filing completed
- Change from Association to Corporation was disclosed on tax filing.
- Suggestion to possibly change fiscal year to calendar year in future years.
- Discussion of financial strategy regarding principal balance, Mike to develop proposal and present at next meeting.

Motion to accept Treasurer’s report made by Van and seconded by Dan Keane. Approved unanimously.

League Updates:

- Registration
 - Total Registered 313 (36 are new)
 - D1: 76 players
 - D2: 83 players
 - D3: 71 players
 - D4: 49 Players
 - Non-Team Players
 - 19 Pool Players
 - 9 Rec Players
 - 3 Masters
 - Discussion to rename division
 - 3 Volunteer
 - Review of Sponsors by Division (returning and new sponsors)
 - Suggestion for next year to send sponsor invoices at end of season
 - Suggestion to have Health Fair in future
- **Recruitment Drive:**
 - Winter Carnival and St. Patrick’s Day parade update
 - Wed night/Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce networking event

- Dennis Senior Center recruitment table
- DY Newcomers club
- Discussion of Print Advertising
 - Do we want to run Ad in CCTimes or Chronicle? (\$1,600)
 - Suggestion to not use Print Ads, maybe contract with outside social media expert
 - Jim asked for recommendations for different channels and costs, after getting feedback from board. Ben will offer recommendation.
 - Discussion of how we can partner with Cape Cod Baseball

Rules Committee: (Mike Barry)

Rules Committee Recommendations:

1. Glove Size (Current Rules: 14 inches or less)
 - Recommendation to change Rule to 15 inches

Motion to allow gloves to be up to 15 inches made by Dan Keane, second by Peter Cutler, Approved unanimously.

2. Adding clarity to existing rule about player that arrives Late
 - Late player can enter game at any point
 - Recommendation: Late players will be added to end of batting order, with no penalty for any previous missed at bats.

Motion made to accept this recommendation regarding late players made by Van, seconded by Jim Gresis, approved unanimously.

3. Rule changes for Division 4:
 - Pitchers will be required to place the pitching screen 15 feet in front of the pitching rubber, and pitch over the screen.
 - Van would like us to not vote it into Rules today but wait until after spring

Motion by Van to table recommendation until Spring practices can evaluate, seconded by Dan Keane, approved unanimously.

4. D4: Add safety base in foul territory on Third base. (not to be used in play, base runner base, base to start running)

Motion by Dan to accept the recommendation to add 3rd base safety base in D4 division, Mike Barry seconded, motion passes 5 – 3.

5. Recommendation for courtesy runners, allow player to be a courtesy runner, max once per inning. Any runner could pinch run each inning. Must make decision before first pitch.

- Currently: 3 and 4 can have runner run twice per game, currently you can have a courtesy runner once per game in Division 1 and 2.

Motion made by Mike Barry to allow players to be courtesy runners once per inning, Peter Cutler seconded, Vote all opposed, motion fails. Defeated 8 – 0.

Recreation Program:

Jim Gunning reviewed existing Recreation Programs, including Masters Division, Coed, Recreational games, and Informal softball.

Debbie Connors updated board on new Coed Division:

- Friday evening Harwich fields confirmed
- Community Outreach:
 - Other leagues (DWSL, YCSL)
 - Outreach to interested women from Cranberry Festival and Yarmouth Winter Carnival
- CCSSL Announcement
 - Current registered players can also play in Coed Division **for no additional cost**
- Goal is 4 teams with minimum of 3 women on each team
 - **By April 23:** Need at least 12 women; 40 men (currently interested: 11 women; 15 men)
 - Also need to build list of pool players

Travel Team Request: (Gunning)

Ockers Travel Team request

- Fielding 2 teams (60 and 65)
- Playing in 10 tournaments in 2024
 - Myrtle Beach, April 9, 10, 11
 - Entry Fee - \$600 per team / \$1200
 - 70% CCSSL players
 - Jay Hauser, Sponsor
 - Multiple Shirts, pullover's displaying CCSSL Logo Prominently
 - Recommended donation \$800 - \$1200

Van made motion to approve \$1200, seconded by Dan Keane, 1 Member Recused, 1 Member Abstained, motion passes.

Pool Player Policy (Jack Avery)

Motion to accept Pool Player language recommendations made by Van, seconded by Mike Barry, approved unanimously.

Member Forum

- League Attrition rate is very low (5%), Division Presidents reaching out to past players

- Updates from Van:
 - 70-foot bases to be installed at Bassett field
 - Infield can't be pulled back any further because of sprinkler heads
 - Mike B and Jim to look at field to make decision
 - Bathroom facility at Potter/Memorial
 - Bids went out and design phase started
 - Meeting with Highway department to determine placement of bathroom
 - Circus Smirkus on Bassett field in July was approved and field will be unavailable for 10 days to 2 weeks.
- Continued discussion of players wearing sponsor shirts, will be managed by division presidents and managers
- Discuss of mentor program to assist new players

Motion to adjourn made by Ben Caswell, seconded by Dan Keane, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbie Connors, Clerk