

DRAFT

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAPITOL HILL LITTLE LEAGUE (CHLL)

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held at Agua301 on June 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. CHLL President Katie Holloran presided over the opening of the meeting. Becky Skinner served as Secretary. In attendance were:

Katie Holloran
Jamie Lang
Carrie Levine
Seth Kaufman
Nona McCoy
Doug Rawald
Kiki Saveriano
Becky Skinner
Jack Smedile
Dave Roberts
David Toney
Lona Valmoro

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 2023 board meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Summer Tournament Teams

Jamie Lang is working on getting uniforms. Everything has been ordered. All the tournament team players will have their names on their shirts.

Cullen Watson would like to help with the 12U softball team. A motion was made to approve Cullen as a Majors softball coach and 12U softball tournament team coach. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Brian Kirrane is working on getting one more coach for the 12U softball team.

Commissioners Committee

Becky Skinner presented the slate of commissioners for the fall season. All the commissioners served in these roles during the spring season.

Single A baseball: Megan Uzzell

AA baseball: Jay Williams

AAA baseball: Dan McCall

Majors baseball: Greg Guthrie
Softball: Tara Kirrane
Challengers: Katie Holloran

A motion was made to approve the slate of commissioners. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The board discussed play ups for the fall season. A motion was made to only allow league age 10 year old players who play on a summer tournament team and did not play Majors during the spring season to move up to Majors for the fall season. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Seth Kaufman sent the treasurer's report to the board. The spring season is mostly paid for. The league has received a bill for the workouts at the Nationals Academy. Most sponsor payments have been made.

The TD Ameritrade CDs have a 5.2% interest rate. The CD at National Capital Bank has been renewed for another six months at a 1.75% interest rate. Over the summer, Seth will work on an investment policy. Funds can then be moved out of the CDs.

The league has not received any word about the DC grants that Seth submitted for travel and equipment. He does not know if any of the other DC Little Leagues applied for grants.

Sponsorships

The league received good traction on social media during sponsorship week. David Toney will send an email to the commissioners about asking teams to sign a jersey for their sponsors and to drop the signed jersey off with their equipment bags.

Player and Coach Clinics

Bradley Baseball might be holding a summer softball camp at RFK. Kiki Saveriano will be running the camp if it happens.

Umpires

Doug Rawald provided an update on umpires. He noted that the league has paid for umpires for 38 Majors baseball games and 1 Juniors baseball game. One other Juniors baseball game was covered by a contractor. Only seven games needing an umpire did not have a committed (paid or volunteer) umpire in advance.

Player Agents

The Player Agents are working on the tournament team binders. One binder is done. Another binder is close to done. They have almost all the information they need for the 12U softball and 10U baseball binders.

The board discussed a spate of arm injuries that have occurred among Majors baseball players this spring. Some of the injuries have occurred in non-Little League settings. The board discussed the need for better messaging and education for parents and coaches about baseball

pitching and arm use. The board also discussed the need for better coordination between CHLL players and their travel teams. Brian Thomas will take the lead on parent and coach education on arm care. He will reach out to a physical therapist and Bradley Baseball for guidance. The board also discussed adding a clinic on arm care for pitchers and catchers in the spring.

It was also noted that the league needs guidelines about the extent to which injured players can participate in baseball and softball activities. For example, coaches may put a player on first base if the player has a limited ability to throw but can still hit. At a minimum, doctors' notes regarding return to play protocols must be viewed by the relevant division commissioner and the CHLL Safety Officer. Brian Thomas, Carrie Levine, Nona McCoy, Doug Rawald will work with any interested commissioners to develop guidance.

Fields

The tournament teams have the fields they need for practices. The addition of the trees in the Payne outfield will limit the league's use of Payne to Single A and AA baseball and possibly softball.

Equipment

Jack Smedile has been pricing leather balls. They can cost over \$60 per box. The league will phase in leather balls over time.

Fields Maintenance/Sheds

Dave Roberts has been actively working on field and shed issues. The broken lock at the RFK field has been repaired.

Uniforms

Jamie Lang noted that the 12U baseball tournament team just lost a player to injury. He also expressed some concerns about having packages delivered to his house and "porch pirates". The league raised \$250 through its pop-up store.

Team Number Caps

Katie Holloran presented recommendations for the maximum number of teams by division for the spring.

Single A baseball: 12 teams

AA baseball: 14 teams

AAA baseball: 10 teams

Majors baseball: 8 teams

Juniors/seniors baseball: 2 teams

Softball: 12 teams across all divisions

Challenger: 1 team

After a board discussion, a motion was made to approve the following maximum number of teams by division for the fall.

Single A baseball: 12 teams
AA baseball: 12 teams
AAA baseball: 10 teams
Majors baseball: 8 teams
Juniors/seniors baseball: 2 teams
Softball: 12 teams across all divisions
Challenger: 1 team

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Registration

The board agreed that the registration process will no longer include an entry for special requests. This change is also supported by the commissioners.

Registration will open as soon as Jake Cumsky-Whitlock is ready to open it. The board will continue to increase the registration fee by \$25 for families registering during the last 10-14 days of the registration process.

Fall Season

A motion was made to approve the dates for the fall season included on the draft calendar provided by Katie Holloran.

- Practices start 9/5
- First weekend of games 9/9 - 9/10
- Last weekend of games 11/4-11/5

The dates were approved by voice vote.

Player Schedule Conflicts

Becky Skinner discussed the commissioners' positions on collecting these data during registration. Except for Single A baseball, the commissioners who responded indicated that only one conflict day should be collected. They also agreed that player conflict information should be updated by the commissioners closer to drafts/roster formation.

A motion was made to only collect one conflict day during the registration process. Commissioners will have to check in with families to collect updated conflict information closer to drafts/roster formation. At that time, the commissioner can decide whether to collect information on one or two conflict days. After the commissioners check for updated conflicts, no additional conflict changes will be accepted. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Annual Election

Katie Holloran will be resigning from the board and not finishing her term. Instead of having seven two-year terms and one one-year term available to board members elected in September, a motion was made to have eight two-year terms be open for election in odd years. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The board agreed to the election schedule.

- **Tuesday, August 8, 2023:** Nominations open for board elections. (Nominations will be sent to an email account established specifically for the election.)
- **Wednesday, August 23, 2023:** Nominations close.
- **Friday, August 25, 2023:** Bios/pics due for those that will be included on the election ballot. (We will ask for a bio/pic whenever we confirm a nomination for the board to try to avoid getting a bunch of bios/pics at the last minute.)
- **Wednesday, August 30, 2023:** Electronic voting opens (emails sent via OpaVote).
 - Provide an option for members to request a paper ballot which will be sent as a pdf. The completed ballot would need to be completed and returned in person.
- **Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm:** Annual Meeting (online)
 - Online voting remains open until one minute prior to the start of the annual meeting.
 - Paper ballots must be received prior to the start of the annual meeting.
 - Announce new board members following the close of voting. (The president will notify the individuals who ran for the board of the election results and announce the results to the league no later than the day following the annual meeting.)
- **Monday, September 18, 2023:** First meeting of the new board (select board positions and vote on draft budget)
- **Monday, October 2, 2023:** Second meeting of the new board (approve revised budget if necessary)

Becky Skinner will reach out to each board member with an expiring term to see who is planning to stand for re-election and report back to the board.

Additional Items

Katie Holloran mentioned that there is a parent that wants to put solar panels on the sheds. The board can discuss it as the July meeting.

Katie noted that she received an email from a parent with a player who was registered for the spring 2020 (COVID) season. The parent never cashed their refund check. Seth Kaufman will re-issue the check.

Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be conducted by video on July 31, 2023, unless the board needs to convene earlier. The meeting will be conducted online.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. EDT.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Holloran, President

Rebecca Skinner, Secretary