

MARION SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Wednesday, Sunday January 30th, 2022
Steve Zonnevylle's House

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Marion Senior Softball Association was called to order at 2:11 PM by President, Gene Smithberger.

II. ATTENDANCE

Commissioners in attendance were: Steve Zonnevylle, Bill Finnegan, Don Bentley, Ed Slone, Buddy Lyles, Mike Winders, Jeff Crummel, Roger Smith and Gene Smithberger.

Excused Absences: Steve Romshe, Keith Thrush.

Guests: None

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ed Slone moved to accept the minutes of the 11/21/21 meeting with a slight wording change and Buddy Lyles seconded. Motion passed.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT

Roger Smith reported \$6,524 in the treasury as of 01/30/22. The total includes a Whirlpool donation for \$3000 for the purchase of a new scoreboard. (Thanks to Keith Thrush and Kelly Marsh for their work in obtaining this donation), \$101 from Larry Kelly to pay the extra cost for the collared type championship shirts and \$100 from Mike and Karen Winders to help fund the 2022 concession stand. Expenses since last meeting are \$25 donation in memory of Sarah Finnegan to the Humane Society, \$447.86 for 10 Dozen softballs (Mike Winders stated we have 2 dozen left over from 2021) \$25 for a last minute championship shirt for Tom Shirks team. Roger stated that single shirts cost about double vs. putting in a large order so please avoid doing that. Buddy Lyles moved to accept the financial report and Bill Finnegan seconded. Motion passed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Tabled - Don Bentley will contact Al Fever who has played in our league in the past would do the work for us. Increasing the infield size to 25 feet from the bases and also leveling the grass area so there is no hump between the infield and outfield is what needs to be done.

Tabled – Jeff Crummel is waiting to hear from Northmor schools if we can purchase their old Spike Drag that is used to prepare the field. Northmor has gone to an AstroTurf type field.

Tabled Item – Concession stand duties still need to be filled.

Tabled Item – Player Draft was discussed and we agreed that the coach doesn't have to draft. Larry Webster would like someone else to draft for him and Mike Gist said he would draft for Larry and that he would have to draft himself also. All coaches have turned in player evaluation forms except Max Gerber, Tom Shirk, Mike Fleming*, and Bill Barger. These forms will be used to pick players during the draft – players are ranked 1-12 by the coaches and it was noted ratings can be different for the same player in different leagues. i.e. A player ranked a 10 in the 65 league could be a much lower number in the 50 league. Coaches need to be evaluated so a committee of Mike Winders, Gene Smithberger and Buddy Lyles will evaluate coaches to know where they have to be picked by themselves in the draft. Don Bentley discussed a idea of a blind draft where coaches would pick teams for the league and then put the team numbers in a hat and the coaches would pick a team number to make it more random. *Mike's been in the hospital

Tabled Item – Hybrid Substitution Rule for the 50 league. Ed Slone discussed using players ranked 6-9 in the draft for the sub list and if more players are needed then move to 6-10. It was suggested we use dedicated subs and then move to the players 6 – 9 be used if there are not enough dedicated subs. If we have 5 teams in the league and we play at Garfield then we would need an alternate list for Garfield. Buddy asked who is going to tell these players that they are in this group and be needed for the games. Buddy felt that subs shouldn't be playing for the competition.

Steve Zonneville reviewed scoreboard options and features from four different vendors. Questions were asked about extended warranty, can the scoreboard be removed every year, what is the electrical layout, can the MSSA logo be added and do we need to work with the City Park Dept? After discussion a motion was made by Mike Winders to purchase the Electro-Mech. scoreboard for \$3,658 plus tax. Buddy Lyles seconded and the motion passed. Gene

said he will contact Harbolt Electric for installing the wiring. Gene will also check with the Marion parks department to make sure they are ok with the league replacing the scoreboard. A credit card purchase will add 3% to the cost so we will pay using a check or debit card. 50% down is required to order the scoreboard. Gene said Whirlpool would like us to hang a Whirlpool banner for their donation. The current lead time is 6 weeks.

Mike Winders checked on going to a lower compression softball and he couldn't obtain them so we are staying with our existing .44 COR – 375 lb. softballs.

Gene reviewed the quote to increase the height of the existing fence. The quote was for \$13,500 and we agreed it was too costly and we won't proceed.

Roger checked and the league has never applied for a tax exemption status. We decided not to pursue at this time.

Barb Allen has the website up and running with thanks to Gene's neighbor Darren for getting her started. Roger stated that the cost is \$6.99 a month with a 4 year contract. Also every April, we would pay \$18 to keep our domain name of Marion Senior Softball Association. <http://www.marionseniorsoftballassociation.com> Barb set up a temporary website of <https://marionohioseniorsoftballassoci.godaddysites.com> until the payment issue is resolved.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Gene updated the 2022 player forms with the new updated league fees. League fees are \$30 for playing on 1 league, \$55 for playing on 2 leagues and \$80 for playing on 3 leagues.

Roger ordered a debit card for the league. The debit card will be used to pay the monthly GoDaddy website fees. Roger stated that GoDaddy will not accept ACH transfers and require a debit card.

Jerry Fagan has recruited 28 potential players for the league. If all the potential players decide to play we will need additional coaches. Jerry has been a great asset to the MSSA and has told Gene that he would like to be on the commission board.

A motion was made by Mike Winders to elect Jerry Fagan to be the Recruiter At Large Coordinator. Jerry would also have other duties as assigned and would help Mike Winders in some of his duties.

Buddy Lyles stated that there are others that want to be commissioners and that maybe we should have a 3 year term as a commissioner.

Mike Winders that field maintenance needs to be done before May 9th start of the season and that he will work with and assign to Jerry Fagan.

Gene asked about keeping of player liability forms for all players. Mike Winders keeps them in the scorekeepers area during the season and then takes them to his house during off season for safe keeping.

Gene stated that Bob Lundquest must be assigned as a player on a team in the Modern Woodman Tournament so that Modern Woodman would sponsor the tournament.

The league will send a memorial gift in memory of Kitty Hartman. Kitty helped run the concession stand in years past. She is the mother in law of Gary Crawford.

Steve Zonneville will update some of the duty description and include at the end of the minutes.

Ed asked if we could pay the farmer not to plant in the left field area so finding home run balls would be easier. After discussion we decided not to pursue this option.

Depending on the number of players, Gene stated that the 65 league will pick players to 63 years old, the 60 league will pick players to 58 years old and the 50 league stays at 50 years old.

Gene stated that the draft is planned for April 18th and the 1st league game will be May 9th

We have 3 couples that want to play on the same team in the 50 league. Gene said when the husband is drafted the wife would automatically be put on the same team. Everyone felt that was a good way to handle that issue and at the end of the draft (last few draft picks) the

number of team players would try to be equalized so the team(s) that had a husband/wife combo may not have to draft in the last round.

Gene discussed the need for additional coaches. He said Tim Stockmaster will coach a 60 league team this year.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Ed Slone was made to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 PM and Don Bentley seconded. Motion passed.

Gene stated that our next meeting would be tentatively be at Tri Rivers on Monday March 9th at 6 PM.

Minutes submitted by Steve Zonnevylle.

MSSA Commissioner Duties

President – Gene Smithberger

- Schedule & Preside over meetings
- Contact new players & collect fees
- Notify MSSA webmaster of cancellations
- Update Information Line as needed
- Oversee Selection Committee

Vice President – Bill Finnegan

- Assume president's duties as required
- Serve as member of all committees
- Compile player names & evaluations
- Maintain player data base & emails
- Coordinate post draft player selections

Secretary – Steve Zonneville

- Keeps MSSA records & information
- Maintains parliamentary procedures
- Help schedule meetings
- Write meeting agenda & take minutes
- Distribute meeting minutes and add to web site
- Maintain MSSA rules and add to website

Treasurer – Roger Smith

- Pay bills for league & tournament play
- Pay ASA fee for both leagues
- Distribute scorebooks, rule books and roster to coaches
- Work with Reps to collect Player fees
- Oversee Scholarship fee

Facilities Director – Mike Winders

- Maintain concession/Scorers Bldg
- Purchase concession supplies
- Maintain record for concession monies
- Maintain field for league & tournaments
- ~~Coordinate with the Parks Dept to decide when to cancel games & notify Pres~~
- Notify league coordinator of cancellation

Personnel Director – Mike Winders

Verify Umpire Credentials

Schedule Umpire & Scorekeeper classes

Schedule Umpires, Scorekeepers and Announcers for games

Helps Maintain MSSA website

Furnish all game results to Marion Star

Furnish all game results for Website

Furnish all game results to WMRN

Keep Player Liability Forms

Procurement & Equipment – Mike Winders

Provide all Physical Equipment

Purchase softballs for both leagues

Monitor list of legal bats

Have Rule Books printed & distributed

Arrange for league & playoff awards

Buy scorebooks for two leagues

Provide game results forms to scorers

Furnish Coordinators with bat stickers

50+ League Coordinator – Ed Slone

Coordinate all league activities

Ensure current players are contacted

Find new coaches when needed

Work with coaches for sponsors

Oversee collection of 55+ Player Fees

Create a 55+ league schedule

Distribute any schedule revisions

Set up 55+ Playoff tournament

Apply for scholarships if needed

Validate bats for league use

Decide due to field conditions when to cancel 50 league games & notify Pres

60+ League Coordinator – Jeff Crummel

Coordinate all league activities

Ensure current players are contacted

Find new coaches when needed

Work with coaches for sponsors

Oversee collection of 60+ Player Fees

Create a 60+ league schedule

Distribute any schedule revisions

Set up 60+ Playoff tournament

Apply for scholarships if needed

Validate bats for league use

Decide due to field conditions when to cancel 60 league games & notify Pres

65+ League Coordinator – Don Bentley

Coordinate all league activities

Ensure current players are contacted

Find new coaches when needed

Work with coaches for sponsors

Oversee collection of 65+ Player Fees

Create a 65+ league schedule

Distribute any schedule revisions

Set up 65+ Playoff tournament

Apply for scholarships if needed

Validate bats for league use

Decide due to field conditions when to cancel 65 league games & notify Pres

Public Relations Director – Steve Romshe

MSSA Promotion Director

Publicize MSSA in a variety of ways

Take team pictures and edit them

Contact other leagues to find players

Furnish MSSA website with pictures

Tournament Director – Keith Thrush

Tournaments Director

Contact point for any other Ohio teams

Help coordinate MWA tournament

Popcorn Festival Tournament Director

Any other tournaments

Purchase Tournament awards

League Substitution Coordinator – Buddy Lyles

Contact potential substitute players
Coordinate player schedule per league
Maintain substitute player statistics

Recruiter At Large Coordinator – Jerry Fagan

Find new players to play in various leagues
Send potential new players enrollment and liability forms
Direct players to MSSA website
Other Duties as assigned – i.e. Assist other commissioners