



NEW JERSEY STATE LITTLE LEAGUE

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2016 Days Inn, Route 18 South, East Brunswick, NJ

Meeting called to order by State Director at 9:08AM

Attendance Roster attached.

Many thanks to the State Sponsors who attended this meeting and shared their products/services with the members. Also Thanks to Tom Gardner and Steve Szczepaniak from the NJ State Elks Club who gave a brief presentation regarding the Challenger Program and the cooperation that they continue to enjoy with all of the Challenger Leagues throughout the state.

A.) MINUTES – Reading of the minutes of the previous Committee and State Meetings was waived.

B.) TREASURER’S REPORT – Tom Howard presented his report (attached) and the proposed budget for 2016. Additionally a question was raised as to the status of District 20’s outstanding debt. DA Dave Poe stated that he has been in touch with his District treasurer and thought the payment was made. He will contact him in order to get this problem taken care of. DA Poe was advised that payment must be received by December 1, 2016. In the event that this payment is not made by this date, District 20 will not be in good standing, per our by-laws, will not be allowed to host the 2017 Joe Graziano State Little League tournament. Tom also discussed the proposed State pin for 2017 by presenting the three (3) proposals by our State sponsors (DPH, Wilson, and Infiniti). Since we rotate the procurement among the three State sponsors this years pin will be procured from Infiniti. Recommendations were made to the initial design and the Infiniti representative will make the recommended changes and forward the new design to Tom for our review.

C.) 2016 TOURNAMENT SITES – Dave Koehler - Tentative tournament sites were discussed for all Section and State tournaments. Additionally, a discussion was held regarding status of the 9-10-11 Softball State tournament since there is so little participation in that age group. It was recommended and approved by the membership to conduct a “Special Games” State tournament with the stipulation in the Special Games

request to LL that any player who plays/played on an International Tournament team is not eligible to play in this tournament. District 18 DA Frank Trenkle stated that his district will consider hosting this tournament since they are located centrally in the state.

D.) STATE UMPIRE REPORT – Craig Yetman summarized the results of this past tournament season with regards to the umpire assignments (report attached). A discussion was held regarding this past season, continuing umpire problems regarding State tournament assignments, and comments he received as a result of questions posed to the Section Umpire Consultants and District UICs. He recommended (proposal attached) that the system of assigning umpires to State tournaments be changed to having the Section Umpire Consultant be responsible for all State tournament assignments in their respective sections except for the Little League Baseball Tournament (which would remain as is). It was also recommended and approved that a roster of umpires willing to travel outside of their respective sections will be made available to all Section Umpire Consultants for their review and possible assignments.

E.) SAFETY OFFICER REPORT – Jeff Altman reported that New Jersey is at 90% ASAP participation for 2016 well above the East region average of 81%. He also reported that the 2017 ASAP forms are now available online and that he is available to conduct Safety Clinics throughout the State.

F.) STATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tony Richardson summarized the highlights of the International Board meeting that he attended. Some of these items included the following:

1. World Series dates
2. DA Evaluation Program to begin in 2018
3. Agreement with Dick's Sporting Goods and Blue Sombrero
4. Update on lawsuits involving Jackie Robinson LL (Chicago, IL)
5. Grants available from LL and LL sponsors

G.) STATE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – Achievement Awards were presented to the following leagues recognizing their accomplishments as Regional Champions/World Series participants:

- Robbinsville LL for Little League Softball – accepted by DA Dave Koehler
- Clifton American/National LL for Senior Baseball – accepted by Lisa Valentine, President and ADA #2 and DA Mike Phillips
- South Vineland LL for Intermediate (50/70) Baseball – accepted by ADA Cathy Jost

H.) See above B.

I.) OLD BUSINESS - A discussion was held regarding the previously submitted proposal to disband District 17 (attached) by DA Bob Ball. Input was received by all affected DAs including ADA Gary Levensen on behalf of Bob Ball, DA #10 Gary Giackette, and DA #1 Chris Graham regarding the realignment of the leagues in D17. It

was reported that the affected leagues had no objection to the realignment in the event of dissolution. It was decided that all leagues currently in D17, with the exception of Somerset Hills (geographic location), will be reassigned to D10 and Somerset Hills will be reassigned to D1. DA Graham stated that due to some previous objections because of their (Somerset Hills) lack of participation in D1 Interleague softball play by his league presidents, he will discuss this with them again and attempt to get their approval. In the event he cannot get their approval, Gary Giackette agreed to accept them in D10.

A discussion was held regarding the upcoming LL Road Shows on December 3 & 4, 2016. After a heated and lengthy conversation regarding finances and other particulars regarding these two shows, it was decided that each show will present a complete financial statement at their conclusion. It was agreed that this was a learning experience and better cooperation and communication must be exhibited in future events.

J.) NEW BUSINESS – East Region Report - Regional Director Don Soucy reported on the status and accomplishments of this past season as well as the following:

- Important Dates – Jan 21, 2017 League Administrator’s Clinic, Feb. 11, 2017 Umpire’s Class, and March 5, 2017 Softball Clinic.
- Charter fees to remain at \$10/team and insurance rates to be \$28/team (LL and below), \$57/team (Jr. & Sr.).
- Due to the new agreement with Blue Sombrero the Data Center will be unavailable for online chartering this year. Paper charters will be mailed out shortly to all leagues. Remind leagues if they have not updated their league officers on the Data Center the Charter forms will be sent to the last listed officer in the database. The mapping program is also in limbo and boundary maps should be sent to his office for 2017.
- Update on rule changes specifically the School Enrollment Form and the three (3) buckets recently enacted regarding residency verification.

With his retirement effective June 1, 2017, Don also took this opportunity to thank each and everyone for their support over the years. He also stated that Corey will be elevated to the Regional Director position and will assume that position in January to ensure a smooth transition. A new Assistant will be hired in the coming months to assist Corey and Amry.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:30PM

Respectfully submitted:
Tony Luceri, State Information Officer

ATTACHMENTS: as stated