

Marion Senior Softball Association Meeting Minutes 4/2/25

Marion Senior Softball Association met on 4/2/25 at the Marion County Board of DD located at 2387 Harding Highway East in Marion Ohio.

The meeting was called to order at 4pm by the President Max Gerber.

Present

Max Gerber
Gene Smithberger
Steve Romshe
Bill Finnegan
Buddy Lyles
Roger Smith
Sam Grisham
Mike Winders
Don Bentley
Ed Slone
Jerry Fagan
Marty Alves

Absent

Keith Thrush
Steve Zonneville

Guest

Shawn Miracle

Review of minutes from the last meeting

There was a review of the last meeting minutes by Max Gerber, and they were accepted without any changes. Motion by Buddy Lyles to accept the minutes and 2nd by Gene Smithberger with all in favor.

Financial report

The financial report was given by Roger Smith. There is currently \$8,081.11 in the account. We have most of the sponsors paid with some indicating the checks have been mailed.

Steve Romshe motioned to accept the report and Don Bentley 2nd with all in favor.

Old Business

Substitution Players

Gene brought up the issue with those being a sub for games not getting to play when they show up when needed. This occurred to him several times and other players expressed it occurred to them as well. They show up and the same players continue to be chosen by the coaches needing players. There use to be a rotation, so all subs were able to get to play when they took the time to show up. There was conversation about three years past, where Buddy Lyles would do the subs, and he rotated it, so the subs got a chance to play, and it was not the same subs week after week. Decision was made that Buddy will take over the subs for the leagues and track them so there is a rotation where a sub is less likely to show up and not be chosen to play.

Lights

The parks and recreation got a grant for lights, and they started removing the lights. The grant was placed on hold due to Federal issues and was just released to be used last week. The plan is we will move forward with the expectation that we will have lights so that we will have three games on Monday and Thursdays. The guest, Shawn Miracle, indicated if we don't have lights, we could most likely use Caledonia ball diamond for a game. He would speak to his mother who oversees that park in case we need to use it. Mike Winders indicated he would need to know right away so that we could ensure that we could have an umpire.

Clay for low spots

Max reported that he spoke with Smith's and for a fence sign they will be bring clay for the ball diamond to be used around the bases, pitcher's mound, and home plate as well as any low spots when needed.

Sponsors

Max brought up that we cannot guarantee if an individual who plays decides to sponsor a team that he would be on that team. Sponsors are not permitted to indicate they want a particular coach for their sponsored team, and they have to play on it. We will continue to make good faith efforts to accommodate, but there are no guarantees. Ed Slone brought up the same concern with a player being a coach and stating they want a family on their team as part of the deal for them to be a coach. Discussion was had that too would not be a guarantee, if you are unable to draft the person you want, coaches are able to trade players before leaving the draft.

New Business

Park Workday

The park workday to prepare for the season will be April 19th with a rainout day set for April 26 starting at 10am. The banners will be hung on the workday for sponsors.

League times

Monday league will start at 5:30pm and Tuesday and Thursday will start at 6pm. Games are to start at the start times.

2023 Rules

Max discussed that we are scheduled to have lights this year, so we are to revert back to the rules changed in 2024 since we did not have the lights without paying a large fee for the use of them. The following rules will be as follows:

- *No time limits for games-we had games set for one hour and no new inning would start after that inning unless it was a tie or the top of an inning. That inning would be finished, and the next inning would be the open inning.*
- *Homeruns will revert to one up rule and homeruns before one up will be a single.-the rule was modified to 3 and any homerun after was a single.- The home team cannot go one up in the bottom of the open inning.*
- *Run rule will remain in effect as follows: 12 runs after 5 completed innings or 10 runs after 6 completed innings.*
- *Courtesy runner needs to be ready to go in. Coaches are reminded to have runners ready as they know what players have requested runners. Runners on base have to ask for a runner and coaches are not to sub in a runner unless a player acknowledges they need a runner.*
- *Batter's box rule is in effect. The umpire is to enforce the rule in accordance with how the rule is written. "The batter is out if they hit the ball while their entire foot is completely outside the box and touching the ground or home plate at the time of contact."*

Concession Stand-Score Booth

Max was asking for someone to assist with the concession stand with Roger Smith. Bill Finnegan reported that he would be willing to help him on Tuesday league as he is not playing.

Mike indicated that Karen will need some assistance with getting everything in and out of the score booth as she recently had a surgery. Dan is usually there first to work on the field as well as some coaches so they will make sure they assist her as needed.

Bank Account

Gene Smithberger brought it up that he is still on the bank account with Roger Smith. He would like to be removed and someone else on the board be placed on the account. A recommendation was made to have

the VP-Bill Finnegan to be on the account as the backup when needed. Bill agreed to take on this role and he, Gene, and Roger will go to the bank to get the account updated.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date, as we typically do not meet during the season unless there is an issue that requires the board to address.

There were no other items to discuss, and Sam Grisham made a motion to adjourn, Ed. Slone seconded, and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm.