



DRAFT Minutes

VSS Board of Directors Meeting June 24, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:21 PM

Board Members Present –

League Commissioner – Kevin Conklin
Treasurer - Richard Nabel
Internal Competition – Tim Poloski
Public Relations - Jack Frascarelli
Recording Secretary -Gail Gretzmacher
Umpire Committee-Jeff Schiavetti
Member at large – Bill Hettinger
External Competition- Jim Kenney
Missing: Public Relations – John Murphy

Guest: Kari Martin (Ravens Manager)

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024 meeting. Motion passed and Bill will post to the league website.

• **Opening comments**

- none

• **Player/Manager comments**

- Kari noted her need for additional bat stickers

• **Treasurer Update – Dick**

- Operating Account -\$4141.27
 - Recent expenses paid were for the Cape 65's team registration fee and the shirt payment to Rainbow Graphics
 - Updated Budget spreadsheet reviewed - it was noted that the new ball caps and shirts resulted in higher expense than planned but that the variance should be covered with the rest of the budget by the end of the fiscal year.

• **Internal Competition - Tim, Bill**

- Orioles – 2 members of the team quit the league. Ronnie will work to keep the team together as best he can to finish the season.
- Heat Index – The severe heat index experienced on June 18-20 resulted in games being cancelled and moved to the week of July 1.
- Pitcher screen compliance discussion:
 - Extensive discussion occurred around pitchers not complying with the rule for pitchers to move behind the screen after the pitch. It was reaffirmed that the reason for the screen was to better protect VSS pitchers. Many ideas were generated on ways to achieve adoption. Also, the need to not bring more responsibilities to the umpires with any significant change was noted.
 - Therefore, the following motions were made:
 - The Pitching screen is to now be aligned with the gloved hand of pitchers. This motion passed 8-0.
 - An illegal pitch is to be called after 2 warnings to the pitcher and pitcher fails to get behind the screen. This motion was rejected 7-1.

- It was felt much more discussion and thought needed to occur to determine any specific consequence for pitchers failing to comply with current rule of getting behind the screen after the pitch. This will occur at end of the season.
- Bill highlighted the USA Code of Ethics on page 3 of their rule set which VSS follows after our league rules. Tim will reinforce this with his communication vehicles.
- Henry Park storage locker – a smaller combination lock is needed for the new storage locker as the current lock is challenging to use. Dick will purchase a new one.
- Web site update- Gail noted the need to have jersey numbers displayed on the team roster page. Kevin will send out note to managers and collect.
- “Disposition of Henry Park Batter’s Box Mat” . Madison was not interested and Bill will contact Ludlow next.
- **Sponsorship Update- Jack,Murph**
 - Gail expressed appreciation to the team of Jack, Murph, Kari, & Kevin C who worked to get all of the sponsors this year; this money was significant to our income and budget.
 - Jack asked for league membership to review the sponsor brochure and be a consumer of these sponsors; noting to the management that you are part of the VSS league and appreciate their sponsorship.
- **Umpire update – Jeff**
 - Poor treatment of umpires was recognized and the need for the collective membership to adhere to our VSS Code of Conduct and the USA code of ethics. The poor behavior needs to stop and will not be tolerated by the umpires.
 - An email was sent to the membership indicating the current atmosphere toward umpires and that only managers should calmly communicate with the umpires (not the entire team). Umpires are volunteers and do their best to serve the league and this should be understood by the membership.
- **External Competition – Jim**
 - One-pitch tournament
 - Efforts need to be made to get this tournament planned and the 4 teams secured.
 - Both Jim and Kevin C will contact the external 3 teams; Jim to recruit for the VSS team
 - Field request needs to be filed for the August 24th tournament date
 - Honoree candidates were discussed and 2 selected for consideration (Helen Orr & Don Phillips); both will be contacted for background info and their interest in being recognized at the tournament.
 - Jack requested that the ceremony be held between games 1 and 2 with the later time allowing more spectators to be present.
 - The paid umpire from last year will be contacted for this year’s tournament.
 - Cape Teams:
 - There appears to be interest in having a 65s and a 70s team for the September Cape tournaments.
 - Joe Marsala will be contacted to confirm he will organize and manage the 70s team
 - Kevin C will work to find a manager to organize the 65s team
 - Bill has the Cape tournament shirts . It was determined that 1 set of 17 synthetic red shirts will go to 1 Cape team and the 15 cotton red/white shirts will be used by the other Cape Team.
- **Social – picnic**

A solicitation will go out from Tim to the membership seeking a volunteer(s) to organize the September picnic (Sept 15th)

Next meeting is August ??, 2024

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which was seconded at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gail Gretzmacher, Recording Secretary
 6/24/2024