

Stamford American Little League (SALL)
Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes – 02/18/16 @ 7pm

A meeting of the SALL Board of Directors was held at the Italian Center in Stamford, CT, on 02/18/16.

In attendance:

Board members: Ric Anderson, Nick Vivona, Judy Vivona, Jen Hanley, Nick Montagnese, Karen Montagnese, Brett Szczesny, Mike Deenihan, Jenn Salvatore, Pete Karukas, Joe Fauci, Bob Katchko, Jeff Goodman, Rosaria Bria, Mike Fenske, Jason Benner and John Tromba

League Members: Sheldon Mui and Jorge Velez (SALL parents)

Regrets received: none

1. Approval of Minutes

Vice President – Nick Vivona called the meeting to order at 7:08pm. – Approval of minutes of 2/02/16 (Bob Katchko - motion / Joe Fauci - 2nd)

2. Safety Report

Nick Vivona notified the Board that in all the winter clinics to date there has been zero safety issues or reports. Winter Clinics are following the safety agenda, participants and families are adhering.

BOARD ROLE UPDATES

Brett Szczesny – Treasurer & Majors' Commissioner:

- Treasurer:
 - o Received approximately \$7000 in spring registrations to date.
 - o Sponsorship checks are starting to be submitted.
 - o There is \$29,434.70 in the checking account (this includes the \$10,000 inheritance) and \$20,984.90 in the CD
 - o Reminder to the Board to keep the costs for new style jerseys in the same range to stay within the budget for expenses this year
- Major Commissioner:
 - o A Majors managers meeting will be held on 2/24 @ 7pm at IC – invitation to include rostered coaches. Rich Gillespie will be invited as well. Topics to be covered:
 - Tryout process
 - Draft process
 - Initial discussion of freeze levels

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Jason Benner – Equipment Manager:

- An order has been placed for balls, catcher's equipment, throat protectors and helmets.
- Presented various options for jerseys for Majors and requested the Board email their feedback by 2/24 to be compiled and reviewed for final decision.

Mike Fenske – Coaching Coordinator:

- Winter clinics are a success - the content of the program is going well.
- To assist with winter clinics next year, a suggestion was made that we state anyone who wants to be considered as a Manager or Coach for AA/AAA/Majors is required to volunteer at some of the winter clinics. We may also want to consider email blast notices soliciting for potential Managers/Coaches to be sent earlier (possibly November/December timeframe).

Jenn Salvatore – Team Parent Coordinator:

- California Pizza Kitchen (CPK) SALL event is Monday, 2/22. Looking forward to everyone joining in on the fun to watch the pizza dough tossing contest.
- Reminder – CPK would like to donate food for Opening Day in exchange for a sponsorship.
- Met with former BOD Team Parent to get updated on the past functions of Team Parent roles.

Jen Hanley – Info Officer:

- To date, 44 Majors players and 32 AAA players have registered.
- To date, 91 players have registered for all lower divisions.
- Continues to field random questions being submitted to the website.
- Lots of consistent traffic on both the website and the Facebook page.

Karen Montagnese – Player Agent:

- Suggested the 'out of district' forms to be added to the website for those families who may need them.

Nick Montagnese – Recruiting Coordinator:

- Very unfortunate to state, of all spring registration lawn signs distributed/placed around the community, approximately 70% of them have been removed or stolen.

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Joe Fauci – A Commissioner:

- There is going to be an eblast announcement for A Division clinics. They will begin on 2/27 at Stamford Athletic Club at 9am (for one hour) – the session will last 5 weeks.
 - o Joe Fauci made a motion to charge \$50 for the A division 5 week clinic
 - Bob Katchko 2nd – All in favor – Board approved.
 - o Note: All confirmed children must be registered beforehand and all volunteers must submit a volunteer form.

Bob Katchko – Field Commissioner:

- Foul poles installation for Northrop and Vine fields will be scheduled.

Jeff Goodman – Scheduling Coordinator, Umpire in Chief and Sponsorship:

- Sponsorship:
 - o New sponsor – Brother Jimmy’s would like to sponsor a team in each of the lower divisions and have a banner at all fields. They would also like to have their mascot (a pig) attend Opening Day ceremonies.
 - o Jim Lyman – View Entertainment – would like to sponsor a team at every division and a banner at all fields in exchange for a Majors division sponsorship.
- Umpires:
 - o The first umpire meeting went well – there were approximately 20 kids in attendance.
 - o Reminder: The 2nd umpire meeting will be held on 3/2 @ IC and in late March there will be a field training session.
- Scheduling:
 - o A draft version of the Majors spring schedule has been completed and is based on the assumption of 5 teams. If there is a 6th team the schedule will be adjusted.
 - o Suggestion is made for the Board to consider scheduling adjustments to accommodate players who are also participants on travel baseball teams. The possible solution would be to schedule 4pm games on Sundays at both Northrop and Vine.

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Mike Deenihan - Assistant Treasurer & AA Co –Commissioner:

- Reiterated the clinics are going well, there is only one more AA session.
- Suggested when registration closes, is it possible to have a casual group evaluation to help with the selection of teams and more accurate placement. This might also ensure the teams are more balanced, competitive and fun.
 - o Nick Vivona suggests the Commissioners select very qualified coaches to ensure their training is maximized.

Judy Vivona – Secretary / Fundraising:

- Reminder to Vice President/President – awaiting donation letter approval.

Pete Karukas – AAA Commissioner:

- The AAA Managers will meet briefly after the BOD meeting as an informal ‘Meet and Greet’. A formal meeting will be scheduled very soon.
- Posed the question to the BOD regarding a ‘callback campaign’ for those past players who have not yet registered.

Open discussion:

Open discussion involving various members of the Board talking in detail about tryout ideas. It was decided that the Commissioners/Player Agents from respective divisions meet and ask the managers/rostered coaches what they want to see in the tryouts. Meetings are scheduled for next week to make decisions which will also be based on information gathered at the Town Hall Meeting on 2/27/16.

3. President’s Report

Ric Anderson:

- Attended a meeting at Government Center with city officials and filed permits for fields.
- Met with Meg G., Phil D. Sue A., and others from the Board of Education.
- Rosters are due March 18th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm