

CAPE COD SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING JULY 13, 2019
HARWICH COMMUNITY CENTER

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Caswell, Peter Cutler, Brian Hastings, John Hession, Mike McCluskey, Dave Noonan, Bill Prodgers, Charlie Salerno, Don Saulnier and Commissioner Terry Moran

Meeting Called To Order by Commissioner Moran at 9:30 A.M.

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Saulnier to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2019 Board Meeting. Seconded by Noonan. Motion to accept passes without dissent.

Treasurer's Report: We will hold off on the Treasure's' report (John Hession arrived later)

Board Business and Reports:

- **Division Presidents' Report:**

D -1: Don Saulnier – Division 1 is surviving with 6 teams of 12. Because of rain we have had some double headers. We have not had umpires for all of these games, but we work it out. Next year I would like to see D-1 adapt the D-2 model for the selection process.

D - 2: Brian Hastings – We seem to have an distributed division and we are doing fine.

D – 3: Charlie Salerno - Merging D-3 & D– 4 has been difficult because of the disparity of player abilities. We are playing with 6 teams with 13 players on each. One manager resigned for personal reasons (he does continue to play) and he was replaced. We brought up a pool player to replace a player that resigned for medical reasons.

Masters: Bill Prodgers – We have added several players and all is going well.

- **Manager Questions:**

The Commissioner reminded the attending managers that the Banquet is to be held at the Riverway, September 25th.

The Commissioner also stated that there are Board positions open: Commissioner, Treasurer and 3 Directors-at-Large.

Don Saulnier reminded managers that they must agree before the games to the number of innings to be played in double headers. Don stated that there is still a liquor issue. He will address it again with D -1.

Lombard Field has not been maintained, it was a dust bowl Thursday. Also, the dimensions of the field are off, i.e., pitching rubber, bases. Terry said that Barnstable Rec. Dept. is aware of this and it won't be attended to until next year.

Regarding the playoffs just a reminder that the rosters are frozen as of midnight of the last game of the season. There are NO pool players in the playoffs.

If you are below 11 players, the manager can request a player at the end of the last regular season game.

Terry will look into the availability of Sandy Pond for Monday night games, since Baker is not in very great shape.

Players need to inform their manager if they will be missing a game, should give at least a weeks' notice, unless an emergency. Finally, one of the managers stated that the league really needs to look at the balls and bats. Balls are coming off the bats so fast that it is just a matter of time before someone is seriously injured (D-1 especially).

Thanks to all the managers who took the time to come to the meeting.

- **Banquet Report – Van**

Banquet will be held at the Riverway. All will be the same as last year –price and menu. Managers will have a packet, with all necessary information. Monies need to be collected by September 13th. Names and meal choice to be sent to Van. Also, this year a letter is being sent to all sponsors inviting them to our banquet. Mike McCluskey suggested that most of this could be done electronically, maybe by next year. As, an aside, Van mentioned that it would be nice, at the beginning of the season, to send our sponsors the schedule games and field location

- **Cassidy Spirit of Softball Report: Van** Our committee met today and voted for the person

- **Other Committee Reports:**

Van reported that brush clearing was done at Baker, and a new plate was installed. Brush clearing was also done at Memorial. In preparation for the Classic, 4– 5 yards of mulch (donated by O'Leary) will be put in the picnic bench area. Memorial Field will be shut down in the fall. The left field area will be fixed and the entire field will be sliced, aerated and seeded. Also, the ramp & sideboard are rotted in the small sheds those issues will be fixed by Tom Burke. The dugouts and sheds will be repainted. If we decided to build a new field behind Memorial, the town of Harwich would be willing to cut out a new road. Lastly, the Harwich Rec. Commission will use CPC Funds to install a new fence and backstop at Memorial.

- **Field Use:** Terry Moran

The outfield issues at Baker continue, despite putting a lot of money into the field. Sean Fernandez suggested that in order to kill the fescue grass we should over water and then top dress it in the fall. Or we could leave it fallow for a couple of years and see if nature can fix the problem. At this point, we will see if Sandy Pond is available and use Baker as a practice field and/or a backup field. TBD

In the future, the field behind this community center is still a possibility.

- **Open Session:** Nothing

- **Suggestion Box Review:** Mike McCluskey made a comment that “membership in our league does not give the right to make disparaging remarks about the umpires”. Too often our competitiveness and desire to win overtake our common sense and we lose sight that it is a GAME. Managers need to be held accountable for the behavior of their players. Lead by example.

Not having an Umpire Coordinator has not helped us – as umpires need training and refresher clinics. It is extremely difficult to umpire a game alone. We need more umpires.

Cutler made a motion to allow for players to umpire in their own division for this year only (this is an emergency situation). Seconded by Hession.

Motion passes with 1 dissent

The Commissioner will write a statement that this has been passed and the Division Presidents will email their managers.

Mike McCluskey stated that there is a grave issue with getting qualified umpires for the Classic. Too many games too few umpires. He is open to ideas. Maybe it’s time to relook at the number of teams we allow into the Classic

- **Round Table:**

Charlie Salerno - we need to pull together a LIST of priorities that need to be addressed by the new Board. We also need a by-law change regarding the “nominating committee needs to present a list of candidates in September”

Ben Caswell – I agree with Don Sauliner that we as a league should follow D-2 Model for choosing teams.

Peter Cutler – Agree that we need to make a list of things the new Board must address.

Bill Prodgers – our league standings should be in the newspaper

Brian Hastings – thanks to the managers that came to the meeting, very proud of them.

Bill Prodgers – Motion to adjourn at 12:26 PM

Mike McCluskey asked that a “link” to Four Season Play be put on the first page of our website. Our league benefits financially from this 4 season play, plus we get some new players.

Motion by Salerno that we allow a “link” for extra-play (4 Season Play) to be put on our CCSSL website.

Motion passes with 1 dissent

Motion carried to adjourn at 12:47 PM. Motion passes.

Next Meeting: August 10,2019 at 9:30 AM

Minutes submitted by: Judy Kennedy, Recording Secretary

