

MSBL Managers Meeting 03 06 2023 – Zoom at 7.15 PM -

1. President Alex Burnett started the meeting with a note regarding the Yard Goats wanting to move up from American to National league in the 21+ division. Expos will have impact because of where they finished the season.
2. Hall of fame – Bob Engelmeyer spoke regarding needing 4 volunteers to vote and review the upcoming candidates. Hold a meeting, vote. He has Tom Finch volunteered. He will review the criteria and advise.
3. March 12<sup>th</sup> is the tryouts. Approximately 30 candidates for 21+, 8 for 35+ and 8 for 45+ currently registered. Will be run by Joe diMonda and Calvin Hull. Many volunteers from several teams.
4. Patrick joined in a comment his team, 35+ Cubs, Annapolis field volunteered to work the field.
5. Friday game of the week is being worked on. May not be every Friday, looks like a go with the Cannon Complex. Alex will advise more later.
6. Umpire issues are becoming serious. Teams will be placed on notice for throwing equipment in or out of the dugout with action being taken after a warning. Request managers warn the players, it will not be tolerated. An appeal can be made after an ejection, but the consequences can be worse if the Board decides the action warranted a more serious punishment or less based on findings.
7. Orioles Tix program needs to be updated to generate more interest early. 15 tix sold last season, many want to redo the program after Alex said it should be cancelled. Todd Perry will be in charge of getting redone. Emails will go out to peak interest early, while they are in spring training.
8. Bestgate lights are working, practices are being scheduled there. Notes in emails will be sent to managers on times.
9. All league fees need to be paid by 4/1/2023
10. Opening day tribute will be at Cannon for Jeff Wolf, details to follow. This would be his family throwing out a first pitch and announcements.
11. Riva Park – working practices and Alex mentioned better field for the 35+ and 45+ teams.
12. Schedule will be released after all payments in 4/1/23.
13. Michael Largent will reset the website. There is a transition to the NSA that will save the league nearly \$1400 a year in fees when we go under their umbrella. More to come on this from Michael.
14. There are only 5 teams in the 35+ division. Conversation about playing the 21+ teams in the season. The 45+ vs 35+ was not a good fit in the past and was discouraged again by Alex.
15. Rain out dates will be decided by the league unless the team managers can work out a better date and time due to their teams issues, must be agreed to override what the league proposes.
16. Mound visits from all players count, 5 visits and the pitcher needs to be replaced.
17. AB rule is back, 3 courtesy runners. 2 can be declared prior to game start. Line share rule removed. Too complicated and created issues last year.
18. Line up cards MUST include full names with numbers to avoid confusion.
19. Dustin Fields, head umpire spoke regarding the umpires, how they are highly trained, and do college and MSBL games. Sometimes rules between the two get mixed up. Requested we do not show a white board card/rule to an umpire, show respect and have the manager have a conversation.

20. Dustin mentioned the umpires desire for a good game, talked about pride in the craft, well trained, dressed, and how they want to be treated. The issue came up with the following in the parking lot of an umpire and how that is never allowed.
21. Dustin spoke of the classes in Jan to become an umpire. They have reduced numbers, in 2019 they were down 33%, the pandemic made it worse.
22. Question was asked what they do with the umpire review forms, could they update them and change them to be more accurate? Dustin explained they are reviewed and shared, some carry more weight depending on the out come of a game score, but they are taken seriously.
23. Question asked about mandatory field training day, Alex stated they are working on that for April and would advise.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM

Minutes prepared by Joe Dimonda, Secretary

Approved by Mike Largent, Vice President