

2015 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MARCO ISLAND SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Commissioner Bill Shurina called the 2015 Annual Meeting to order at 6:30 PM, March 9, 2015, in the Mackle Park Community Room.

There were 89 members present: 40 from the Marco Division, 47 from the Island Division and 2 unaffiliated members.

One member, Bill Shurina, had been nominated to be Commissioner, and was re-elected. Eleven members had been nominated for nine seats on the Board of Directors. The nominees were Tom Angelo, Jim Blankenship, John DeRosa, Jerry Engel, Bill Kaschube, Fred Kramer, Ralph Leiterding, John Remhoff, Leon Schmitt, Warren Uhl and Tom Whitlock. Each candidate for the board spoke about their candidacy, with specific reference made to their view on the number of teams in each division. A motion was made and seconded that each member could vote for up to 9 candidates for the board, with no requirement that a member vote for a total of 9 candidates. After discussion, the motion was approved. Ballots were then distributed and members present voted. The members elected to the Board of Directors are: Tom Angelo, John DeRosa, Jerry Engel, Fred Kramer, John Leiterding, John Remhoff, Leon Schmitt, Tom Whitlock.

The floor was then opened to all members present as to any issues, and suggestions for possible improvements for the 2016 season. The following were expressed and discussed.

EQUALITY BETWEEN THE DIVISIONS: There was concern expressed that each Division should have the same number of teams and the same number of players on a team. Some members felt it was unfair that Island players, because there was one less player per team, did not have to sit out as many innings as Marco players. There was also some belief that it was unfair that the Marco Division played less games than the Island, and some dissatisfaction with Marco teams on occasion only playing one game per week. However, in order to accommodate the number of players who had submitted applications, there was no other way to distribute the players than the way it was done in 2015. Further, requiring the Board to have the same number of players in each Division would reduce their flexibility to accommodate all applications received and potentially require that some applicants not be selected to play.

BOUNDARIES: Over 200 applications were received for the 2014 season, with there ultimately being 176 available for the draft. We anticipate continued growth in the number of applicants, due to the growing popularity of the league. There are time constraints on when we can play, and only one field available. This will probably result in a need to further restrict the pool of applicants. Various possibilities were discussed, including raising the minimum age limit, reducing the boundaries, providing preference to Marco residents, etc. The Charter authorizes the Board to decide what the boundaries will be. Any change would include the grandfathering in of current players.

The annual meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Tom Whitlock