

California District 35 Little League

District Meeting Minutes

Location: Forestville Youth Park, 7045 Mirabel Rd., Forestville, CA 95436

Date: November 15, 2018

Meeting Called To Order: 7:05 PM

Staff in Attendance: Rick Duarte (DA), John Dooley (ADA), Dan Hermsmeyer (ADA-Int/Jr/Sr)

Staff Absent: Rod Lund (UIC), Dr. Jeff May (Safety Officer), Cindy Beth (Treasurer), Michelle Love (Secretary/Information Officer), Mark Brown (Asst. UIC).

Leagues in Attendance: Cloverdale LL, El Molino LL, Fort Bragg LL, Healdsburg LL, Mark West LL, Petaluma American LL, Petaluma National LL, Petaluma Valley LL, Rincon Valley LL, Round Valley LL, Santa Rosa American LL, Sebastopol LL, Ukiah LL, West Side LL.

Leagues Absent: Coast Youth LL, Laytonville LL, Northbay Challenger LL, Willits-Redwood LL

Vendor(s) in Attendance: none.

Review/Approval of Minutes: Minutes of our last meeting (October 16, 2018) were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Financial Report: John and Rick (Cindy was absent) reported that the District bank account at Exchange Bank still has a balance of \$5,211.02. There has been very little activity to date (just a check order that the Bank reversed).

Safety Report: Little League International will activate the ASAP program on 12/01/2018. Dr. May will be in-touch with League Safety Officers soon so make sure those positions are filled and updated in the LL Data Center (along with the rest of your Boards).

Agenda Items:

- District Administrator's Report:** Rick reported that he, John and Rod attended the Northern CA State Meeting at AT&T Park on 10/20/2018. The SF Giants announced their LL Days for 2019. DICK'S Sporting Goods had a corporate rep there (above the store level that we can work with). The Northern CA tournament rotation (section and state) was discussed (D35 will host Senior Baseball Section 1) and an updated Tournament Dress Code for Northern CA was adopted. April Meehleder (Western Region Director) reported that LL is emphasizing Incorporation of Leagues and Districts, updated Constitutions, financial transparency, ASAP, use of Blue Sombrero LL websites and the LL Data Center. The West Region is emphasizing growing the program. She announced the West Region DA/ADA Meeting will be held January 25-26, 2019 at the LAX Hilton in Los Angeles. Rick received an email from HQ gathering thoughts from the "field" about a proposed rule change for tournament. LL would like to allow ONLY two adults in the dugout if there are only 11 or fewer players suited up for a game. Three adults would still be allowed for 12 or more players. Rick polled the Leagues present and the general consensus was to allow LL to make this change. Rick will report those findings to HQ.

Finally, Rick provided an answer to the Leagues about appropriate/not appropriate League Sponsors ... basically, if it has alcohol/tobacco or cannabis/firearms in the name (or that's the primary business) then it's not an appropriate sponsor. A restaurant that serves alcohol is OK provided the name doesn't have reference to alcohol in it.

- II. **District Staff Reports:** Dan reported that Mike Simpson will return as the Jr/Sr InterLeague Chairman. Kevin Wood (Mark West President) will serve as 50/70 InterLeague Chairman until a suitable replacement is elected. Dan announced that the 1st InterLeague Meeting (all teenage divisions) will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 PM at SCOE. All Leagues participating should send their Intermediate/Junior/Senior representative to this meeting.
John reported that the District 35 Umpire-In-Chief (UIC) Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 PM at SCOE. All Leagues should send their UIC(s) to this meeting.
- III. **District Constitutions:** Rick presented and the President's Advisory Board reviewed and discussed District 35's proposed Constitution. (**Constitution unanimously approved.**) Now the District will apply for Incorporation with the State of California and file under LL's Group Exemption. Bylaws (or District Rules) will be added to the Constitution as they are presented to the President's Advisory Board for approval at future meetings, as necessary.
- IV. **2019 District Calendar:** Rick again reviewed his "vision" for future President's Advisory Board meetings. Avoiding weekend meetings (except for All-Star Manager/Coach meetings in June); avoiding Mondays (too many holidays fall on Mondays); avoiding Fridays (obvious reasons!); so meetings will fall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. Meetings will "rotate" between sites within the District to keep travel under control. Weeknight meetings will start at 7:00 PM (would consider dinner at 6:00 PM if a restaurant's back room was available for the meeting). With that in mind, Rick presented the following dates: Tuesday, January 15, 2019; Wednesday, February 20, 2019; Thursday, March 21, 2019; Tuesday, April 16, 2019; Wednesday, May 15, 2019; Thursday, June 6, 2019; Thursday, September 26, 2019.
- V. **League Reminders:** Deadlines are fast approaching. All Leagues are reminded to go to the LL Data Center and update their Officers and Board members, submit their Charter/Insurances for 2019 and pay the bill by 12/31/18 as LL Insurances take effect 01/01/19 for those Leagues that are paid up. Also, submit Background Checks through JDP. The entire Board for every League should be checked ASAP!

Open Discussion: We discussed (briefly) League Registration Plans and best practices for getting the word out to "new" and "returning" players. Emails to existing databases, flyers to schools, banners on street corners, newspaper ads, current website, and social media (with post boosting) were mentioned as effective ways to get the word out.

Next President's Advisory Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Location is TBA.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:47 PM