

DRAFT

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

A meeting of the CHLL Board was held on June 6, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time by video. CHLL President Katie Holloran presided over the opening of the meeting. Becky Skinner served as Secretary. In attendance were:

Jake Cumsky-Whitlock
Lance Hayden
Katie Holloran
Carrie Levine
Seth Kaufman
Kiki Saveriano
Becky Skinner
Kevin Starace
David Toney
Lona Valmore

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 2, 2022 meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2022 meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Fields

The board discussed the field situation as fields continue to be the league's biggest issue in terms of cost and availability. Various options were discussed including trying to have dedicated fields for the league, getting baseball/softball related space included in the Mayor's proposal for an indoor athletic space, and seeing if baseball/softball fields could be included in any efforts to redevelop Anacostia Park. David Toney has mentioned the idea of dedicated fields to Councilmember Charles Allen. The league wrote a letter last year supporting the redevelopment of Anacostia Park and the inclusion of baseball/softball fields.

Charitable Solicitation License

The document has been signed and notarized. The league's pro bono lawyers have it now.

All-Star Teams

Becky Skinner reported that the AA, AAA, and Majors baseball all-star teams have been selected and each game will include 28 players. The selection process went well.

Tournament Team

The teams are set for the 12U, 11U, and 10U baseball tournament teams. The uniform order has been placed. Parents are donating to help cover the cost of uniforms. Seth Kaufman is investigating which payment app is the best to receive these types of donations in the future.

The softball tournament dates have reverted to the original dates of June 25-June 30. Amber Heimberg and Kiki Saveriano will be taking the lead with the 12U softball tournament team. The CHLL team will include players from NWLL, as NWLL was unable to field its own team.

Lisa Miller is working on the tournament team paperwork.

There might be a Juniors tournament this summer. Katie Holloran surveyed the Juniors players and families. There appears to be enough interest to field a team. The Juniors commissioner is working to make sure the team plays the required 12 regular season games. The DC Juniors champion would go to Freehold, NJ. The league has an extra set of Juniors jerseys that could be used.

The 10U tournament team manager has asked about clinics. The Competition Committee will talk with tournament team managers about proposals for clinic support. There is up to \$5,000 available to support these efforts. The Grays players are going to provide a couple hours of clinic support for the tournament teams.

Schedule of Events for Closing Weekend

The AA All-Star Game will be on Friday, June 17 at Payne. Saturday, June 18 will begin with a softball exhibition game followed by the Home Run Derby, Majors and AAA Championship Games, and Majors and AAA All-Star Games. Katie Holloran asked for help with planning for June 18 and help on June 18. The league has field time at RFK on Sunday, June 19 in case of rain on June 18.

Treasurer's Report

Seth Kaufman discussed the monthly treasurer's report. He indicated that QuickBooks was having some trouble. The league has a deficit of \$8,000, which is less than the expected \$10,000 deficit. DCPS provided the league with a credit of \$2,500 after Katie Holloran complained that the league was being charged for security guards that were not present. The league received another paid sponsorship (Nelson-Mullins). The league has started paying for summer field permits.

Fall 2022 Planning

Katie Holloran, Seth Kaufman, and Lona Valmore have been working on the fall fields puzzle. Based on their analysis, the league will no longer use J.O. Wilson and will try to limit its use of DCPS fields. This will be easier in the fall as the league generally has fewer teams and players compared to the spring season. The goal is to put together a field structure that is as DPR heavy as possible. Their proposal assumes the league will get a similar amount of field time at the RFK fields in the fall as it did in the spring. The RFK fall season permit

process closes on June 10. Field allocations will be announced at the end of July or early August.

They proposed the following plan for the fall season.

- The number of teams would be capped in each division as follows:
 - Single A: 12 teams
 - AA: 10 teams
 - AAA: 10 teams
 - Majors: 6 teams
 - Juniors: 2 teams
 - Seniors: 1 team
 - Softball: 8 teams across all divisions
 - Challenger: 1 team
- The league would have a total of 50 teams, which is the same number of teams that the league had in fall 2021.
- Commissioners would have flexibility with respect to the number of players per team and could decide to have 12-14 players per team.
- The fall season would end the weekend of 11/5-6.
- The season would be eight or nine weeks long. It could start the week of Labor Day and would include games on Indigenous People's Day weekend.
- The registration fee would be \$150 for all players.
- The field costs for an eight-week season are estimated to be \$19,348. The field costs for a nine-week season are estimated to be \$21,658.
- Fields that the league would try to use in the fall include RFK, Eastern (lights), Payne (lights, limited to two nights per week), Randall turf, Randall grass, Amidon, Jackie Robinson, Fort Lincoln, Greenleaf, Jefferson, Fort Stanton, and Benning-Stoddart.

In terms of budget, the four areas where the league has flexibility include (1) field permits, (2) uniforms, (3) capital improvements, and (4) summer tournament team costs. If the budget goes according to plan, the league will end the year with an \$8,000 deficit. The league could consider raising registration fees again in the spring.

A motion was made as follows:

- Nine-week season beginning the week of 9/6 with first games the weekend of 9/10-11, games on Indigenous People's Day weekend, and last games the weekend of 11/5-6.
- The number of teams per division will be as proposed.
- Teams will have rosters of 12-14 players per team.
- The fall registration fee will be \$150 per player.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Tournament Teams Budget

As previously discussed, the Competition Committee will talk with tournament team managers about their clinic needs.

Umpires

Katie Holloran relayed Doug Rawald's umpire report. The use of volunteer umpires for the spring season has been a success. The youth umpire pool has been great. Juniors and Seniors have relied on volunteer umpires this season. The use of paid umpires has been challenging. CCLL uses three umpire crews. Katie will work on getting contact information for the crews.

Nats Update

Sean Doolittle will be the visiting Nats player. He is scheduled for a visit on Saturday, June 11 from 10:00-11:00 am at the RFK fields. Mamie Johnson, JBAB, and Ward 8 Little Leagues will be joining CHLL for the visit. Katie Holloran asked for folks to let her know if they can help that day. The CHLL Nats ticket day is June 16 at 7:05 pm.

Commissioners Committee

Nothing additional to report.

Communications Committee

Lance Hayden created a flyer for social media.

Fields Management

The league will need to do an inventory of the sheds. Events DC is still planning to move the batting cages to the RFK fields. There is no word on the timing of the move.

Sponsorships

The Sponsorship Committee is getting the last of the sponsor photos. They are having trouble getting something planned with Bullpen.

Summer

Katie Holloran will send out a poll about summer meetings.

Lona Valmoro will keep the board posted on field permits.

Registration

Now that decisions about the fall season have been made, registration will open as soon as Jason Goldsmith can get the online registration process set up.

Board Elections

Becky Skinner will check in with board members about their plans for next year and will circulate a proposed schedule for the election. Katie Holloran announced that she plans to run for another term.

Budget

Seth Kaufman said that the board should be prepared to vote on the 2022-2023 budget in September. The new board can amend the budget as needed.

Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be during July or August unless the board needs to convene earlier. The meeting will be conducted in-person or by video.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. EDT.

Approved:

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Holloran, President

Rebecca Skinner, Secretary