

Stamford American Little League (SALL)
Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes – 04/12/16 @ 7pm

A meeting of the SALL Board of Directors was held at the Italian Center in Stamford, CT, on 04/12/16.

In attendance:

Board members: Nick Vivona, Judy Vivona, Jeff Goodman, Brett Szczesny, Jen Hanley, Karen Montagnese, Jason Benner, Mike Deenihan, Bob Katchko, Jenn Salvatore and Rosaria Bria

League Members: Sheldon Mui

Regrets received: Ric Anderson, Nick Montagnese, Mike Fenske and John Tromba

1. Approval of Minutes

Vice President – Nick Vivona called the meeting to order at 7:17pm. – Approval of minutes of 3/29/16 (Jason Benner - motion / Jeff Goodman - 2nd)

2. Safety Report

Nick Vivona offered the following:

- The Safety Report has been approved – rosters need to be submitted to complete the process.
- City confirmed the water is turned on at Vine Road field as well as Northrop.
- There will be a notification sent to all Managers to ‘walk the field’ before their games to inspect and report any safety issues.
 - o Jeff Goodman noted last year SALL was notified of issues at Kane field – some have been addressed but there may still be a few outstanding. One issue is safety on 3rd base side at Kane field.
 - Recommendation is made to put the “L” screen at the 3rd base side dugout to protect the team from any balls. Nick Vivona and Pete Karukas will share this suggestion with all managers.
 - Bob Katchko stated the fencing on the dugout will be fixed over the upcoming weekend.

Travel Commissioner Role – Ric Anderson suggested Bob Katchko.

- Brett Szczesny make a motion / Jen Hanley 2nd
 - o Board voted – all approved for Bob Katchko to be the Travel Commissioner

***** Meeting of 4/26 the Board will need to vote on a Summer Friendship Commissioner*****

Open discussion on how the TBall program will run. The program will run from May 7th through June 19th. Previous years, Friday nights were the clinics and Saturday’s were the games. Last year there were issues with field space and practices/games, so this will need to be planned accordingly. TBall division is still in need of a Commissioner.

- Brett Szczesny suggests sending an email blast to the community soliciting the role with an explanation of the practice and game process.

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Brett Szczesny – discussion of By Laws:

- SALL must approve the By Laws every year. There have been no changes since last year, this year's basically mimic's the 'green book'. There is one minor change in the Bi-Laws at the Majors level. When each team has a Manager and an Assigned Coach, both of their children will be frozen in the draft. Also, with 11 players, it has already been approved to have a 10th hitter (this is in line with bi-laws already).
 - o If SALL wishes to make any changes to the By Laws regarding the All-Star selection, it will need to be made at one of the next two BOD Meetings.

Karen Montagnese makes a motion to approve the By Laws as they exist today. Bob Katchko 2nd motion.

- Board voted – all approved of the By Laws as they exist on 4/12/16.

Nick Vivona – discussion to request volunteers for the Protest Committee:

- After a game you can protest a 'rule' that was not followed during the game. You cannot protest an individual play as it happened. The umpire will state the game played is under protest.
 - o No board members volunteered for this committee at this time.

Brett Szczesny:

- Reviewed current budget line items.
 - o Recommendation to combine line items 'Field Maintenance' and 'Field Upgrades' was agreed to be done.

Bob Katchko makes a motion to approve the 2016 Budget – Jason Benner 2nd motion.

- o Board voted – all in favor and 2016 Budget is approved.
- Registration income is approximately \$29K
- League is approximately 80 players less than previous year – suggests we need to have a plan to push registration at the lower divisions.

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Nick Vivona – discussion on practice fields and travel uniforms:

- SALL Practices:
 - o An IC Board Member made a request to use the IC fields for their team practice. Nick Vivona investigated and it was found that all SALL can use any public field in Stamford for practices with notice to and record kept by the Scheduler. If a facility is private and they require SALL to allow the facility to be a rider on our insurance policy there will be a \$27 fee. If a private facility does not require their name to be listed as a rider, then we have to approve the field as part of our Safety plan to be used for SALL purposes. For insurance purposes, any practices being done on any private facility fields will need to be scheduled and booked via the SALL Scheduler and must have his/her approval before it can happen.
- Travel Uniforms:
 - o Nick Vivona confirms with Jason Benner there is no money in the budget for travel uniforms.
 - Bob Katchko stated a suggested plan. The charge is \$40 per child to be paid by the family. The 11/12 year olds will be red & white; the 9/10 year olds will be blue & white. Suggests sending an email to the parents to see how many will be interested beforehand.

Opening Day Discussion:

- Jeff Goodman suggested we ask Mr. LaMotta to return for Opening Day so SALL can re-dedicate the dugout plaques. Jenn Salvatore will ask the family if he can attend.
- Judy Vivona reviewed the plan for Opening Day (timing, logistics, food and activities).

Jenn Salvatore – discussion of Challenger division:

- Both Stamford North and Stamford American are having open registration and will be working together as a city program.
- There are currently 3 kids registered via SALL.
 - o Jeff Goodman suggests at the first Challenger game possibly asking Michelle and Bob Somody if they can bring the SWAT team vehicle and the Redding Rooster food truck to be fun for the families.

Meeting adjourned 9:10pm