

CDSSL Board of Directors Meeting November 13, 2013

Attendees:

Tom Shields, Bob Kibbey, Dan Kittay, Dale Meyers, Jay Campbell, Walt Williams, Mark Galeo, Tom Ricci, Joe Byra, Jerry Smith, Bill Kloc, Don Roberts, Barry Plunkett, Bob Curley, Mike Kernan, Don Canestrari, Bill Brockley.

Meeting called to order by President Shields at 7:01 p.m. at the Christ Community Reformed Church, 1010 Route 146, Clifton Park N.Y.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes of previous meeting held on August 7, 2013, read by President Shields. Motion to accept the minutes made by Jerry Smith, seconded by Walt Williams. Passed unanimously.

Financial report:

Treasurer Kibbey read the financial report. The current balance is close to where it was last year at this time. The only anticipated expense between now and the end of the year is the rental fee for the post office box.

New Secretary:

President Shields announced that Clarence Vivlamore had resigned as secretary due to health reasons. He said that Dan Kittay had volunteered to be the new secretary. Motion to appoint Dan made by President Shields, seconded by Barry Plunkett. Per Roberts Rules Of Order, President Shields cast a single yeas vote passing the motion.

Division Reports:

Falzo Division Rep. Dale Meyers reported that the division had picked up a new sponsor to replace the loss of MVP. Finelli Construction of Troy will sponsor a team, which will be managed by Chris Hansen. Mark Galeo will manage the Edward Jones team.

Falzo would like to try to get some night games scheduled in May and June. Dale spoke with Jerry Smith, who said there might be some openings in early May.

The division is trying to decide whether to change the playoff schedule to make it more like a tournament. They are also decided to go back to an earlier version of the 5-run rule, where the 5th run ends the inning unless there is an over-the-fence home run.

Dale said that tryouts for new players were scheduled for April 12, with a rain date of April 19.

Lozano Division Rep. Jerry Smith said the division doesn't plan any major rules changes. He is anticipating an influx of new players, which will keep teams at 14

players per team. Jerry said that he was working with the Town of Clifton Park to sign a contract for use of the field next year. The league will not schedule games the week of July 4, and will try to schedule games for Labor Day weekend.

Craig Division Rep. Don Roberts said the division would be meeting in the next couple of weeks to discuss rules changes. Among the topics to be talked about are possibly switching to 7-inning games, and changing the 5-run rule, which currently allows teams to go ahead by 5 runs.

Quality of Softballs:

Craig Division used a less dense ball last year, as a safety measure. Craig reps said they were satisfied with how the balls performed last year. A question was raised about whether all divisions should use the same kind of ball. There was a discussion about the kinds of balls used in tournaments, and whether they are the same kind that Craig uses. President Shields said that for now, each division will use the same ball it did last year, and if there are safety concerns for those divisions that use the denser ball, we can revisit the issue.

Tractor Status:

Jerry Smith reported that 1 of the tractors had been tuned up.

Extra Screen:

The league has 3 protective screens used by pitchers. Only Lozano uses them for games, so there was a question of whether to try to sell one of the extra screens. After a discussion, it was decided that the league probably would not get much money from selling it, so we would keep it as a spare.

There was also a discussion about pitchers wearing safety masks, and whether the league wanted to consider making them mandatory, and if so, would the league pay for them. There are different opinions about how comfortable or restricting the masks are. Jerry Smith said that in high arc tournaments, pitchers who choose not to wear a mask have to sign a waiver. Mark Galeo said he had tried one for a few games, but stopped using it because it obstructed his view.

The consensus was that for now, masks would be optional for pitchers, and the league would not pay for them at this time.

Umpires:

A proposal by John Healey and Mike Sharkey about umpires was tabled because they were not present.

Website:

Bob Curley is going to handle the Member Directory. Mike Kernan raised the issue of the directory having the player's full birthdate, noting that that information makes it easier for identity thieves to steal someone's identity. Mike preferred that the directory list only the year of birth, and there was agreement to do that. There

was also agreement to list emergency contact's name and number, without listing their relationship to the player. There will also be no listing of spouses.

There was discussion about the website, and the fact that at some points during the season, the information was out of date. In some cases, managers are not calling in information about their games, or highlights, in a timely way. There was also a question about whether Jeff Miter, the webmaster, had put everything up as soon as he had it.

To try to get at least the scores up quickly, it was decided to have the winning manager enter the scores of each game as soon as possible after the game. They can also enter highlights if they want to, but the scores, and the winning and losing pitchers should definitely be sent as quickly as possible.

Chris Hansen is the new league liaison with the webmaster , Jeff Miter , regarding matters dealing with the website.

Dan Kittay will update the pdf league application and waiver form that is on the website, and send it to Chris to post on the site.

Newspaper Ads:

President Shields raised the question of whether the league should pay to place ads in the Times Union and other local newspapers, looking for new players to join the league. There was discussion about whether the ads are effective. Jerry Smith said that most of the new players in his division heard about the league through the ads.

Awards/Prizes:

There was a discussion about what awards and prizes the winning teams should get at the end of the year. There are 3 possible prizes: best regular season record, winning the playoffs, and both. President Shields suggested that the league allocate money to each division, and the division reps and managers decide what prizes will be given in their division. He made a motion to give each division \$900, Treasurer Kibbey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no other New or Old Business presented.

The next meeting will be scheduled for some time in February.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Dan Kittay, Secretary CDSSL