Cape Cod Senior Softball Board of Directors Meeting

March 24, 2022 (via zoom), 9AM

Minutes

Members present: Wayne Draeger, John Hession, Peter Cutler, Peter Strand, Jim Gunning, Michael Barry, Ben Caswell, Jim Gresis, and Bob Callahan. Absent: William Eagan and Bill Prodgers. Guests: Van Khachadoorian, Charlie Salerno, Chris Sweeney.

Meeting called to order by Wayne Draeger at 9:00 am

**Approval of Board Minutes** – February 24, 2022

Motion to accept the minutes was made by John Hession, seconded by Jim Gresis, and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**- John Hession

John Hession reviewed the current treasurer’s report. Discussion of Collection of 2022 Fees and Cash balance. Summer Fees are lagging slightly behind, but most likely due to the fact some players haven’t paid yet, possibly waiting for checks. Will reconcile as season progresses.

Expenses: Softballs have been purchased and website fees paid.

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report was made by Bob Callahan and seconded by Mike Barry and approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

**D1 Umpire Committee Report** – Jim Gunning

Jim Gunning presenting D1 Umpire Committee Report. Due to a league benefactor, D1 can continue to have paid umpires, although this may require D1 games to change to 3 days per week instead of 2. Two categories were presented, paid umpires and volunteer umpires. Recommendation for 1 paid umpire per day, supplemented by volunteer umpires from each D1 team. Paid umpires from last year are not returning for varied reasons. Also, change this year to 1099 paid umpires.

**League Matters/Reports**

**2022 League Rules of Play Report** – Chris Sweeney

Chris Sweeney reviewed Rules Committee Recommendations.

Chris reported all Rules Changes recommendations, discussion followed among board members.

Topics included:

* Placement of Pitching Screen
* Batted Ball hitting Pitching Screen
* Optional use of Pitching Screen
* Number of HRs per game per team
* Courtesy Runner
* Pool Player rules
* D4 Runner protection
* Double Headers (optional 1:1 count)
* Force Out at 2nd base
* Expanded Pitcher box
* Intentional Walk rule revisions
* Late arriving players/Lineup
* Illegal bats and penalties

Much discussion about certain topics, especially the Intentional Walk revisions. Chris Sweeney to bring back Intentional Walk rule to Rules committee for further discussion.

Chris Sweeney will send out revised Rules after Board meeting.

**No motion at this March meeting, deferred to April meeting to allow board to review revisions to Rules.**

**Policy Committee Report** – Bob Callahan

Bob Callahan reviewed proposed policy changes and his committee's full set of recommended policies.

Summary of recommendations:

*We have added a sentence that states that any of the procedures or policies can be altered or amended at any time by a majority vote of the board. That allows us to make changes quickly and gives us the flexibility to experiment with new policies.*

*We have abolished the ARC (Age Reassignment Committee). If a player objects to his assignment in a certain division – almost certainly by being placed in an older division – then the presidents and the PEACs of the affected divisions will consider the case and make the decision. We also note that if the player is not in agreement with the decision, he can withdraw from the league and is entitled to a full refund of his registration fee.*

*We have expanded the section on disciplinary actions to allow for an appeal of a multi-game suspension. Under the previous policies, only those who had a one-game suspension or those who had been expelled from the league could appeal the decision. This expands the appeal process and gives all players who have been disciplined the right to appeal.*

*We have made changes to the manner in which tournament and travel teams are formed to reflect more accurately how they have been formed in practice. We also said that division presidents would recruit and appoint managers for their divisions, which again reflects the way this process has worked in the past.*

*We have decided to name the victors in each division in the following manner:*

*the team that wins the regular season will be called “division champions.” Regular-season records will still determine seeding for the tournament.*

*the team that wins the tournament will be called “tournament champions;”*

*if the same team wins both the regular season and the tournament, it will be called “league champions.”*

*Finally, we eliminated most redundancies and minimized others. For example, several sections in the previous document appeared verbatim in the bylaws, where they properly belonged. A few others dealt with play on the field, and they are – and should be -- addressed in the rules document.*

Discussions about Division Placement policy and the disbanding of the Age re-assignment committee.

Motion to accept policy changes made by John Hession, Seconded by Peter Strand and passed unanimously.

**Capital Projects Report** – Van Khachadoorian

Tuesday night Rec Committee meeting will have quorum to discuss Bassett project, foreman of highway will be in attendance. Project first phase will start in October.

Request from D1: HRs at Potter field, asked Eric to put gate behind right field fencing. Contractor will do it, using Harwich funds.

Waiting for RFP for new fencing around Memorial field. Hopefully will be done by end of year.

**Draeger March 2022 Report**

**Registrations**

As of this morning, we have 287 players registered for 2022. The applications break down as follows:

returning regular players - 237

new players - 33

pool players - 10

Masters players - 7

volunteer – 1

Looking at 20/21 teams, 65 players per division, possibly one division with 78 players.

Approximately 30 members who played in 2021 have not yet signed up. Depending on their response, we should have 20 – 21 teams in 2022 with 13 person rosters.

The Division Presidents are now discussing how we structure the league this year. I expect to have a preliminary plan ready by our early April meeting.

**Other League Matters**

Other Items:

* CCSSL News Releases/Advertisements:
	+ Ben reported that he has sent out free “press releases” to announce league
	+ Cost of paid Newspaper ads = $1,700
		- Discussion if paid ads worthwhile this season
			* We are well branded
			* Very few new players from Newspaper ads
			* Can shift towards social media to save costs
		- Motion made to not pay for Newspaper advertising in 2022 season, made by Michael Barry, seconded by Peter Strand, approved by all, passes unanimously.
* Van reported that Potter field will be open on April 1st and Maintenance (raking/cleanup/tractor rehab) will be starting at same time.
* Looking for Keys for Kelly field – Jim Gunning
* Jim Gresis working with Bob on Sponsorship and Uniforms.
	+ Where are the D1 uniforms? Jim Gunning knows where they are.
	+ Need 13 uniforms/team
	+ Need inventory before league play starts/Some uniforms may need to be replaced.
* Need to “redefine” Masters Division
* Quick review of Sponsor Activity
	+ Wayne to add topic to April board meeting to review Sponsor updates.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am was made by John Hession, seconded by Peter Strand and passed unanimously.

Future Meeting Dates

April 7, 9:30 AM – Harwich Community Center

April 29, 9:30 AM – Harwich Community Center

Respectively Submitted,

Debbie Connors

Secretary