



Board Meeting October 13, 2020

Board Members present on Zoom: Lucy Campbell, Fred Clarke, Cesar Garcia, Larry Holden, Tim Chin, Kurt Fluegge, Alan Wittman, Derek Roth, Douglass Brown, Elisabeth Carroll

Meeting Start Time 7:05 pm

Meeting End Time 8:03 pm

Financial

- Soren needs to have checks signed tonight and will check in with Lucy and Larry.

Season Planning

- Lucy attended a district-wide president's meeting and heard that registration is being handled in a variety of ways. Some leagues are not opening registration until they have assurance that a season can happen. Others are opening registration as usual with plans to return money in March if the season is cancelled. One league is collecting \$25 to hold a spot for a player with plans to charge more later if a season can happen.
- We should make a plan about how we would like to handle registration and fees. Discussion about options. We want to be sure to communicate the value of our program and that it is the best socially distant sport. Alan can help with examples from his daughter's softball.
- The decision about when to open registration is tricky. We want to advertise, but will need funding to support it. Derek notes that advertising is on hold for most companies until after the election noise subsides. Ideas: send out fancy information with safety reassurances, discount registration fees, cut our expenses, work with a marketing firm that could include paying a bounty for new players, offer the first year free, recruit student athletes to volunteer. We will discuss this further on November 12th.
- The pandemic continues to make planning complicated. At this time, guidelines suggest that games could be played each week when the number of new cases is less than 75/100,000. If the number were to rise above this, games would need to be cancelled. This could make field scheduling especially challenging.
- At this point D-9 has not suggested a safety plan or guidelines we could use. It has been suggested that we study the guidelines the governor made for our county,

interpret them, and comply. We would appreciate some guidance from the district and consistent policies.

- Bob Togio, District Administrator, has asked us to have a safety plan ready for his November meeting.
- A decision about interlocking with Mercer Island, Bellevue East, and Bellevue West was made. We will NOT interlock because there aren't any district guidelines leagues could agree to adhere to. The pandemic makes tricky coordination even more difficult. Governor Inslee has declared "No Tournaments." Instead of interlocking, we could merge older/younger kids within Thunderbird and be creative. Maybe teams could be mixed up and kids could play with a variety of teammates?
- Our merge with Bellevue East is not moving forward at this time.
- Larry is helping us migrate to a new registration platform with integrated background checks similar to the old Blue Sombrero.
- We know that when play resumes, parents will not be allowed on the field.

Board Member Roles

- Great news – Alan has recruited two board members to join us. At least one of them is a returning member. Reminder for those considering joining the board – it is not necessary to have a current player. Old friends are welcome back!
- Our safety officer will need to be more involved than ever this year. They will decide whether or not practices/games are held and communicate with the field scheduler. We should check with the person nominated to see if he is interested. This person would need to be very visible and send out a blast weekly explaining plans/contingencies to families. We need a plan soon and are actively working with D-9 to update safety protocols.
- Webmaster to keep things up to date.
- Soon we will have a board meeting that will hopefully include lots of community members. We will also ask for approval of our league constitution.
- We could create a nomination form for new members to join the board that includes a chance to hear why they are interested and skills to contribute. Larry can communicate our intentions about registration and planning with the community in the future. Fred and Derek will start talking about heavy marketing beginning on December 1st.
- Openings: Field Scheduler, T-ball, Lower Division Softball, Lower Division Baseball, Treasurer, baseball player agent (lower and upper divisions)

Positions that need to be approved with a vote:

- President – Lucy
- Registrar – Larry

- Secretary – Elisabeth
- Upper Division Baseball – Fred
- AAA/Coast Baseball – Rob
- Upper Division Softball - Darcey
- Equipment – Alan
- Uniforms – Jack
- Marketing – Derek
- Sponsorship/Opening Day – Erika
- Fundraising/Opening Day – Ryan
- Player development (baseball) - Chris
- Coach development/Training - Kurt
- Player agent (softball) - Doug
- Safety Officer – Check to see if person is interested