

Stamford American Little League (SALL)  
Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the SALL Board of Directors was held at the Italian Center in Stamford, CT, on 9/8/15.

**In attendance:**

Board members: Jeff Goodman, Roger Watson, Brett Szczesny, Brad Van Auken, Gavin Daly, Nick Vivona, John Tromba, Bob Katchko, Nick Montagnese and Mike Fenske

League Members: none

**Regrets received:** James Restivo, Judy Vivona, Conor Farrell, Michele Somody

1. Approval of Minutes

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President Goodman called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. A motion was made by John Tromba to approve the minutes from the 6/16 and 8/11 meetings, a copy of which had been circulated to the Board members prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded by Brett Szczesny and approved by all.

2. President's Report

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Mr. Goodman noted that the fall ball season is in full swing. The league has five teams in the majors division and three teams in the minors division. Brett Szczesny is handling the scheduling for fall ball.

3. Fall Ball Update – Gavin

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Gavin Daly noted there are 56 players in Majors and 33 in Minors. He noted that 11 kids have signed-up thus far for the 6-7 year old Fall Clinic. Nick Vivona is taking the lead in coordinating the fall clinics.

4. Treasurer's Report

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Brett Szczesny provided a preliminary year-end financial report. He noted that there were a few open items and that a final report will be circulated to the Board by 9/11/15.

The Board agreed that the Fall Ball teams would sell leftover discount cards for \$10.

5. Annual Meeting

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Roger Watson discussed the activities performed by the Nominating Committee in preparing for the upcoming annual meeting. The Nominating Committee consists of Roger Watson (Chair), Gavin Daly, Brett Szczesny and Nick Vivona. Mr. Watson had circulated the following materials to the Board members prior to the meeting:

- Summary of Election Process
- Draft Absentee Ballot
- Proposed Change to the Constitution - redline version (see proposed change highlighted on page 3)
- Draft Agenda for Annual Meeting
- Bylaws (fyi)

The board discussed the following:

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Notice of Annual Meeting

The Nominating Committee noted that notice had been given to the membership on August 31, 2015, regarding the annual meeting and election.

Number of Board Seats

The Nominating Committee recommended that the Board consist of 18 Board positions for the 2015-2016 year. This is consistent with the prior year as well. The Board members asked a variety of questions to which the members of the Nominating Committee and others responded. A motion was made by Gavin Daly to establish 18 Board positions for the 2015-2016 year. The motion was seconded by John Tromba and approved.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution:

The Board discussed proposed changes to the constitution. The Board members asked a variety of questions to which Mr. Watson and others responded. A motion was made by Nick Vivona, and seconded by Brad Van Auken, to approve the following proposed changes to Article VII, Section 7, of the Constitution, and submit to the league membership in conjunction with the annual meeting and election:

**SECTION 7**

**Player Agent(s):** *The Player Agent(s) shall:*

(a) *Record all player transactions and maintain an accurate and up-to-date record thereof.*

(b) *Receive and review applications for player candidates and assist the President in verifying residence and age eligibility.*

~~(c) Conduct~~ (c) *In partnership with the respective Divisional Commissioner, conduct the tryouts, the player draft and all other player transaction or selection meetings.*

(d) *Prepare the Player Agent's list.*

(e) *Prepare for the President's signature and submission to Little League International, team rosters, including players claimed, and the tournament team eligibility affidavit.*

(f) *Notify Little League International of any subsequent player replacements or trades.*

(g) *Administer the divisional player pool.*

The Board approved the above proposed change to the Constitution and for inclusion on the ballot in the 2015-2016 election.

Move Annual Meeting Date to September 21

The Board decided to move the annual meeting to September 21 in consideration of the Yom Kippur Holiday, which begins on 9/22/15.

Absentee Ballot, Election Process and Annual Meeting Agenda

Mr. Watson reviewed the draft absentee ballot format, election process and annual meeting agenda. The Board agreed that the absentee ballot, election process and the agenda for the annual meeting were appropriate. Mr. Watson noted that he would share all the relevant annual meeting materials with Perry Pierce, District Administrator, for his review and comment.

6. Discussion of Foul Poles and Fence Repair at Northrop Field

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Nick Vivona discussed a proposal to perform improvements at the Northrop field. Specifically, Mr. Vivona discussed the need to perform fence repairs to address safety issues at Northrop field as well as the installation of foul poles at Northrop and Vine fields. The Board members asked a variety of questions, to which Mr. Vivona and others responded. A motion was made by Mike Fenske to approve \$5.5K to complete the fencing repair at Northrop field and \$2.9K to install new foul poles at Northrop and Vine fields. The motion was seconded by Bob Katchko and approved.

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7. Annual Review of Leagues - Merger Discussion

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Jeff Goodman discussed the fact that every year the Stamford League Presidents meet with Perry Pierce, District Administrator, to review the general health of each league. In connection with this discussion, the District also considers whether mergers should be considered. Mr. Goodman noted that he is a participant in these discussions, as the SALL President, and would keep the Board apprised of the status of the discussions, and the status of the other Stamford leagues.

8. Committee Updates

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Bob Katchko recapped the field improvements completed in 2014-2015. He noted that the use of purchase orders would improve the process of managing field related expenses next year.

9. Other Business

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None.

10. Meeting Adjournment

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Mr. Goodman adjourned the meeting at 9:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Watson  
SALL Secretary

Future SALL Board Meeting Dates:

- Sept 21 – annual meeting