

Marco Island Senior Softball Board Meeting November 1, 2014

Commissioner Bill Shurina called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM in the Social room of the Sandcastle 2 condominium.

Present: Tom Angelo, John De Rosa, Jerry Engel, Fred Kramer, Bill Kaschube, Bill Moors (by phone), John Remhoff, Leon Schmitt, Bill Shurina, Tom Whitlock

Division Composition: There are currently 180 applicants for the 2015 season. Several of these applicants have indicated they might not be able to play this season for various physical and family reasons. As a result, the Board is still not sure exactly how many players will be available

Motion made and seconded: Limit the number of participants to the first 162 players drafted, (78 in the Island Division and 84 in the Marco Division). Those applicants who are not drafted will have their application fee refunded. **Motion defeated**

A discussion followed of the options submitted by the PPC to the Board to increase the number of participants by increasing the number of players and teams in the Marco Division **only**. Noting that none were perfect, the following options with pros and cons were discussed:

7 team 18 game balanced schedule, within the existing Marco Division Tuesday, Thursday, alternate Friday format.

7 team 24 game balanced schedule within the existing Marco Division format plus a Marco Division game each Monday, Wednesday, and alternate Friday following the Island Division Games.

7 team 24 game balanced schedule within the existing format plus 2 Marco Division games each Saturday afternoon.

8 team balanced 21 game schedule. The Marco Division plays 4 games within the existing format each Tuesday, Thursday and alternate Friday. Time restrictions are required for games on Thursday.

The above options were not voted on either individually or as a package to be presented at a future date when the numbers of applicants, who will in fact play, may be more apparent.

Motion made and seconded: Add one additional player to each team in both the Marco (15 players) and the Island (14 players) Divisions. **Motion passed.**

Substitutions.

Additional discussion ensued about problems encountered last season with substitutions, in both divisions.

Motion made and seconded: Limit the number of 2-month players selected at the draft to one per team.

Motion passed unanimously

Motion made and seconded: Limit the number of times any player can substitute to one time per week. **Motion passed**

Motion made and seconded: Limit the players who can substitute in each division to those players who were drafted in round 8 or lower. In the Island Division, players drafted in rounds 8 through 14 may substitute. In the Marco Division, players drafted in rounds 8 through 15 may substitute. **Motion passed.**

Jim Blankenship, who is suspended for 5 Island Division games, has applied to be considered as a manager in the Marco Division.

Motion made and seconded: Allow Jim Blankenship to be considered as a Marco Division manager. **Motion passed.**

Dick Corley failed to apply prior to the October 1, 2014 deadline.

Motion made and seconded: Because of Dick Corley's 10 year association with the league with no prior failures to timely apply, the league will make an exception and will accept his application. **Motion passed.**

A request was made to consider changing the weekly schedule to allow the Marco Division to play on Monday, Wednesday, and alternate Friday. It was noted that this required significant changes in family and work schedules for a number of players in both the Marco and Island Divisions. Also, this issue was voted down at prior annual meetings.

Rules Changes: Problems existed last season with the new rule on illegal pitches being a dead ball, and with the ASA commit line at 20 feet from home plate.

Motion made and seconded: A pitch which is called illegal, and subsequently hit, will be considered to be in play. **Motion passed unanimously**

Motion made and seconded: Move the commit line to the mid-point between third base and the runner's home plate. **Motion passed unanimously**

Sponsors: Sasso's will not be sponsoring a team this season. The new manager of Porky's has indicated his desire to continue to sponsor a team.

Motion made and seconded Accept Mango's as a new sponsor, and to return Porky's as a sponsor. **Motion passed unanimously**

The team manager of Sasso's from last year will be given his choice of sponsor between the above two entities.

Umpires: We will utilize a rotation of 8 umpires this season, with one fill-in umpire available as needed.

Team Practices: Because of the late start of the 2015 season, pick-up games will continue through December 31. Team practices will be scheduled beginning on January 2.

Dinner Dance: The 2015 Dinner/Dance will again be held at the Naples Lake Country Club, on March 7, 2015. Cost will be \$40 per person.

General Meeting: The General Meeting of the Marco Island Men's Senior Softball League will be held on March 9, 2015, at Mackle Park.

Finances: All bills have been paid. The balance in the checkbook, as of October 31, 2014 is \$27,733.70. As always, any league member may contact Bill Kaschube to examine the league's accounting records.

Draft Dates: The Island Division draft will take place on November 13, 2015. Managers for the Marco Division will be approved after the Island draft. The Marco Division draft will take place on December 4, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 AM

Respectfully submitted:
Bill Moors
Tom Whitlock