CUMBERLAND VALLEY SOFTBALL LEAGUE MEETING

16 February 2022

The first meeting of the Cumberland Valley Softball League for 2022 was held at LifePoint Church in Chambersburg on 16 February 2022. Ray Smitley, President called the meeting to order at 1810.

Ray reviewed the minutes from the Board Meeting, 2 February 2022. A motion was made to accept the minutes as reviewed. The motion was seconded therefore the minutes were accepted as reviewed. Ray also reviewed the Treasurer’s report since Cecil was out for surgery. Ray stated, as of this date, the League has $124 and due to that amount, a proposal was made and accepted by the board to raise the entry fee. The new registration fees are $50 Early Entry Fee until 15 March 2022 and the regular fee of $60 after 16 March 2022.

OLD BUSINESS: Ray stated at the last league meeting on 21 September 2021, several players made comments and suggestions for the Board to review. The Board proceeded to review the minutes paragraph by paragraph in order for the Board to discuss and decide if any action is needed and if so, how to proceed.

1 – Suggestion: The league start the first of May.

Board Decision: Target to start season 9 May 2022, weather pending with practices starting the first Monday in April. Again, weather permitting.

2 – Suggestion: A rules Committee be formed.

Board Decision: The SAB is the “rules committee”. After the election of new officers, the first order of business for the Board should be to appoint an SAB.

3 – Suggestion: Inconsistency with enforcing League Rules.

Board Decision:

A. The Placement of the Pitcher’s Protective Screen - It was suggested the protective pitchers screen be placed 15’ in front of the pitcher’s mound. Not knowing what impact this will have on the pitchers or batters the Board has agreed to place the protective screen as suggested during league practices to see if that is viable. If not, then the Board will allow the screen to be positioned closer to the pitcher’s mound as was done during the 2021 season.

B. 1950 Rule (Start of inning) – The Board recommends the SAB review the 1950 Rule as written and recommend the rule only be implemented in Aug.

 C. Replacement Player – There are already rules in place. No change needed.

 D. Home Base Runner – Have the SAB review this rule. Currently batters are expected to run to first base, unless it’s an automatic base hit in which case they can walk safely to first.

4 – Suggestion: Punishment of Rule Violation

Board Decision: The CVSL Board has recognized that the league has been hesitant to actually punish a league member for violating the league’s integrity rules. The Board feels the league Managers need to express to their teams the importance of following the leagues integrity rules. If during a game an umpire feels a player has overstepped and violates the leagues integrity rules then the umpire shall report that person to the CVSL Board for disciplinary action.

5 – Suggestion: Umpire Training

Board Suggestion: Great suggestion. Will suggest it to the incoming President to implement before the beginning of the season. There is presently no money to get players certified as umpires or to get paid umpires.

NEW BUSINESS: The updated registration forms are on the website and can be printed out and mailed to Dawn Leasure, League Secretary.

Ray mentioned the possibility of playing interleague games with Carlisle Barracks Senior teams and Washington County Senior League. A few reservations were discussed on playing at Carlisle Barracks. The biggest concern was entry into the base and how to speed that process up or mitigate all the additional steps ahead of playing time. Ray is also continuing to talk to Washington County’s Senior League board to see if we can implement interleague games this upcoming season.

Ray has been in contact with Antrim Township concerning the softball fields. Everything is still a go for building a softball complex however this is going to be a few years down the road since they need to finish their current construction jobs.

Ray also talked to Scott Richardson, MWR at Letterkenny, concerning the fields such as their condition and maintenance. Scott stated there are no funds presently to do anything with the fields. They are not allowed to get grants however they are allowed to take donations in order to fix the fields. Ray explained to Scott that our lawnmower is broke and we do not have the funds to repair it and could he look into the Army mowing those fields since the fields across the lane are mowed. Scott is going to look into that however don’t expect any assistance to fix or maintain the fields. Scott also mentioned there are people at Letterkenny interested in playing softball therefore Scott is going to post flyers with information concerning our league.

Cecil called in to nominate Ray for President and Dawn for Secretary. Since there were not many people at the meeting, Ray requested another league meeting in two weeks in hopes to get more people out to the meeting as well as additional interest in the two positions up for election. It was also made known that two possibly three managers will not be returning this season, therefore we need managers. The league is requesting that anyone interested in either of the two Board positions or being a Team Manager to please come to the next league meeting and state your intentions.

Also, depending on how many teams we have will determine if we need more sponsors, if we keep the same teams as last year or if we have a full team draft. Should we need more sponsor’s, the sponsorship fee for a team is $500. If someone or a company can sponsor a team, they get their name or company’s name on the jersey and an ad on our website.

Rob Leasure made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Keith Doleman. The meeting was adjourned at 1910 by Ray. The next meeting will be held on 2 March 2022 at 1800 at Lifepoint Church in Chambersburg, PA.

Respectfully,

Dawn Leasure

League Secretary

In Attendance: Tommy Brown, Robert Etchberger, Rick Leedy, Crystal Bard, Lydia Mayberry, Keith Doleman, Randy Rhodes, Rob Leasure, Harry Deal, Kathy Benner, Ray Smitley, Dick Hill, and Dawn Leasure